

The Gold Coast Leader.

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No. 167.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1905.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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

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

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

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

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

AT AXIM,

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

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

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Terms strictly cash on delivery.

H. E. SAGOE,
MANAGER.

Aboom, Cape Coast.

PROSPECTUS.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL. CAPE COAST.

Principal, Rev. F. Egyir-Aziam

Head Master, Mr. J. Leslie Mayne

Assisted by Mr. W. Jabex Halm and others.

Patrons:—The Hon. J. H. Cheatham, P. A. Renner Esq. B.L., G. H. Savage Esq. B.L., Cassly Hayford Esq. B.L., A. K. Bissoe Esq.

Course of Study:—

1. Scripture studies, Bible reading, lessons in sacred subject.
 2. English Language—Grammar and Composition
 3. Fanti Language—History and interpretation of idioms into the English language and vice versa Latin, Greek and French.
 5. Mathematics
- Pure and mixed—Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Mensuration.
6. History and Geography,

7. Writing and Book-keeping.
8. Music.
9. Shorthand and Typewriting
10. Physical Science. Elementary Lectures on the various branches of Physiology.
11. Drawing (Freehand and Model)

The different subjects are entered on successively as the ability and advancement of the student permit: sound proficiency in English and Fanti Grammars, History, Geography and Commercial Arithmetic being invariably required before a pupil devotes much of his time to Classical or Mathematical Studies.

The students are arranged in Four Schools or Departments. The Senior, Junior, Preparatory, and Infant. In the Junior Schools, Boys are carefully prepared for the Higher School by being well grounded by laying in sound foundation of Reading, Writing and Arithmetic.

Before the entrance of a pupil into the School a printed form is forwarded to the parents or guardians to be filled up and returned to the Principal.

The fees of the pupils include the general course of study and are as follow:—

At the Infant	4d. to 6d. per month
At the Preparatory	10d. " 1/8 "
At the Junior	2/6 " 3/4 "
At the Senior	5/- " 7/- "

All the above fees are payable in advance. One month's notice is required before the removal of a pupil.

Extras. In such subjects which are optional apply to the Principal.

Arrangements are being made for a Boarding Department. Friends abroad wishing to send their children will communicate with the Secretary of the School (Mr. Halm.)

ASK THE GENUINE
DR GUILLIÉ'S
TONIC ANTIBILIOUS ELIXIR

For more than eighty years Dr GUILLIÉ'S Elixir has been successfully employed for diseases of the Liver, Stomach, Heart, Spleen, Rheumatism, Malarial and Pernicious Fevers, Syphilis, the Grippe or Influenza, Skin Diseases and Intestinal Parasites.

GENERAL DEPOT:
Dr PAUL GAGE FILS, 4th Class, Druggist
9, rue de Grenelle-St-Germain, PARIS
and leading druggists

DUNVILLE'S Scotch & Irish Whiskies

having arrived, Clients are invited to call at the Mart of the undersigned when prices will be quoted.

Trial orders solicited!

Also ready made Suitings to hand.

T. MCKENZIE SKUES.

NOTICE.

OUT SHORTLY.

Memoirs of West African Celebrities,
(WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE GOLD COAST.)

By the

Rev. S. R. B. ATTOH-AHUMA.

(D. Marples & Co. 280 pages. 3/6)
4/- Post Free.

Orders received by Mr. H. Solomon-Ahuma, Jackson Street, Cape Coast Castle.

GENERAL NEWS.

A certain woman was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for attempting to kill a certain young girl, to rob her of some gold nuggets on her neck-lace. This is what the country is coming to now.

Rev. Russell, the inspector of Schools for the Wesleyans will be passing to England next week from Accra having been ordered home by the Doctor. Mr. Russell seems to have had a "good time" with some of the Schools: a letter and a ring will be presented him by the Centenary School, when the steamer comes in.

Speaking at the Froebel Institute says the Daily Mirror on "Human Hungers," Professor Carl Barnes said that the different hungers came to a normal human being in the following order: (1) Food and drink, (2) Action, (3) Knowledge, (4) companionship, (5) property, (6) self-aggrandisement or egotism, (7) beauty, (8) reasoning power, (9) self-ex-

pression, (10) worship, and (11) righteousness.

"Now that active steps are being made to enforce the Town Councils Ordinance, and the people are wondering what will be the result of it all, the *Aborigines* quotes a portion of the address of Mr. J. P. Brown, the President of the Aborigines' Society, and an unofficial member of the Legislative Council delivered in May last on the question. It appears that Mr. Brown, in the course of his remarks, said that having regard to the present political situation he earnestly begged the meeting not to rest on their oars."—*West Africa*.

We learn with much regret from Salt Pond, the news of the death of the eldest son of Mr. A. Jonas Hammond, Fischer's Agent there. Our sympathies.

The Omanhin came home last Thursday, after some weeks absence from Town.

We understand that, to encourage the pupils of the Grammar School in their studies Mr. Renner has offered about three guineas in prizes for English, Typewriting, Shorthand, History, Geography and Elementary Science.

That arrangements have been made for weekly lectures to the School, Mr. R. J. Hayfron having begun with a course of Lectures on Physiology this week. Mr. Barnes takes Drawing, Carpentry Building &c. &c., others on practical subjects soon follow.

A Ladies' Debating Society which gives a public debate early next month has just been started at Accra with the following ladies as its officers: Mrs. Plange, President, and Mrs. Adjas Plange, Hon. Secretary. Wish them all success.

The action brought against Mrs. Rebecca Brown as the head of the Tandoh family for the recovery of Dabia land by the Abonoo which came for hearing before the Amanhin of Cape Coast, Anamaboe and Denkeria had been decided in favour of the Tandohs.

AXIM

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Messrs. Roberts Chief Accountant of the Prestea Mines and J. C. A. Buhle arrived from England by the "Sokoto."

The said news of the death of Mr. Anderson the Wesleyan School Master here which took place at Anamaboe was reported by wire last Wednesday. A memorial service was held on that day, Rev. E. A. Sackey officiating. May he rest in peace.

The present sanitation of the Town leaves much to be desired notwithstanding the efforts being put forth by the Acting Inspector of Nuisance, by arresting people himself and instituting actions, the streets are all grown with weeds: we beg to call his attention to it.

The town last week sustained a very sad loss by the death of Mr. Usher after some months' illness. Being a member of the American Templars, the Subordinate Lodge with the Juveniles formed most part of the procession and had a grand funeral. We bemoan his loss and extend our sincere condolence to the bereaved widow, children and friends.

We heartily welcome Mr. — Agent of one of our well-known Firms and assure him the idea of ordering his clerks to break off at 6 p.m. instead of 5 will never gain for him the reputation of "Hard worker" till the complaints and defects all over the management of the business have been remedied. The dullness of trade, no doubt, is the cause of the closing of stores.

A meeting composed of Young men and some Gentlemen in Town in connexion with the Agricultural Show was held last Tuesday at the District Commissioner's Court. We trust it will be a means of encouragement to all concerned.

Mr. Justice Purcell, Mr. Philbrick and some Barristers left for Sekondi by the "Zongora."

There has been a general meeting for the purpose of putting the Axim (Native) Eleven into a proper form when the following were elected as officers viz:—M. F. Ribotro President, J. G. A. Abo Manager, W. N. Clinton Captain, J. W. Arreem Game-keeper, also R. C. Essien as Treasurer and C. R. Stewart, Secretary.

KUMASI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

23 Aug.

A EUROPEAN DETECTIVE.

The Editor and people on the Coast will be interested to see this.

On the 16th inst., a European Gentleman in the combination's Key, I referred to in the issue of Aug 5th formed a plan to detect me he wrote a letter contents of which I send you and addressed it as follows:—

The Correspondent
Gold Coast Leader
Kumasi.

through the post office as if it was from the coast and of course the Postmaster was to be very sharp to see who would take it. Mr. Jackson according to his instructions kept showing it to any one who went there.

I must frankly inform this gentleman (whose name I am sending for the information of the Editor specially) to be a bit careful. I am even ready to expose his evil deeds now, if he could only challenge me, which might land us both in the Law Courts. If at all he happened to see me personally, what could he do to me even in this Kumasi of theirs? Why can't he write to the Editor for my name? The wicked fleeth when no man pursueth.

People are now not allowed to put their letters on the Post Office Counter. The Postmaster directs them to post their letters in a letter box at the Castle gate.

A store keeper who has been dismissed now corrects himself with the European detective referred to above as Native Detective, giving all sorts of tales some of which had previously caused a great misunderstanding in some of the Firms' offices. (The Editor will find their names in the accompanying letter.) I am sorry that the Europeans in Town are practically suspecting an innocent person as the Kumasi Correspondent, he has my sympathy.

Messrs. Drewry and White are expected here very soon.

The Firms' agents here have decided to alter entirely their system of business, the dismissing of Clerks or reduction of wages and the forming of new rules especially on the store keepers all to take place next year.

ABOSSO.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Aug. 21.

The General Manager Mr. Stockfield and his Chief Accountant Mr. Hayles will be leaving for England soon, per s.s. "Lucie Wermann." Mr. Walton will take charge.

G. C. G. RAILWAY.

There are not sufficient labourers at this station to unload stuff, we call the attention of the Traffic Inspector to this. One Madam Amba Ainos' Pouchon of rum got burst, while it was being unloaded.

There are no lamps here to be lit at nights while there are some lamps here for this station.

TELEGRAPH.

This village is growing rapidly, and needs a Post and Telegraph Office: a small outlay will give us one. To tramp all the way to Tarkwa to transmit urgent telegrams, is to say the least most inconvenient.

MINES.

We are still having some accidents here; a heavy stone the other day fell on a native miner—a Krepi, killing him on the spot.

Two European miners having been dismissed, attempted to kill the Manager. They were arrested and taken down to Tarkwa, where their case was tried by the D. C., and were imprisoned for a month each.

Life quite unsafe with us here. One Atta Kweisi had a fatal stab by a robber, when he was fast asleep. These things are usually done by the Lagosians and Mendis we have about here.

And yet we have policemen here who are to watch at nights, but prefer going to the Market to take peoples' things without paying for them, or giving a copper for a shilling worth of food.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Two or three weeks ago, a "Mr. Boover" contributed an article in these columns on the "Heartless waste of Colonial Revenue," that article whatever may be said about it, disclosed the fact, that the Revenue of this Protectorate is most wantonly wasted, and as it is now clear that all efforts are now being put forth, to get as much funds as this Protectorate could possibly raise for some special works to be done and to improve the sanitation of the country, it should catch the attention of all interested in the matter, unless indeed it be, that under the Crown Colony System it did not matter how the revenue was squandered so long as the People are to be sweet to pay the piper while the officials call for the song.

It does not require much effort to find out, that if the revenue raised in this Protectorate were properly managed, there would be sufficient funds to carry out any work that needs to be done, so that there should not be any necessity for fresh taxations (without any representation, too) on the People who are already overtaxed, and reaping no substantial benefit from it too. It would seem as if it were the ways of a government to be reckless and extravagant in its expenses, some lucky people always to thrive on such recklessness and extravagance if we see the most appalling extravagance of the South African War as brought to light by the Butler Commission; and we saw how the Mother country received the Report. That was natural, though people may be rolling in wealth over there; but the poor too were taxed for the war.

If therefore we also now and again complain of the heartless waste of our revenue we should be heard (and be heard dispassionately too) and not be told, that we should be quiet to see it wasted because but for those now enjoying it, we would have been carried off by our "hereditary enemies"! Our remarks must not be taken for any personal attack on those whose fortune it has been to live on the fat of the land. They have their pockets to look to: we have other things to consider, and we are certain in their heart of hearts, as the true Britishers they claim to be, they would see that the country is very unfairly and unjustly dealt with in this respect, for blacks we are, but the principle of taxation is the same every where, and "taxation," once said Mr. Chamberlain, "is never pleasant any way."

At one time our coffers were full: one of our late Governors thought it would be the best way to put the revenue to, by giving loans, sending out bootless and punitive expeditions and overflowing the Protectorate with superfluous officials. These things worked well, for they helped to drain the Treasury: then Ordinances began to come in, in full force, fining people for this and for that, and heavily too; duty on this and duty on that, and so it went on, but the nigger was not to complain; his was to find the money, and others to enjoy. That was British administration!

Another Governor came; he thought the state of things as he met it, was not satisfactory; the offices were too many, and the salaries too high; most of the officials were incompetent for their work, in short the public revenue was being wasted; he started to reform things and death snatched him away. Then the old order came in again in full force; it was during this period that the Town Councils Ordinance came into being; about this time also the Concession boom came on, and some how, a good many officials white and black, had the desire to retire from the Service, and to keep in the former, there came in a superabundance of allowances, as an inducement, all of which remain to this day, though the Boom itself is no where to be heard of. It brought in some extra work for some officials, for which they had extra pay: the extra work is gone but the extra pay remains; and so do the superfluous offices. It is an open secret, that there are some men who on being taken for service on the West Coast put in preference for the Gold Coast, because here they expect to have the maximum salary for a minimum of work, with certain advantages which they know they cannot enjoy anywhere.

Whilst you may find men here and there, who may be honestly and conscientiously earning their hundred, there are a good many who find all the work they have to do, in travelling about (more days more dollars, says the American) with a show of doing some work,—see their reports—in signing their names, in bullying the poor native clerk under him who invariably understands what he is about more than the "Boss" himself, in reading newspapers or enjoying his smoke at his office, in finding fault and dismissing this or that; keeping on like this, until the time comes for him to go on his furlough, on full pay; perhaps he will spend most of his time in vilifying the country and the people to his heart's content, but when his leave expires, he will come back to the "wretched" country and live among the people once more. He must. And this goes on from year to year. Now, where is the "Colony" that is so rich, which will not be drained up with things going at this rate? And where are the men, who on seeing this "wilful waste," will not speak up, if they were to be taxed again?

A question has been put in the House of Commons by a member on the presence of the troops here the other day, and the arrival of H.M.S. *Dearf* at Sekondi which was so well and diplomatically explained away by Mr. Lyttelton, of course to the effect, that those occurrences had nothing to do with the Town Councils Ordinance, at least he had had no information with regards to them from the officer administering this Government. The troops, the Secretary of State said were simply passing through Cape Coast (from Kumasi) for Accra to relieve those on the coast, and the warship was at Sekondi for the purpose of making a survey of the position

of a rock. Our readers will please note that We leave the subject for the present.

From what we extracted from the *Gazette* on the Railway, it must be clear to our readers that the criticisms that have appeared in our columns on it as to its construction and management have not been unfounded, nor were those of the Special Correspondent of the *West Africa* which appeared in that journal sometime ago, groundless, though some writers were trying to throw dust in the eyes of the Public by criticising the critic. But we shall revert to this subject once more. Surely the present condition of things, must tend to task the managerial tact and skill of the present General Manager.

The news comes from Accra of the King of "Dutch Accra" having been arraigned before the D. C. for not reporting to him the drowning of a certain girl in the Sakomo River: for this he was fined £25 or 3 months imprisonment, after a good "lecture" from the Magistrate. This is the second time Manche Tackle Obile has been subjected to such harsh and undignified treatment. The case is of a such serious nature and certain remarks bordering on prophecy as to the future management of affairs in this country, fell from the lips of the Magistrate—Mr. Curling, delivered evidently in his official capacity, that they deserve more than a passing notice. We hope to take up the matter in our next issue.

Our attention has been called to the fact, that the Appraiser has been assessing a certain Land in the Kotokrabah Road and have been asked whether lands also are to be assessed. We plead ignorance here, though we have read the Town Councils Ordinance over and over, and do not find any such thing. Perhaps section 8 may come near this step taken by the Appraiser, for it speaks of the Appraiser entering "any house or land between the hours of six in the morning and six in the evening on any lawful day, and may require any owner or occupier of any house to give his full name and address when required for the purposes of this Ordinance . . ." If this is what has empowered the Appraiser to assess the land at Kotokrabah we cannot say, nor must the enquirer blame us for this ignorance for our Ordinances are often a puzzle to trained legal minds even. Let us direct him to the lawyer.

THANKS FOR SYMPATHY.

Mr. H. D. Gottfrieds for and on behalf of himself and family begs to express his sincere thanks to all friends of the Wesleyan Mission School who by their letters, telegrams and personal calls sympathised with them on the occasion of the death of their dear Son Master Claude A. B. Gottfrieds on Sunday the 13th inst. at the age of 5 years 3 months and sixteen days. The poor child was born at Kumasi on the 27th April 1900 during the siege. He also for and on behalf of himself and the family begs to thank all those friends who generously sent them funeral donations.

"He is not dead, but gone forward to await us."

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 this 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, SEPT. 2, 1905.

THE WAY OUT.

III.

WHAT is the way out of the imbroglio—the difficult position we are in, indicated in our last two articles? It lies obviously in prompt action. We have talked a good deal so far, and we want to begin in grim earnest to put our resolutions into operation. What is it that we want to do? Some weak-kneed person may ask even at this time of day. That there may be no mistake about the matter, we aim at a fundamental change in the constitution of the country—a change that will ensure the position of our kings and chiefs, that is, the *Amanhin* and the *Ahinfu*; that will give the sons of the soil a real look in somewhere in the administration of the country; that will give us some control and effective voice in internal legislation; and, last though not least, that will give us the opportunity of developing a national educational policy. For, we mean to ensure our destiny as a people, as ordained by Providence, and

the stars in their courses will fight for us, if to ourselves we do rest but true.

In the near future, we hope to see every boy and every girl of the Gold Coast attending school between the ages of say seven and fourteen; we hope to see secondary education duly provided for; we hope to find intelligent lads passing from the secondary schools to agricultural colleges and technical seminaries. In a word, we hope to see the country flooded with knowledge of a practical shape, which will cause the earth to yield her increase at the bidding of science and the use of modern implements. And we must remember that, however highly beneficent in their way, we shall not do this thing by Associations and combines; it is a national matter, and it must be taken up by the nation with legitimate national resources. Herein lies our future greatness as a people. Let us not make any mistake about it.

But we must get to work—how? Once again, *the way out* lies in making it clear that we will not have the present Legislative Council as constituted at any price. It is our main stumbling-block. We want, in short, a representative government, not in name, but in reality. That is our first aim. How shall we arrive at that? Mr. Chamberlain told us in the old Deputation days how to do it; but we have slept over the matter. He said ask for it, and, if you are refused, come to me, that is, to the Queen in Council, now it will be to the King in Council. How to approach the matter is a detail, and advice will, we are sure, not be wanting, when once we have grasped what it is that we seek to do.

In the second place, we want full and proper representation in municipal matters—not the mockery, the farce, the delusion, and the snare that goes under the name of Town Councils—the kind of thing in which the Government nominees call for the song and the people of the country, the rate payers, pay the piper. We want to have authority in our own towns. It is intolerable that we should be expected to turn out, bag and baggage, in order that strangers should come in. It is not fair. It is not just. Even our English contemporaries, who have grasped the essentials of the controversy, are asking, when did taxation cease to go with representation in the English constitution? We have right on our side, and if we only press our claim, the truth will prevail. It is not a question for the maxim gun. It is one for calm consideration and fair settlement.

And we know the old way, the way we went to work before, which succeeded. The English themselves have taught us order. When we have differences to settle with our next door neighbour, we do not go and knock him down the first opportunity. No, we go to the judge, if necessary, and lay our complaint, and, sometimes, we get justice, and, if this were not a wicked world, where it is sometimes difficult to straighten that which is crooked, we might say, we always get justice. Therefore, obviously, we, as a people, must lay our complaint before the proper tribunal. And we must appear in person before that tribunal, and we must ourselves be able to tell our story, if asked, and instruct our advisers where they need light. That is common sense.

Now, all this means money and we know the remainder is hardly necessary, knowing what our people are already doing. Only there is no time to waste. Our energies must be unflagging. *insu okeri tayamu a, obon.* We have pointed out *the way in*, and indicated *the way out* so clearly that the wayfaring man, we hope, though fool, shall not err in this matter. We have discharged our duty, and we rest convinced that a united people, feeling the pinch of the shackle, and, by day and night, hearing the clang of the chain of their political captivity, will make haste to come out of Egypt—out of slavery—with a spoil, and that a very great spoil. And in this thing, when we pray, let us call upon Heaven to guide and to bless.

THE TOWN COUNCILS ORDINANCE.

Our contemporary the *West Africa* in its issue of August 5th after some remarks on the above Ordinance now agitating the Town makes the following observations:—

SYMPATHETIC ASPECT.

It is the old cry of taxation without representation—a cry which we in England have too advanced ideas of fair-play and political morality to alto-

gether ignore. But there is a sentimental as well as a practical side to this question, which all concerned would do well to consider. We allude to the ingrained objection of the West African to pay any dues in the shape of a house tax. It is a prejudice which those who know assure us is based upon immemorial usages and modes of thought and life, which we cannot hope to remove in one or two generations. But here also the people's attitude is by no means uncompromising or unreasonable.

They say: you make a mistake in thinking we have no notions of municipal Government; for the principle thereof, as far as this country is concerned is as old as the hills. We don't object to contributing to municipal funds, but we beg to be allowed to do it in our own way, which, from time immemorial, has been either by way of personal contribution of labour, or contribution of money in lieu of labour, making use of the *company system*. The rejoinder of the Government is: no, you must swallow this pill whole. Hence the crisis. We do no more on this occasion than merely to indicate clearly what the real issues involved are, and, in this connection, we find ourselves greatly assisted by the latest number of the *Gold Coast Leader* that has come to hand, wherein is contained a manifesto from which we extract the following: "We have done what we could—more than enough—to show our entire dislike and intense hatred of the law as it stands. Our appeals, protests, and prayers have been without avail. Our wishes in the matter have not had due regard paid to them. The views and warnings of the Honourable Joseph Peter Brown, President of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights' Protection Society, and the Honourable John Mensah Sarbah, Barrister-at-Law, the two unofficial members of the Legislative Council, have been set at naught. Their efforts have proved labour lost. The sacred words and royal pledges of the Great White Queen that no law should be passed and applied to this country without the consent of our Kings and Chiefs are ignored; native laws are not taken into account. The motherland is being ridden to rack and ruin." These are words to make one pause and wonder if there is no real substantial grievance to which we should give a sympathetic ear, if even they stood alone. But unfortunately they do not. For in the leading article of the same number (July 1, 1905) we read: Be it known to all whom it may concern, both in and outside of the Gold Coast, that the people of the Gold Coast have only one Estate, and that is the press. That is to say, whereas in England, Australia, Canada, and the principal dominions beyond the seas, you have Parliaments and other assemblies, wherein the people give effective voice to their wants, and have the means of securing them, here we are denied any effective voice, and we have not the instrument that cries halt! to tyranny, oppression, and wrong. Our Legislative Council is a farce, a kind of make-believe, a snare, and a delusion. If there were no official nominees, euphemistically styled non-official member, we should be better off. Because there are, they are made an excuse for throwing dust into the people's eyes. Time and again are recorded, or the people witness, incidents which would not pass unchallenged, did we not really live in the reign of might over right." It is idle in the face of all this to speak of the people assuming an uncompromising attitude. The fact is by the policy that is being pursued on the Gold Coast at present, some of the people are beginning to lose faith in our sense of fair-play, a very serious thing, when we remember that, somehow or other, even the administration of justice does not command the same confidence as it did at one time.

AN ARENA OF HORROR.

(BY A BANKER.)

Apart from the Pyramids of Egypt, by far the most stupendous and imposing relic of the past still in existence, is the Coliseum of Rome. And a visit to this arena of terror cannot fail to evoke musings upon the hideous barbarities and inhuman atrocities perpetrated within the walls of that gigantic amphitheatre by the blood-thirsty rulers of the great Rome Empire. Judging from contemporary history, the programme of a so-called "entertainment" would be somewhat as follows:—

IMPERIAL COLISEUM.

The third from the Isles of March, grand entertainment; torture and execution of CXL Christians; and other diversions; under the personal patronage of his August Majesty the Emperor Diocletian.

Programme.

1. Great procession and march of priests and priestesses of Juno.
2. Thirty Christian youths dressed in wolf skins will be attacked by the fine pack of 50 wolf hounds belonging to the Aedile Claudius Licinius' (N.B.—This is expected to be especially diverting).
3. A wild bull of the Campagna will be let loose on three women.
4. Thirty men will be torn asunder by powerful horses.
5. A combat between the gladiators Canallas and Manlius Sextus.
6. (This item in the programme must be omitted. It is too full of horror to be inserted).
7. Ten young Christian maidens will be attacked

by a pack of hungry bloodhounds.

8. A miscellaneous assemblage of about 20 Christians will be devoured by the Coliseum lions, which will previously be kept without food for 26 hours.

9. Grand finale. 30 Christians, men and women, will be fixed to stakes in centre of arena and burnt, their robes being saturated with pitch and oil.

AVE CESAR IMPERATOR.

And now the revolting and ghastly proceedings commence; the savage ferocity with which they were conducted being positively appalling, and, though perhaps not equalling, in the refinements of cruelty, the methods of the "Holy" Inquisition, yet in other ways exceeding even that office in rough and barbarous brutality. Now a fair young maiden is attacked by several roaring lions, which infuriate with hunger, tear her to pieces and entirely devour her amidst the plaudits of the assemblage. Now, in order to still more divert the 80,000 spectators, a powerful and muscular Christian is allowed to defend himself with a sword; receiving his liberty if he obtain the mastery, and slay the wild animal. Or now still more hideous cruelties are perpetrated upon the helpless victims of Nero's or Diocletian's savagery.

Yet although each one of all these heroes and heroines might obtain their liberty and their life if they would but deny Him for whom they were suffering, scarce one would accept of it at such a price. For they knew that He had given His life for them, and had paid the penalty due by them to Divine Justice on their behalf and in their stead. But how many twentieth century Christians would display equal fortitude, and face torture and death rather than deny Him?

SCRUTINEER.

Drowning men may catch at straws, but there is no necessity for Sir John P. Rodger to be saying things that are not correct, at the Colonial Office, in support of the enforcement of a law that will bring the officer administering the Government for the time being nothing but the knowledge of a feeling of discontent among the People, accompanied by disorder and chaos; for he loses nothing by speaking facts. Probably the Governor is aware that he is not coming to the coast again and therefore he must seize the opportunity of vilifying the people and the country, because he had been booted at by women of this town. What a sad exhibition of gubernatorial vindictiveness! The Town Councils Ordinance, a huge success at Accra after all, and a huge success at Sekondi when the people have refused to pay and their houses are being sold off, and the sanitation of Cape Coast in a beastly condition! What a strange revelation of the unreliability of even gubernatorial assertions! And why should not David have said in his leisure that ALL men are liars. If Governors can deliberately declare white to be black and black to be white in West Africa, what an amount of mischief could they not have done in despatches the contents of which are only known between Christiansborg Castle and Downing Street. There is no denying the fact that misrepresentation has stood in our way of progress for an unimaginable time.

I should advise the D. C. of Axim to either pocket his advice or if not so sensibly disposed to offer them to the Government for the benefit of the town as I learn that there are many things that it needs. Some thoroughfares, I understand, want more street lamps, some parts latrines, a drain or two want laying out and properly maintained in common with those already laid out, and altogether the sanitation of the town is not half up to date. If he could do this as in duty bound that would be more appreciable than his advising the Omanhin there not to meddle with matters pertaining to the Town Councils Ordinance, a monstrousity that even he in the Omanhin's position must protest against. Other people's houses are on fire but if the Omanhin and his Counsellors are fools they might, of course, take the advice and set upon it. They must surely never lose sight of the fact, however, that whatever they are and whatever they do, the spark will eventually fall on their thatch and if they had sea with crossed-legs heaven save them.

The composition of the Sekondi Town Council is an eloquent comment on Governor Rodger's memorable phrase "huge success." So, with the exception of Mr. D. M. Perry, a Liberian (Town Clerk) and Mr. Wellington (a Sierra Leonean) Auctioneer, there is no blackman on the board—there is no native of the Gold Coast on the board.

I have received during the week many letters from Kumasi informing me of a hot quest for the identity of the Kumasi Correspondent to this journal and I am not surprised at this fact as in Kumasi many foolish and lawless actions are displayed, and this will always be the case until the administration of Justice by amateurish captains and doctors give way to better men. Here is one of them:—

"Dear— Dear me! Since the last two weeks in August the educated youngsters in town have had no rest, no peace. What with detectives and prying ques-

tions being put to one and all as to who the local correspondent of the "Leader" is. The fact is part of the mercantile Europeans in town in council with the magistracy and police are hotly engaged hunting after the "Correspondent". The whole thing arose out of the 8th paragraph in the Kumasi correspondence in your issue of the 5th August. The party concerned is quite mad over it although he did what was complained of. People will not do what is right but complained of they feel pained. But are the Police here to hunt out for newspaper correspondents, and are they paid for that? I am glad that I took your advice and never took berth in a mercantile house. I leave for Attabubu on the 29th but do ask the Editor to put in a paragraph to stop the nuisance."

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT
OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON AFRICA.
(WESTERN COAST) 1865.

Sir Benjamin continues his evidence.

(3063.) Do the chiefs take any part whatever in the Judicial Assessor's Court?—They did in my time; I directed the Judicial Assessor always to call them in to sit with him, and I suppose they have done so since; they should do so.

(3064.) One or more of the chiefs sits with the English Judge?—One or more of the chiefs sits with the English Judge.

(3076.) You object to the practice of summoning the subjects of the chiefs before our courts for petty matters; will you explain that a little more fully?—A chief may owe a small sum of money, and may be summoned before the court for that small sum; it is not advisable to encourage that; it is better to do as Mr. Maclean did; he would send a message to the chief, hoping that he would see justice done, and in nine cases out of ten a hint from the Governor would put that right; it is very degrading to a great chief to be summoned in that way.

(3077.) Do you object to the appointment of an English lawyer at all; would you prefer an Englishman not a lawyer, such as Mr. Maclean?—No; I think, *ceteris paribus*, a lawyer is the best; I only object to bringing the English law, too many of its technicalities and too many of its principles, into force.

(3081.) Lord Stanley] You spoke of training the natives along the coast to do without English assistance, do you look forward to any time within a reasonable space at which you think we can leave them to themselves; do you think that they would be capable of adopting European ideas and habits without the presence of Europeans amongst them to set the example?—I think they would.

(3124.) With regard to Cape Coast, that part of it which is inland is better managed than it is on the coast?—Yes; the reason is evident, that the chiefs on the coast rely upon us, and we rely upon them, and between the two there is no government at all; whereas in the interior the chiefs rely upon themselves. I know that in the interior the towns are in much better order.

(3125.) You saw a good deal of the natives?—Yes.

(3126.) What is your impression about them, with regard to their ability and their anxiety to conduct their affairs properly?—From all the experience I have ever had, all my intercourse with them convinces me that they are very anxious to learn, and willing to know, how to govern their people better.

(3137.) Mr. Cave] Do you consider that the pure negro, without admixture of any other blood, is capable of arriving at a high degree of civilization?—I see no reason to doubt it.

(3155.) Mr. Chesham] In your opinion, the negro race is capable of receiving the benefits of christianity, and a civilizing process of education?—Decidedly.

(3156.) You do not agree with Capt. Burton that they are incapable of being raised by this process?—If he said so, I do not agree with him at all.

(3155.) Mr. Chichester Fortescue] With regard to the practical nature of this assessorship, is it not the fact that the Judicial Assessor's Court at the Gold Coast is in fact a native and not a British tribunal, assisted and humanized by the presence of an English judge?—Exactly; that is the position I would like always to put it in; a native tribunal to which the Queen sends a judge.

SEKONDI

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Aug. 28.

Burglary was committed in the Factory store of H. Rotmann Jr. on the night of the 24th instant from which a small value of goods and cash was extracted.

In regard to sanitation, the attitude assumed by the private detectives and the bulk of the Civil Police which are admissible of serious comments, most likely be taken to warrant the prevailing commission of burglaries and robberies in the me-

tropole. The attention of these "Eye-service" men however, is bent on apprehending people innocently for committing nuisance at beach, because fines in the court in these Town Council days are nicely inflicted, which goes to cover an item of 200 cases on the Monthly Return, that has been determined to be maintained in order to demonstrate the degree of zeal and energy which the Force is exercising.

Chief Kumah arrived here from Cape Coast by a s. s. "Tarquah" last Tuesday and was cordially received by the members constituting the native community. Welcome! The King Regent will give a short account in connection with his visit to Cape Coast this evening.

LAW AND POLICE.

The Criminal Assizes of the Divisional Court which as previously reported, was to take place on the 24th instant, has been postponed *sine die*. This, we understand, has been occasioned by the illness of Emanuel Quist—ex-Police Superintendent of Kumasi fame. By the way, rumour has it that the "great case" has been transferred to Accra for trial—mysteries are getting rampant!

Mr. Arthur J. Philbrick proceeds home on the usual furlough in November next.

Mr. Andrew White (D. C.) who left for Tarkwa last week, has been succeeded by Mr. Hugh Bedwell, well known in Southern Nigeria.

THE G. C. G. RAILWAY.

In connection with the predominant defalcations a Mr. C. F. Morgan, Platelayer, stationed at Tarkwa, has been brought down for an alleged misrepresentation of labourers wages accounts. This offence was detected by the Paymaster and his clerk Mr. E. C. Turkon who left here on the 19th inst. Other outrageous frauds in Firewood Supply and Ballast Contract accounts come in a considerable event to represent the huge figures of expenditure incurred on this crawling Railway. There is every reason to believe that with a keen vigilance and sober investigation into matters, the secret to the scandal will be traced in a short time. Mr. Morgan is staying in private quarters at present pending the result of enquiry into his alleged crime.

Mr. F. H. Waller (Chief Accountant) sailed on the 19th instant, and is to arrive in the Colony on Saturday next the 2nd proximo.

A recent issue of the "Government Gazette" publishes the termination of Mr. H. B. Haddon Smith's appointment from the date on which he left the Colony on leave of absence. There is every likelihood of Mr. R. W. Twose assuming the reins of the Traffic Department.

From among the patients lying at the Colonial hospital. Death has removed Mr. Remington, the Senior Assist. Accountant. The sad event took place last night, and Mr. Wale undoubtedly has a step to climb. The remaining patients—Messrs. Shipway and Wilson have been invalidated, and are to proceed home by the "Aro" due Tuesday next the 29th instant.

Alterations in the service of trains come into operation from to-day according to the following notification:—"In consequence of the change in the departure of the homeward mail steamers from Sekondi, the following train alterations are made:—Obuasi-Kumasi Service—Trains will run on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday; leaving Obuasi at 6.45 a.m., reaching Kumasi 10.30 a.m. returning from Kumasi at 2.30 p.m. and reaching Obuasi at 6 p.m. Sekondi-Obuasi Service—The timing will be slightly revised, viz: the 6.30 a.m. up train will leave Sekondi at 7 a.m. and reach Obuasi at 6.5 p.m.; and the down train at 6.45 a.m. from Obuasi will leave at 6.30 a.m. and reach Sekondi at 5.15 p.m. Revised Time Tables are printed separately."

TOWN COUNCIL.

Terrified by the rumour afloat about the shaky predicament of the above its clerk went about last week enquiring from every one he met—"Is it true that the Town Council has been abolished?" This Liberian wretch who has sworn to haul down the Fantees into the lowest degree of humanity, must surely tremble at the danger threatening his dignified position. And what do we hear?—There is a Hand held out; neighbours, countrymen, have courage!

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 200 or 400 words in length.

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

Dear Sir,—You will do not only myself, but an interested public, a great favour by publishing the following in your valuable columns.

Having regard to Whisper's Puzzle which appeared in your contemporary the *Gold Coast Aborigine* about which much has been made and to which possible answers or solutions were published in the same paper

last week, I take the liberty to prove the absurdity of the solutions as well as of the puzzle itself.

From all accounts it seems the puzzle was never given a second consideration and that it was the outcome of the writer's first experiment of a puzzle. The solutions are possible but not the real answers to such a puzzle, and they are independent on the proper wording and reading of the puzzle. The puzzle and its solutions are not analogous.

The puzzle is a mixture of additions and subtractions. Amalgamation means addition. The solutions are all based on the result of the first subtraction, which is two minus two, omitting the result of the first addition, two and two make four. Nor are they at all correct in their subtraction process. If two persons hold two certificates and two persons hold no certificates then the whole four persons hold among them two certificates. For two multiplied by one certificate each come to two certificates; and two multiplied by no certificate come to no certificate: add to or subtract from (which way you please) the first result, two certificates, the second result, no certificate, and you get the answer two certificates, and not no certificate which is rendered nought in these possible solutions to an absurdity puzzle.

A third solution which seems to proceed from Whisper herself (a feminine personification indeed) brings in a new matter which is nowhere found in her own possible puzzle. May I ask her, in the name of mercy, to show which way does "A" come in in the puzzle.

Thus it is evident, that, the puzzle which (it first appeared in print on the 5th August was solved and solution sent in the same day) was but only concocted by certain persons among themselves simply to ridicule and defool Cape Coast public, biasing their minds against the school just started in order to share the earnings among themselves.

Very much thanks for space allowed.

Yours faithfully,—ABASH!

Dear Mr. Editor,—Will you kindly allow me a space in your valuable paper for the insertion of the enclosed letter which was addressed to me by one of those who seem to be a mortal foe to me? And also my reply thereto.

Thanking you for the space allowed.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,—T. F. E. JONES.

T. F. E. Jones,

You were summoned to a meeting last night, at Murphy's will you let the Town know the object and you have finished or else you will suffer your fate—

Yours truly,—BOSOHWE.

Cape Coast, 29th August, 1905.

REPLY.

Bosohwa,—I thank you for your letter of the 29th inst. I was to attend a meeting of the Committee appointed to attend the "Exhibits" from Cape Coast for the "Agricultural Show" which is to be held at Accra. I could not do so on account of the death of Mr. Russell's child who was my God-daughter. If what I have stated is incorrect, I challenge you to publish the name of your informant who saw me at the meeting you refer to. Because I do not like to deal with Cowards who are afraid to sign their real names.

Yours &c.,—T. F. E. JONES.

Cape Coast, 30th August, 1905.

Sir,—In your issue of the 19th inst. your Salt Pond Correspondent still grumbles about the interpretation that is going on at the D. Commissioner's Court at that place.

Allow me Sir, to extend to him and the community at large my heartfelt sympathies over the burden that is placed on them. It is not the fault of the Interpreter in question but the authorities who placed him there—these should know better. Salt Pond is a place next in importance to Cape Coast, and the Registrar stationed there ranks next to those at Cape Coast. It would be better if the Government were to train competent men for the Post of Registrars in the Courts. Many an innocent man had been imprisoned or sent to the gallows; many a good case had been spoiled all through had interpretations in the Courts. The writer was once in the D. C.'s Court at Tarkwa when the Registrar, a native of Akuapim nearly got a man sent to take his trial at the Assizes for murder through his bad interpretation from English into Fanti of the word "who" for "where." The Akuapim word for "who" signifies "where" in Fanti hence the mistake arose, and Counsel for the prisoner called the attention of the Court to this and his clerk a Fanti was by leave of the Court asked to correct it.

It seems rather absurd in appointing an Akuapim or an Accra man as Interpreter in the Fanti Courts and vice versa. The Courts in the Colony were not so in the Eighties or even as recently as ten years ago.

The authorities would have done better if they had retained the services of men like J. K. Acquay who was in the service for upwards of over 15 years as Registrar and Interpreter whose interpretation is known all over the Colony; George Amissh now of the German West African Trading Co. whose invaluable service was appreciated by all who knew him; J. E. Dadson now of the African Association, Sekondi who was specially selected and appointed as clerk and Interpreter to His Honour Mr. Justice Parcell in the Concessions Court 1901—a Fanti by birth but speaks as fluently as his mother tongue Accra, Ahanta and Appolonia; Phillip Sherbra now of the Railway and many others. It is high time the authorities should see to this and reform. We have in town here an Adangbe man (Pram Pram) as Interpreter. I appeal to Mr. Curling the Chief Registrar Accra to look into the state of affairs in his department and place the right men in the right place.

Thanks for space allowed.

Yours sincerely,—AMICUS CURIAE.

Sekondi, 29th Aug.

(But how are these men selected for their posts and by whom? Can any of our Readers say? Ed.)

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Salt Pond Road, Cape Coast, by E. J. ACQUAH.

CHAMA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Omanhin Freku and Tufuhin Bernasko were in church last Sunday and the sermon delivered by Rev. Graham was very eloquent and appropriate.

Death rate here at this time is very high especially amongst infants; and we have neither a doctor or even a dispenser.

Burglary is prevalent in town and neither life nor property is safe. The chiefs have approached the D. C. since last Saturday on the subject for an increase of Police staff to keep watch at nights, and he has kindly promised to do so.

A local committee in connection with the Agricultural Show, which takes place November next at Accra, has been formed by the D. C. Mr. White, since last Saturday composing of all the chiefs, the Agents for the different Firms and some scholars with Rev. Brodie Graham. The first meeting of the Committee takes place at the Court House, next Thursday at 4 p.m.

ANAMABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

19th Aug.

Rev. Russell the Wesleyan schools Manager visited here on Wednesday the 9th inst. attended the night service, and addressed the members. On Thursday morning he visited the schools.

Prior to his visit in the afternoon of the 9th inst. the leaders, and elders of the Church with Rev. Anaman visited the Omanhin Amonoo V, where he gave them audience before his Payifu and Beguafu. The object of their visit, as said by Rev. Anaman, was to ask the Omanhin and his towns people to help the school in pecuniary affairs, for it is in a deplorable state. After a few exchange of words, the Omanhin assured them that he would do all in his power to help the school. It was resolved also that a meeting be held in the school room on Saturday the 12th inst. for the purpose of selecting members and officers to work as school Committee. I hope to be able to give you an account of the proceedings of the Saturday meeting. The Omanhin with his Beguafu and Payifu, to show their interest in the school attended the meeting.

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. M. E. Anderson which took place on the morning of the 16th inst. at 3 a.m., being a member of G. U. O. Odifellows Salt Pond that body attended his funeral with the Rescue Lodge No. 5, and "The Army of Good Deeds" Society. The Sunday School, the Singing Band, all with their banners were in the procession. The body was taken first to the Ebenezer Church, and thence to the Cemetery for interment at 4.30 p.m. The other lodges returned from the Cemetery late at about 6.30 p.m.

The marriage of Mr. Joseph William Neizer to Miss Letitia Elizabeth Arthur both of this place was celebrated in Thursday the 17th inst. at 10.30 a.m. At that hour the bride was seen in a coach with her brother Mr. D. M. Abadoo, and some friends from Cape Coast. As the bride was approaching the chapel house, the Rockson Infantry Brass Band which arrived from Salt Pond for the occasion, played "Mendelssohn's wedding march" in G. The bride was given away by Mr. D. M. Abadoo, and the knot was tied by Rev. Anaman. The bride groom, being a member of the Free Gardeners Society, the Lodge attended with their badges. Immediately after Chapel, the pair repaired to Millers Ltd's factory for refreshment. The best men on the occasion were Messrs. Benin and Clara-Peter, and bridesmaids, Misses Georgina Ferguson and Alberta Hagan. Dinner was served at 7.30 p.m. at the bride's residence, Garden Str-ct. Every thing passed off successfully, we wish Mr. and Mrs. Neizer all connubial happiness. The Free Gardeners gave Mr. Neizer scarf pin at the dinner through Mr. A. R. W. Korsah.

At 1 p.m., on the same day the wedding was celebrated between Miss Florence Rockson and Mr. J. A. Ghartey, Catechist. The wedding party left for Tavinu the next day to spend their honeymoon, Rev. Anaman officiated.

After a repeated request to have the Chapel street repaired, which is still unattended, the Omanhin proposes doing the repairs himself after the yam custom: arrangements are being made for the work.

There was a grand Ball given by Mr. W. E. D. Arthur on the night of the 19th inst. in honour of his sister Mrs. Neizer's wedding at Mr. H. Frank Awissah's hall. The hall was spacious enough that it took the whole invited. Miss Adelaide Wellington deserves praise for the able way she attended the invited.

WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Inspector of Schools, Mr. Rowden arrived here from Accra on the 22nd, and inspected the school on the following two days, leaving here on

the 25th for Swedur and other places, and then back to Berracoe as he didn't meet both the Schoolmaster and the Minister there on his way from Accra.

The Good Templar (English Section) turned out last Monday in regalia for open air service. They seem to be doing well.

THE COLLEGE CORRESPONDENCE OF SAMUEL.

EN ROUTE.

II.

(Continued from our last.)

Off Cape Verde. The King of Terrors has claimed a fellow passenger in the person of a Mr. Zimmerman, a German trader who had taken the trip from the South West Coast for the benefit of his health. We knew that his days were numbered the moment we saw him for the first time. He seemed to be suffering excruciating pains from abscess of the liver and was literally reduced to a skeleton; but he hanged fire for nearly a fortnight. We were not in the circumstance, taken by surprise when on the 22nd inst. and at the dead hour of the night, Captain Wharton came to our cabin to announce that poor Zimmerman had paid the debt of nature and wondered whether we cared to attend the funeral. Before one could say Jack Robinson we were up and dressed in a way. The first thing we noticed on deck was the perfect stillness that prevailed and we found that the steamer had anchored in mid-ocean. Near the gangway forehead, were standing a group of the Ship's crew and passengers round the mortal remains of our friend sewn up in a bay canvas, heavily weighted with cannon balls and covered with the Flag of England. The Purser officiated. The office in the *Book of Common Prayer* was used; only instead of the words of committal, "we therefore commit his body to the ground, earth to earth etc." he read, "we therefore commit his body to the deep to be turned into corruption, when the Sea shall give up her dead"—at which the corpse was let go and soon the impressive service was over. It was a most solemn scene. One felt as if a live body had been deliberately thrown overboard; it did not at all resemble a real burial.

And yet how different from and how infinitely superior to the disposal of the two kroo boys who died a week ago before they could get to their home. As each one breathed his last, the body was simply pitched over into the foaming deep without ceremony and as I watched it flying through space, the mournful dirge of the poet Byron flashed across my mind:—

"Without a grave, unknoll'd uncollin'd and unknown," followed by a line from Scott's *Lay of the Last Minstrel*:—

"Unwept, unhonour'd and unsung."

But what boots it, when once we have shuffled off the mortal coil whether the last respects were paid or denied us so long as the uncumbered soul winged its heavenly way to Him who gave it? May they all rest in peace!

There was a little rift in the lute nearly disturbed the joyful music of harmonious relations on board and which is worthy of record. Midway between Cape Blanco and Tenerife, a certain wigwig in Her Majesty's Army, who shall be nameless, had been spoiling for a fight. For several mornings, without fail, he had made himself phenomenally offensive by running down everything Sierra Leone. The citizens of that colony country were vilified as if they were pickpockets; from a thread to a shoelatchet, there was no redeeming trait. The Sierra Leone oranges were all lemons; the chickens, scabberows; the meat, tough leather and so forth and so on. Of course, these ill-timed criticisms were as a rule taken with grains of salt by all in the saloon. As Africans, it goes without saying, that we felt the pricks of his withering remarks; but naturally, he wounded the susceptibilities of Solomon Davis more; for most of them were without rhyme or reason. I must say to the latter's credit, that he bore with commendable equanimity the continual disparagement of his fatherland and the damaging views aired by the daring soldier of the Queen. At breakfast one radiant morning however, he waxed more vehement in his indiscriminate denunciations and in an evil moment, the bold bad man appealed to Brother Davies who was sitting immediately to his right to endorse his wild sentiments. Then it was that the patience of Job ran its tether! The injudicious apostrophe proved to be the last straw that broke the poor camel's back. Suddenly, like a bolt from the blue, our countryman broke loose. Coolly turning his head to an acute angle, he hazarded the question, "ARE YOU AN IRISHMAN?" We were struck all of a heap and you could have heard a pin drop; for the nonce, the clatter of knives and forks ceased. Although none of us could have given the hidden meaning underlying the Hibernian reference, we yet instinctively surmised that an insult was intended. The officer was up in arms at once. "What?" he roared like a bull. "I am only seeking information. Are you an Irishman?" was the unperturbed rejoinder of our offended brother. I regret to say, that the gallant gentleman thereupon began to use language more vigorous than Parliamentary, swearing like a trooper and clutching at his knife in a way that suggested immediate and imminent tragedy. I was on tenterhooks; my heart beat wildly with throbs of dread and dismay and a cold thrill coursed through my veins.

I could not far the life of me so much as turn round to look at Penny. Not so, that redoubtable Davis; he was as cool as cucumber. The Skipper who always enjoys a good joke managed to keep his countenance and a past-mast in tact and sense he adroitly turned off the altercation in the nick of time, and piloted us into smooth channels, and I breathed freely. After this storm in a teacup, there was a hull of quiet peace and mud throwing at Sierra Leone for over an hour.

In sooth, the officer had been very friendly to Penny and myself, often going to the length of sympathetic interest in our pursuit of knowledge under difficulties. Encoined in a cosy corner in the Smoke Room, he would invariably come to our assistance in the study of chemistry; but for some unaccountable reason, he could not bear our friend and since the breezy passage mentioned above, he has studiously kept aloof from Davies.

At Grand Canary. This is a beautiful place. The Canaries or *Canarias* consist of a group of islands, such as Fuerteventura, Lanzarote, Gomera, Hierro, Las Palmas, and Santa Cruz de Santiago (Tenerife) their capital, with an area of 3,256 Square miles—a Spanish possession. Under the inspiration of Juba the King of Mauritania, the elder Pliny mentions Canaria, so called "on account of the multitude of dogs of great size," which infested these islands when they were uninhabited but now happily extinct. Both Plutarch and Ptolemy speak of the *Insulae Fortunatae*—the Islands of the Blessed—no doubt including Madeira Islands. There is a graphic description drawn by Homer in the *Odyssey* of Elysium—THE ABODE OF THE GOOD AFTER DEATH—which is said to be the original of these Islands:—

"Elysium shall be thine; the blissful plains
Of utmost earth, where Rhadamanthus reigns
Joys ever young, unmixed with pain or fear,
Fill the wide circle of the eternal year;
Stern winter smiles on that auspicious clime:
The fields are florid with un fading prime:
From the bleak pole no winds inclement blow,
Mould the round ball, or flake the fleecy snow;
But from the breezy deep the Blest inhale
The fragrant murmurs of the Western gale."

The port is Las Palmas deriving its name from the Palm trees with which the Islands abound. From La Puerta de la Luz, we were driven by a sorry horse a distance of four miles to Canary proper and were forthwith escorted to the famous Catholic Cathedral there—a very handsome pile. We saw a congregation of priests at service and were shown many curiosities including some gorgeous robes of the clergy, one especially—embroidered all over with pure gold, said to be worth two million dollars. There was also on view, the preserved heart of a distinguished church dignitary who had died in America, besides other articles equally interesting. In the market, we were reminded that we were still in Africa, notwithstanding our environment which was undoubtedly European—oranges, bananas, dates, figs, pine-apples, pawpaws, guavas, custard apples, breadfruit, coconuts, and a wonderful variety of strange fruits were temptingly exposed for sale in a few of which we invested.

We arrived at Madeira on Sunday. This is an archipelago belonging to Portugal. It is a garden city, full of flowers and fruits and is fast becoming a winter resort. The beach is pebbly and it is most exhilarating when boats are launched out into the sea. We were surprised to see mendicants in rags and sick folk in large numbers clamouring for alms. The sea is so translucent that little urchins always come alongside the steamers to dive for coins thrown into it by passengers in response to the Babel of voices screaming—"Tripinca for-r a diva, Senhor." Besides Madeira, there are Porto Santo, the two Solvagens, the Desertas, (Desertas, Grande, Bugio, and Chão)—covering an area of 315 square miles. The principal products are sugar, corn, wine, potatoes, vegetables, yams, chestnuts, oranges, honey, lemons, spirits, wax, olive oil, bananas, apples, mangoes, &c. The native manufacture straw hats, wicker chairs, tables, baskets, sofas, &c., soap, ale, leather, embroidery, baskets, linen, woollen stuffs &c. These people are more swarthy than Spaniards or Portuguese which is a proof of their semi-African origin.

The Bay of Biscay. The Bay which is the bogbear of West Coast travellers was as calm as a pond. There was no roll of dreadful thunder and we were exceedingly thankful for its excellent behaviour. It is named after the province of Biscay or Basque in Spain which it washes. The French call it, *Golfe de Gascogne* and the Romans, *Sinus Aquilonis*. It is an extensive gulf of the Atlantic Ocean enclosed by the Northern Coast of Spain and the West Coast of France, that is to say, from the island of Ushant to Cape Ortegal. Navigation through the Bay is rendered extremely difficult, owing to strong westerly gales and Renouf's current which sweeps along the Southern and Eastern Coasts. It is said, sometimes at the terrific rate of 27 miles a day. It is fed by the Rivers Loire, Garonne and Dordogne (uniting to form an Estuary called the Gironde), Adour, and Charente, besides other numerous streams from the mountains of Spain. You can understand the cause of the terrible name it has carried thereby.

All being well my next letter will be dated from England and trust I shall then be able to give you a more interesting account of our journey.

With kindest regards in which Penny joins

Yours affectionately, SAMUEL.

The Gold Coast Leader.

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THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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West Africa.

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GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. L. N. Peregrine returned to his post as Provincial Commissioner for the Central Province from his leave of absence by the *Sokoto* last Monday. *Akwaba*.

Mr. Murphy goes to the Volta District to take the place of Mr. O'Brien who passed up by the *Zungeru* on Tuesday last on furlough.

The Rev. S. R. B. Attoh-Ahuma, of the Grammar School (Accra) came up by the same boat for a few day's visit after twenty months absence from home.

Mr. Briggs Williams, Barrister-at-law, has been in Town this week on his way to Kwitta.

His Honour Mr. Justice Smith is gone down to Salt Pond for the Assizes, and the Court is likely to be at Salt Pond for some two or three weeks.

AXIM

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

An important meeting of the Executive Committee of the Axim Branch of the Aborigines Society was held on the 25th August at Mr. Casely Hayford's Chambers. The object of the meeting was to arouse themselves from all inactivity and to consider the Town Council Ordinance which is disturbing the peace of the people of Axim and Apooonia Districts. Resolutions of constancy to

the Society were passed, and in order to fill the vacant places new members were elected into the Committee. Accordingly on the 26th, Messrs. J. A. Abadoo, W. E. Hamilton, R. W. Nugent, Edwin Cobbinah, E. H. Brw, George A. Coleman, R. C. Essien, G. and B. F. Armah were admitted members of the Executive Committee. The addresses given on the occasion were most encouraging and it is hoped the pledges taken will be fulfilled.

We have also to report the following changes in the officers of the Committee:—

Mr. A. K. Bissoe Vice President, Mr. S. B. Wood General Secretary, and Mr. A. N. Deheer Assistant Secretary.

A public meeting in connexion with the Town Councils Ordinance was held on the 28th at the Omanhin's palace at which the members of the Aborigines Society were present. It was a surprise to find that the Omanhin, the Chiefs and the people were already aware of the disastrous effects of the Ordinance, and resolved to co-operate with Cape Coast in the struggle for its repeal and the substitution of a Municipal Ordinance on native lines.

We greatly deprecate Sunday labour in the shipment of logs which is being pursued this season. We would recommend to the Authorities to put a stop to the practice, in view of its effects morally on all concerned; fortunately, this is a Christian Government.

As announced last Sunday in the Church there will be the celebration of the "Harvest Festival" on Sunday the 17th September members and adherents of the Church have been notified to supply the necessary vegetables, fruits, &c.

Mr. Justice Purcell arrived from Sekondi by the "Aro" last Tuesday the sitting of the September Assizes begins on Monday the 11th September.

Honorable J. P. Brown is in town.

SEKONDI

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The first inaugural meeting of the Catholic Truth Society lately instituted came off successfully last night.

The opening of the Catholic Mission school has been announced to take place on the 11th instant, and for the first quarter, scholars will be admitted free.

Rev. Rigall of the Wesleyan Mission is expected out by the "Fantees" next Saturday.

The *fete champetre* held at First Street last week, opened the celebration of the Koooom this year.

TOWN COUNCIL.

In the exercise of officialism, there never has been manifested a craze equal to that bearing on the extension to Ekuawise of this Ordinance. Ekuawise is a village town of mud and thatch and is situated a mile from the boundaries of this outgrown town, having an area not quite one-fourth of a mile. Excepting two or three houses in it, the fact that Lagos Town—which is within the Municipal area, densely populated—has been exempted from taxation, clearly evinces the means for crushing all aboriginal rights and efforts under this majestic policy, and naturally must we conclude that as neither Poxasis nor Amanfoi will escape from this pernicious rule, all other places under the jurisdiction of this province will be brought to the level by the commission of President Philbrick. Houses in Ekuawise are being marked and assessed—good!

The Wesleyan Church after all could not be taxed—the number was put there simply to serve as a puppet-show re the determination of the Government in regard to the enforcement of the Ordinance. Rev. Hayford has been requested to address a letter to the Council asking the Board to withdraw the House of God from the House List. The idea!

RAILWAY.

Mr. Graves and clerk Huxton are both indisposed. Black water fever is raging fiercely among the officials; we do not know if this is attributable to the want of electricity in the atmosphere which is the report on some recent authorities.

The recent alterations in the staff have placed Mr. South at Dunkwa as Traffic Inspector, and Mr. East as Stationmaster, Sekondi.

Mr. H. P. Harry of the Abbotiskoon Mine has been recommended for the post of Storekeeper of this Railway; Mr. S. — to remain as a permanent assistant.

Can the report be true that a legal action has been instituted against this Government by Mr.

Allison Smith, ex-Loco. Supt. who is now in England, and that Mr. Graves or Mr. Youthead is to go to Europe to explain the grounds connected with the summary dismissal of the complainant from the service of the Gold Coast Railway? It is something wonderful that Mr. Graves would permit himself to be led by the nose.

In connection with cleanliness and general upkeep of Stations, the following prizes were awarded on the 24th ulto: £1 to Sub-Platelayer King for his efforts in starting station gardens on his section. £1 to Stationmaster Blisset for maintaining garden at Tarkwa. Future prizes will be awarded for the two sections Sekondi to Imbraim and Imbraim to Kumasi. The next prizes will be considered at Xmas 1905.

DUNKWA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Aug. 31.

A series of events which daily happen in this remote little place is rather shameful to put to record for the past month and in the current one, the town has been and is being ransacked by marauders.

The store of the Tarkwa Trading Co. has been forced open twice, and on both occasions the miscreants were relentless in their crime. Not content with their plunder at the Company's store, the next item on the programme was to pay a visit to the post office. The Iron safe containing some postal orders, stamps, and loose coins were taken away entirely.

Mr. Lett the Commissioner of Police has been here, but there has been no trace of the criminals yet. The police have been very inactive: who is to blame, if such perpetrations are going on? Cannot the police go on the beat each night as is customary in other places? Since writing, rumour has been about that robbery has taken place in the Ashanti Goldfields Auxiliary Company. Things are indeed getting worse. From Bokitsi the neighbouring village, news has reached us that the burglar of the charged 'affairs of the Bokitsi Goldfields now sunk into the wire, was entered by these robbers and bolted off with some property. From Open Valley we have another heinous crime done to the station master Mr. A. E. Frans, there are other minor robberies I have no wish to enumerate.

What the future has yet in store for us we cannot imagine. One thing is certain, that unless the police take steps to thwart these robberies the people will be harassed with loss of property and more, bodily harm.

In compliance with the request of the D. C. the Church House has been pulled down. The spot has been declared an "open space," services are conducted at the Minister's; another building is in course of erection on a plot of ground allotted to the mission by the Chief.

THE MINES.

We remarked some time ago that the mineral resources of the Gold Coast is a certainty, but, it wants interested business-like managers to superintend. We further remarked that many a mine has sunk into nothingness through the mismanagement, and the voluptuary life led by the Managers. The Bibiani Goldfields Co. very nearly realised these facts lately, but for the timely intervention of Captain Way, the managing Director, who arrived here from London, to put things ship-shape. The news that reached us from the Mines is anything but pleasant, the unnecessary dismissal of Clerks, the free and over-indulgent association with "Bacchus," and ill-treatment to staff. In all this the Manager was aided by the Medical officer. These would-be ruinous men have had their Congé and fresh men replaced. Thanks, to the foresight and tact of Captain Way. In deed and truth he is a true managing Director. What might have been, had these eruptions been allowed to accumulate, Heaven alone knows. Captain Way left for England by the "Bisra." We wish him "bon voyage."

The Locomotive for the Attasi Mines is constructed and now under steam. The rails have been laid to the extent of about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. The contractors engaged in laying them have been asked to leave as the work is not done on a progressive scale. Two men (whites) have taken on the contract.

THE RAILWAY.

Owing to the change in the Time-Table &c. the running of the Mail boats which are now timed to arrive at Sekondi every Friday instead of Saturdays, the Railway time-table has also been revised. Up-trains leave Sekondi at 7 a.m. reaching Obuasi at 5 5 p.m. Down-trains leave Obuasi at 5 30 a.m. reaching Sekondi at 5 2 p.m. We hope this is a change for the better.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A good many of our local readers have been expressing their surprise, on seeing Mr. Palk insisting that the Police Barracks should still be built on the

Parade ground, in spite of the protest from the People, particularly the Incoms, who own the land because the Acting Governor has been approached through Chief Sackey during the absence of the Omanhin from town to order the building to be stopped, as they were prepared to show them a spot for it, if they were obliged to build there from want of a suitable place.

The Governor instructed the Provincial Commissioner to see the Chief to do so, which accompanied by other chiefs and captains, he did, and both Mr. Murphy and Mr. Palk were pleased with the spot shown them and every body naturally thought that was the end of the matter. After a time, the building at the Parade commenced again, hence the surprise of the People, but the letter from the Acting Colonial Secretary (Mr. Hunter) we publish elsewhere explains it all, the Park Committee have thought best to interfere in the matter by what right we are unable to say at present.

Which of the spots—Nsukuradzi or the Parade—belongs to them? What can be their objections to the Barracks being built at Nsukuradzi? Do they seriously think that the Police Barracks should be better built at the Parade ground than at the Nsukuradzi? And would the Authorities have us take it seriously that in matters of this kind, where the public interest is at stake the opinion or the views of a handful of men should weigh more with them than those of the Chiefs, captains and the People? Perhaps for peace and quietness sake the members of the Park Committee would do well to reconsider the views they laid before the Acting Governor which led him to his present decision, for Might may beat Right, but the people still protest against the Barracks being built at the Parade Ground, especially as there are several other spots in the town suitable for that purpose.

If proofs were needed, that at times when the Authorities or some officials seem unnecessarily harsh, oppressive and imperious it is all through the manoeuvrings of some wisecracks, here is one: as we find it in this instance so it may be in other matters; and if in some of the former administrations of this country there seemed to have been less friction between the people and their Protectors, it was because the latter took the principal men of the former more into their confidence than certain less responsible individuals of the community, and this has been the guiding star of all able and successful administrators of our Colonies and Protectorates.

Brooding over this, and other kindred subjects, the idea strikes us, that, evidently even in Patriotism there seems to be some grades, and Wesley's advice to Cromwell to "fling away ambition" may still hold; that the time has now come that all who are in the front rank of our Race in its struggle for the recognition of its rights and freedom of speech, should still carry in their right hand gentle peace, so as to "silence envious tongues," to "be just and fear not" and ALL the ends they may be aiming at to be their Country's, their God's and Truth's, and to "serve the King;" nay, it seems, that the set time has come, when Africans every where should be united in the interest of our much abused Race, smothering every thing else which may tend to prejudice and injure it in the eyes of the World, so as to work with heart and main for the elevation of the Race.

There is a clear call for this unity of purpose, not so much for opposition, which indeed will be stupid and foolish, if we mean ever to scale the heights of civilization, and to divest ourselves of the ignorance which has enthralled us for these many centuries, as to be no more babes and sucklings, to be able to help ourselves, so as to be helped by others, to LIVE and not simply to EXIST; and whatever high-handed dealings, oppression and injustice that may be seen still stalking in the land, dealt out to us by some of those, whose fathers fought bravely and constitutionally for their rights and liberty of speech, those fathers who knew the bitterness of oppression and misrepresentation, yet passed through them all to gain the end which their children now enjoy—those things are meant, not so much to fan into flame, the false ambition, the selfishness, or spitefulness of any of us as to unite us more than ever for the welfare of the Fatherland, and to entwine our loyalty more and more round the Throne, destined by the All-wise Providence, to lead us out of our Egyptian bondage, for All's well that ends well.

It is indeed satisfactory to note, that the application of the Town Councils Ordinance to this Town and Sekondi, has revealed the unqualified opposition against it all over the Protectorate which clearly shows, that if it had not been rushed through the Legislature as it was done, but sufficient time given the People to consider same it would have been vetoed by them at once: and Accra, even Accra on which the Ordinance was forced with all the power that the Crown Colony System possesses and said to be a huge success of the Town Council Policy is not behind the other places over

which the Ordinance hangs like the sword of Damocles, in its protest against it, and this is as it should be, for it has learned from bitter experience the dire effects of this Ordinance said to be a blessing in disguise.

For the past two weeks several complaints have come to us of the unfair treatment meted out to the natives in the Wassaw district who choose to deal in the timber trade, by the Railway authorities on the difficulties they are put to in getting their timber to the Sekundi port for shipment: we must say, we can hardly give credence to the reports that come in, notwithstanding what we know of the doings in connection with our Railway. We are inclined to think that the officials cannot go to such lengths, for it seems utterly impossible for a Government Department, which should seek to bring in all the Revenue it can have, to act like this. We therefore 'lie low' for more information. And there seems to be a certain native gentleman representing a certain European Firm residing at Sekundi who seems to have a hand in all this, can any of our readers give us more particulars about this gentleman?

Are we to believe the reports that reach us on the steadied persecution which seems to be dealt out to some innocent persons, on being suspected, to be the correspondents for this journal at Kumasi and Sekundi? Is there any misdemeanour or crime in being a correspondent to a newspaper or let us say to this harmless newspaper which has often declared itself to be the friend of all and enemy of none? Perhaps it may be an enemy to those who from their misdeeds must be afraid of their own shadows, but never to those who deal justly to their "neighbour," whatever may be the colour of that neighbour. At one time a clerk at one of the Mines in the Tarkwa district was dismissed on being suspected as a correspondent: another suffered in the same way at Adra from one of the Firms there. What is the real offence, let an impartial say, and let him say it "in confidence" and it will have our consideration, or else this treatment cannot be suffered to continue: they must be dragged into light. We wonder if our contemporaries experience the same thing. Ah yes:—*Cultores veritatis fraudis inimici*, and this, 'as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.'

THANKS FOR SYMPATHY.

Mr. A. Jones Hammond begs to thank all kind friends who by personal calls, letters and telegrams sympathized with him in the loss he has sustained in the sad and sudden death of his eldest son.

LECTURE! LECTURE!!

SUBJECT:—THE PHILOSOPHY OF INDIVIDUAL UNITY.

By Principal Attoh-Ahuma of the Accra Grammar School, at the Jubilee Memorial Chapel, on Monday the 11th inst. 1905, under the auspices of the Cape Coast Reading Club. Collections and Contributions in aid of Secondary Education. Doors open at 7, o'clock p.m. Lectures to commence at 7.30 prompt. W. E. Sam Esq. has consented to act as Chairman.

The "Cape Coast Brass Band" will be in attendance.

Admission free.

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, SEPT. 9, 1905.

THE WAY OUT.

IV.

In considering *the way out*, there is absolutely no need for misunderstanding. In none of the reforms that we seek can the people be said to be antagonistic to His Majesty's Government. Our policy is one of active, intelligent, scientific co-operation with the central authority. We could not sever our connection from Great Britain if we would; *we would not if we could*. And these are no mere words. Our past relations with His Majesty's Government amply bear us out. Indeed, so rooted, is our loyalty that, even at the point of the bayonet, we would still appeal to reason on the part of the

oppressor. Where is the antagonism, for instance, in developing an educational policy that will enable the people to develop the land to their own advantage and to that of the British pioneer of enterprise and commerce? It is true, in recognising the right of aborigines to participate freely and fully in the emoluments of the public service, there will be fewer incompetent men of another race in the service. But what reasonable person will doubt that it will have the advantage of reducing the public expenditure by at least one half and do away with the everlasting furloughs, pensions, gratuities, and allowances, sometimes called by a fine name, "duty allowances"?

What does "duty allowance" mean? A man, may be a hopelessly incompetent one, draws a fat income of some £800 per annum with quarters found; plus medical attendance free, with passages thrown in, six months furlough after 12 months' service on full pay; and a pension to look forward to. He has an army of clerks under him, and, sometimes, he is too lazy even to write his own letters. Now, when this man does a little extra hard work, clearly within his appointed duties, he draws another sum of, say, £200 per annum, which is the "duty allowance" so-called; and, if he travels outside his station to perform his ordinary duties, he is promptly allowed another fee, known as "travelling allowance."

Now, what business conducted on such lines would not be in the bankruptcy Court in less than six months, and is it any wonder that the Gold Coast is overhead and ears in debt and we keep borrowing money? Who pays for all this tomfoolery, to call a spade a spade? The people of the Gold Coast of course, as a moment's reflection will convince any one. The foreign merchant within our gates takes care that the native pays through the nose his own share of the burden; and when he finds the game is not worth the candle, he packs up and goes away. We pay and pay and go on paying, and we are expected to grin and bear it all, and never say a word. We may have been fools once, now we are fools no longer. Before, we were blind, now we see.

Therefore, we would sweep this Augean stable clean, though it requires the strength of a Hercules to do it. If we find the money, in the last analysis, we must have a voice in spending it. We cannot emphasise that point too often.

Moreover, when we call for a proper recognition of our *Amanhin* and *Ahinfu* in the councils of the country and in municipal matters, when we insist, in short, upon reforms that will go the length of giving the people a full share in the Government of the country and in shaping its destiny, what do we more than ask that the central government may be relieved of superfluous and unnecessary work? We have at present an army of Deputy Governors, District Commissioners, Travelling Commissioners, and other Commissioners, that can be easily dispensed with. What are the duties of a Provincial Commissioner, for example? In what way does he differ from the ordinary District Commissioner? If we knew that august personage by the simple name of District Commissioner, what, in the name of reason, would prevent him doing the work he may legitimately do now? It is these grand names that make public officers, dressed in brief authority, deport themselves in such a way as to make angels weep. We have heard it seriously suggested by a man of authority that you might call a member of the Judicial branch of the service a first, second or third class Judicial officer without much loss of dignity!

But to come back to the Provincial Commissioner, is he a kind of political officer specially appointed by a paternal government to watch and look after the interests of our native kings and chiefs? If so, to what purpose? To judge from the way some of our Deputy Governors, for such in fact they appear to be, meddle and interfere with the private affairs of the *Amanhin* and *Ahinfu*, and what a lot of paper and ink they waste in writing despatches about them and their doings, it would seem as if it were not the settled policy of the whole country to co-operate with His Majesty's Government.

We repeat that we could not sever our connection from Great Britain if we would; *we would not, if we could*. In all the criticism that we make on public affairs; in all the reforms that we seek; in all the expression we

give to the grievances of the people; let friend and foe understand, once and for all, that we are animated by a conviction that the Gold Coast, in the near future, is going to become a great nation, a valuable link in the imperial chain, and that the only obstacle in the way is the stupid, persistent policy of ignoring the sons of the soil, and treating them as if they were of no account in the development and advancement of their dear fatherland.

THE EDUCATED NATIVE.

The Town Councils question on the Gold Coast has received editorial treatment in the columns of our able contemporary, the *West African Mail*, in its issue of August 11 last; and we take the opportunity of pointing out certain important admissions contained in that article, which we print in italics. Admission number one is couched in these words: "So far as the administrative cost of the Crown Colony System is concerned, we have seen no reason to change the opinions we have so frequently expressed. And we sincerely wish—as we have also frequently stated—that some measures could be devised for giving the native a greater voice than he has at present in the expenditure of the revenues of his country." That is exactly what we have been harping upon for months past; and we are glad to see that the *West African Mail* is with us in a campaign to secure for this country an effective voice in the spending of the revenue, and, in consequence, a due share in legislation generally. We note at the same time that our contemporary finds fault with the means we have adopted in making ourselves heard and understood. We do not plead guilty, however, to the use of extravagant language. We hope that, upon due reflection, the *West African Mail* will see that, situated as we are, with only the press to ventilate our grievances and to give expression to our political wants, we must speak out frankly, openly, fearlessly which is all we have done so far.

The educated native shibboleth is once more trotted out in the editorial under review. "Rightly or wrongly—wrongly we hope—the feeling is widely entertained in British administrative circles that the influence of many of the educated natives in British West Africa is being used in a sense politically hostile to the British connection." We have done so times without number, but, lest it has not caught the editorial eye of the *West African Mail*, we hasten to assure our contemporary that a greater mistake could never have been made by him and others. Think for a moment, what West African, educated or otherwise, is so insane as to wish to be rid of Great Britain? The idea is absurd. Why, we are between Scylla and Charybdis, in other words to put the matter plainly, between the devil and the deep blue sea; and, we believe, we express the opinion of West Africans in general, and of the Gold Coast people in particular, when we say that we are not such fools as not to see the advantages of the British connection in preference to a connection with any other European power. That being so, what is the true feeling of the people of the Gold Coast? We feel this, first and foremost, that the time has come when we should not be taxed with an adequate representation, and in this we claim no more than what is the right of every people within the British dominions. We were fools once, but we remain no longer fools, and we shall continue to claim and press for our rights until they are conceded by the British Government; and we choose only constitutional weapons with which to fight our battles.

We feel, secondly, that the educated native is unduly maligned for party purposes. It is the same cry as the educated Welsh, Irish, or Scotch. In any case, it is a childish cry—a sign of weakness. Does a native cease to be a native when once he is educated? If not, should he, or should he not, take part in the political movements of his country; is he, or is he not, the natural protector of his less enlightened brethren? Take a case in point, to wit, the case of the executive warning given to Omanhin Atta of Axim to keep off the agitation against the Town Councils Ordinance. Said the official syren: "the Ordinance will not be extended to Axim for the next twenty or thirty years; therefore have nothing to do with the messengers of the Omanhin of Cape Coast calling for funds to support the movement against the Ordinance." Did ever a syren sing more sweetly! We should like, Mr. Phillbrick, the Provincial Commissioner of Sakundi, to tell us whether this move on the part of the District Commissioner of Axim was at his suggestion; for we can hardly think that such an important step could have been taken by the latter officer without direct instructions from Headquarters, or from the Provincial Commissioner. We should not like to characterise the disposition on the Omanhin of Axim in set terms. If we did, our able contemporary the *West African Mail* would accuse us of extravagant language, however justified we may be by the occasion. But this enquiry, however, we may safely make, namely, that but for the educated native, where would the unsophisticated native be? Hence the weakness of the cry—the shibboleth of the

"educated native." Heaven grant that the educated native may never be wanting in his duty to his less privileged brethren, or betray their trust in him!

Our contemporary would seem inclined to abide by the notion that our complaints, which he is pleased to call accusations, are sweeping. Well, all we have got to say is that a man convinced against his will remains of the same opinion still. For there is a good deal of generalising in the article under consideration which if the *West African Mail* had paid the slightest attention to the facts as the Editor knows them, it could not have suffered itself to make.

Our contemporary then proceeds: "We do not want that feeling to grow and become intensified, but to diminish, and with its decrease, a steady increase of participation in local public affairs by such members of the educated native community who possess the requisite capacity for dealing with public affairs. We presume the feeling deprecated in the alleged hostile attitude of the educated native to the British connection, which we have disposed of already. We are immediately, therefore, concerned with the concession that the educated native should participate in local public affairs. Why not? It is only fair that he should. That is the only guarantee to successful British administration, to profitable commercial enterprise, to wholesome British influence on the coast and in the hinterland.

"Could not Mr. Sarbah," asks our contemporary, "make known his views publicly on this Town Councils question?" That shows how little the *West African Mail* has been following up this matter. If the Editor refers to his back files of the *Africanist* newspaper, or of the *Leader*, he will know what Mr. Sarbah's views are; and the views of the Hon. J. P. Brown are so far public property that an English contemporary, to wit, *West Africa*, published it in extenso in its issue of the 5th of August last, some six days before the editorial in question was published. We would recommend to the *West African Mail* the advisability of reproducing the views of Mr. Brown, a member of the Legislative Council and the President of the Aborigines Society, upon this burning question of the hour. The fact is there is not one son of the soil who has declared in favour of the Government scheme. Where there has been any hesitation or indecision, it has been due to backstairs influences of the nature brought to bear upon the Omanhin of Axim. But, whatever the views of this or that public man, the country has declared against the Ordinance; and it is our duty to obey the behest of the country and to give expression to its wishes, which, as in duty bound, we shall ever continue to do. So help us God!

MARVELS AND MYSTERIES.

(BY A BANKER.)

How many and how incomprehensible are the inexplicable mysteries of the realms of nature. And amongst the most astonishing and noteworthy of them all may be numbered the mariner's compass, to which Great Britain, owning more than half the tonnage of the entire globe, is so much indebted. But the compass does not always point to the north; it is ever varying both in direction and in "dip." In England, in A.D. 1580, it pointed about 15 degrees East; in A.D. 1818, more than 24 degrees West, then swaying backward, until, at the present time, the variation has reached nearly 18 degrees West. In some parts of the world, however, the variation far exceeds these figures; for, it is said, at a point in the extreme North Atlantic the variation attains no less than 169 degrees; in other words, that the needle instead of pointing to the north points almost due south. (This statement, however, appears altogether unintelligible and incredible). The needle also "dip" in varying degree; in Toronto, in A.D. 1851, the downward direction amounting to as much as 75 degrees.

And then, too, like a piece of iron and a magnet are mutually attracted and drawn together by some strange force, so two individuals at first sight are powerfully attracted to each other though neither may have previously experienced any such emotion; in some cases relinquishing a prospective throne rather than give up her who had claimed his heart.

Amongst other mysterious wonders is the newly invented portrait telegraph, by which one person conversing with another by telephone, sees the other on a plaque in front of him. And when more powerful batteries are invented it would be possible for two persons, one at the antipodes, the other on this side of the globe, notwithstanding that they are standing feet to feet with the body of the earth between them, to be able to talk and to see each other as though they were face to face.

And another stupendous mystery, in our sense equally wonderful as its creation, is the marvellous exactitude of the revolution of the planetary system, and doubtless also of the sidereal universe. The earth performs its annual journey of five hundred and sixty-six million miles without deviation, and without the slightest irregularity, or variation arriving, at a given moment, exactly at a calculated point in the ether at the second of time expiration; each star, doubtless, also, though at present this is

beyond our powers of calculation, revolving round the stupendous and mighty pivot of the universe with equal regularity.

But of all the unintelligible mysteries which could exist throughout the universe is the inexplicable fact that the great atonement made for us by the Son of God, by relinquishing His throne in the Heaven of heavens, living a life of penury, hardship and contumely, and dying that we might attain the glories and supernal joys of heaven, is, by the great majority of human beings, forgotten and contemned and that such multitudes deliberately refuse to obey Him, thereby forfeiting their rights to that splendid inheritance, and inheriting instead—the terrible Outer Darkness.

EXTRACTS ONLY.

BY X. X.

In a paper read before the British Association at Newcastle September, 1889² by Mr. H. R. Fox-Bourne appear the following:—

"On Political grounds, apart from their commercial importance, they are of no more value to us than as places for European settlement; and, though much praiseworthy and self-sacrificing work is done by Missionaries in spreading christianity and civilization among the natives, it is to be feared that little or no store is set on this latter work by representatives of the English Government, and that the whole tendency of official influence is to weaken instead of strengthening the effect of the Missionaries' labours. To those of us who believe that it is incumbent on England to aim at the moral elevation of the benighted and barbarous races with whom it places itself in contact the signal neglect of this duty should be a cause of shame and reproach."

That the qualities and capacities of the West African Negroes are much maligned should be apparent from the fact that under proper guidance, they are able to become skilful doctors, learned lawyers, heroic missionaries, and honest traders—to acquit themselves worthily in almost any condition of civilized life and intellectual and moral activity that their circumstances allow them to aspire to."

"The Negroes are shrewd men of business in their own way, no more grasping than it is their interest to be, and they show themselves willing to modify and improve upon their time-honoured customs whenever the change is shown to be reasonable. But they object to being bullied, and it is by bullying, in the erroneously supposed interests of trade, that we provoke all our little wars with them, except those that are so frequent and so contemptible that scarcely any attention whatever is paid to them by people in England; but they and the circumstances that lead to them—bringing dishonour on the English name and tending to wreck all objects we profess to aim at in keeping up our West African possessions—deserve both notice and severe condemnation."

After recounting some incidents and especially those of the massacre of the Taviaves, Assistant-Inspector Akers hunting down about a thousand men, women and children out of a people of only about two thousand, Mr. Fox Bourne continues:—

"The examples I have quoted from recently published official documents are not exceptional. They fairly illustrate, in various aspects, the modes in which, holding a straggling series of forts and ports, river-mouths and administrative stations on the West African coast, we pursue a steady or variable course of harrying and bullying towards the blacks, with frequent interludes of wanton killing."

"With one other remark I must conclude this paper. As our political relations with West Africa have grown up and are continued almost exclusively for commercial reasons, it appears to be utterly folly for us to be for ever aiming at territorial aggression, and to be engaging, at the rate of at least two or three a year, in disgraceful little wars designed to brow-beat the natives, but which fail to do that, and only succeed in enraging those who are not killed off in the futile operation. If instead of quarrelling with their chiefs and kings we contracted alliances with them, recognizing their position and the rights of their subjects, and seeking no more from them than due observance of treaties made with them for their and our joint benefit, both they and we should gain."

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Accra, Gold Coast, 4th Sept. 1905.

Chief.—I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th of August last, and to inform you that His Excellency was fully prepared to consider the question of removing the site of the projected Police Barracks from the "Parade Ground" to the land referred to by you as, "Neukuradzi" at the south-eastern side of the Victoria Park, but that, as the Park Committee immediately entered a strong protest against the land being used as a site for the Police Barracks

His Excellency is disposed to think that objections exist with which you are unacquainted, to its being utilized for this purpose.

I am, Chief,
Your good Friend,
C. H. HUNTER
Actg. Col. Secretary.

Chief Kofi Sackey,
Cape Coast.

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*.
KUMASI EVENTS.

CHAPTER I. WILLIAM RUFUS "CUM" ONIBI.

Sir,—I feel inclined to write on account of the correspondence published in your columns a few weeks ago from a Nigerian Correspondent (1) to assure the good writer that not only in Nigeria but in a portion of the Gold Coast known as Ashanti things are done which are on a par with occurrences over there; (2) to smash the evil intentions and adventures of a European in this town whom I will call William Rufus for the purpose of speculative identification and; his detective whom also I will call Onibi, a native of the soil, and a fanatic in the cult of Bacchus. Rufus has not been here for more than three months but has succeeded in setting all the mercantile Agents in town dead against the poor inoffensive coast clerks in this town. I will proceed to specify the few wondrous and; gentlemanly (?) feats he has accomplished during his brief stay:—

Feat I—Rufus had the goodness to report a poor unoffending clerk to his employer for the awful crime of admitting female customers in his store, but fortunately for the youngman his master happened to be a gentleman well-bred whatever his other faults may be, and he took no serious notice of it. Consequently the white purveyor of scandals retreated without reward. Some time after a paragraph appeared in the papers relating a similar affair, but for reasons best known to himself he took the cap and wore it in good style, going into hysterics over it and nearly bringing the whole bungalow on his head. He has thus advertised himself as the local "Reuters." And marry! He wrote and addressed a letter to the "Correspondent of the Gold Coast Leader, Kumasi"—of course as a trap.

Feat II—Rufus with his Angolian sagacity for underhand business has struck friendship with Onibi whom he periodically wets with liquor as the reward for the use of him as an informant about the youngmen in town. The fellow appears to be the best man for the job and has spared neither time nor energy to pursue his onerous duties probably with the expectation of the writing off, of his balance. But O. VII is no more scrupulous in supplying cooked-up stories at cost price than in keeping faith with Willie; for as soon as he descends from the bungalow off he goes to his compeers and gives away the minutes of the conference—and so they become public property.

Yours truly,—HERMES.

Dear Sir,—As I was reading the *Sporting Times* of March 25, 1905 which was given to me by a friend, I came across the enclosed and I thought it would be interesting if I made a cutting of it and sent it to you for your perusal and publication if necessary.

It is such a pleasure to hear what other people say of the *Leader*, though bad it may be; especially these bigotted white folks on the coast. Fancy the paper being put down as "very disloyal" perhaps for the mere reason that you are "always going for Europeans;" but I know, you, as its Editor, will not mind this nonsense but rather you will be cheered by that saying in Fanti *ma wo mfa ntu wo du na mma onye ho*.

Praying that success may always attend you in your efforts towards the welfare of the country.

I remain, Yours very truly,
OLD BLACK JOE.

Tarkwa, Aug. 28. 1905.

GOLD COAST JOURNALISM.

To the Editor of the "*Sporting Times*."

Dear Sir,—We have a humorous (unintentionally so) native paper here, which, though very disloyal and always going for Europeans, is sometimes amusing, and although I know you do not like cuttings as a rule, I enclose you one:—

"Dear Sir,—In your issue of December 31st, 1904, I read with pleasure the suggestion made to you by one of your readers, which reads, 'that each of you, to show your appreciation of the "*Leader*" in a practical manner, between now and next March contribute sixpence towards the up-keep of the Press by way of donations.' I am pleased to inform you that I will contribute 5s. a month for this suggestion to the time mentioned (D.V.) Kindly let me know if you accept stamps (postage) as there is no money order transactions here, also thanking you for the space allowed and whilst remain.

Yours faithfully,—BIBIANI.

"Bibiani, 21st January, 1905."

I think if all your readers were to "dash" you sixpence you would have a nice little purse.

I asked a native the other day how his family was getting on. His reply was: "My small wife born picanin, my big wife catch belly too," which was his delicate way of telling us that his new wife had a baby and his old one was in an interesting condition.—
Yours faithfully, ANCOBRA.

Azira, Gold Coast, March 1, 1905.

"It is only one who loves his country and defends its interests notwithstanding at what risk, can be rightly and truly called a Patriot."

Sir,—I have watched and read with keen interest the discussion of the "Town Councils Ordinance," the burning subject of the hour—and with more interest the protestations of the patriots of Cape Coast, against the enforcement of this Ordinance, in the current issues of your valuable paper. The protestations are in diverse opinions, but all aiming at one end—from people of the countries along the coast; but I am moved by an irresistible spirit to ask, what is the attitude, politically, of the citizens of Elmina, with regards to this Ordinance? Opinions have been often invited by your courtous journal, but I have not come across one encouragement in the protestations from Elmina.

The people of Cape Coast only seem to be on the qui vive using all means in their power, for the abolition of the Ordinance, the scent of which, now pervades our atmosphere. Shall I presume to say that this indifference of the Elminians, arises from the fact that the present condition of their town being desolate, and inactive, and devoid of all that makes a town lively, there is every reason to believe the town will not undergo the burden of this Ordinance, once it is in force at Cape Coast? Or I cannot help the assertion—Are they of opinion with the Government that the application of the Ordinance is justifiable?

When the "Lands Bill" question was inciting agitation, interest, and commotion on the Gold Coast it was Cape Coast that took the active part in the protestation; Elmina followed or rather was made to follow sheepishly; the Deputation sent to England, was brought about by the leading men of Cape Coast, who have been, and are sparing no efforts for the welfare of the Gold Coast. Is it because the inhabitants are in an impoconious position to give aid? To acknowledge this as the predominant reason, would be too ludicrous. There are among the citizens of that country, men well-to-do, who undoubtedly claim precedence to paupers.

There are among the inhabitants influential men; men of talent—of brilliant intellect. The committee of that town is composed of men of eminent social standing. Cannot they contribute to the united efforts of the people of Cape Coast? "Unity is strength!" Where is the standard of union? Can the future generation of that town assert without any shadow or tinge of falsehood that their ancestors also aided in the prevention of what might have been? After recording in the pages of the History of the Gold Coast (if we can get hold of a modern author) what have come to pass. In what an astute and statesmanlike manner, undaunted courage, and fearless writings to the "*Leader*," Politicians have warded off a fatal catastrophe, detrimental to the welfare of the race. I again ask, can the future generation of that town have reason to glory in the achievements of their ancestors, as the present can boldly sing the praises of their dead-gone heroes, in their past deeds, writ large? This is a time of moment! Instead of spending leisure times in idle diversions, cannot the young men, as well as the advanced in age, all of literary capabilities, assist with that mightiest of swords the "Pen," in sending to the press, sound and wholesome articles showing their protestations against this Ordinance? And their being at variance with its advantages, as we are assured it has?

The imposition of this Ordinance affects not only Cape Coast, but Elmina as well; assuming then that this is the case, why cannot both towns work shoulder to shoulder? "United we stand divided we fall." Why is Cape Coast alone left to paddle and smooth way for the other towns. Why is that town to bear the brunt, and the poignant remarks of critics? It is time that the Elminians begot themselves to action; to put on life and show that they come of a stock of noble and brave ancestors; to stir up the sinews and show they are worthy of the fathers who begot them, and for whose valour courage and chivalry, Elmina would not have been what she is to-day.

Sincerely apologising for exceeding my limit.

Yours truly,—J. L.

The Hinterland, Aug. 24, 1905.

Sir,—It is regrettable the people of Sekundi allowed the house of Chief Annasi to be sold by public auction.

While the people are paying the rates under protest as conveyed in their cablegram to the Secretary of State, what might be done to save their houses in this:

Let a town fund be collected, say, £200 for the purpose of buying in property about to pass under the hammer into the hands of enemies to the people's cause. Let then an agent of the Town Committee attend every sale and buy in. The only portion of the sale money due to the sellers would be the amount of the rate, the balance coming to the owner of the house plus his house.

In principle, then, the owner of the house will have saved his house and entered an emphatic protest to the rates.

But the best thing that can happen would be not to find bidders at all. But, since the heart of man is desperately wicked, if buyers of houses sold under the rates realised that they were heaping trouble on their own heads, and their own rates would next be levied plus their neighbours, they would not be so quick in lending a helping hand to the Government to oppress the people. We have the right on our side, and hope to win in the end.

Yours &c.,—K. K.

4th September, 1905.

The Gold Coast Leader.



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Price 2d.
Including postage 4d.

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GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. Poulkes leaves shortly on furlough, and Mr. Farley is here to relieve him.

The Rev. Attoh-Ahuma's lecture as announced last week came off last Monday, Mr. W. E. Sam presiding. The Jubilee Memorial was full to hear the lecturer. We understand he gives it in the vernacular on his return from Axim, the reverend gentleman having left for that place on last Tuesday morning.

The Lagos Standard of September 6, says, "Our cricketing friends here to look well to their practicing; the Gold Coast people are making big preparations for the next Match. We learn that since we went over and inflicted a defeat on them many clubs have been formed and several gentlemen who had given up cricket before the last Match are practicing regularly now. It is said that Lagos will have a formidable team to contend with at the next play."

We suggested the other day, that as we have such exceptional powers for Ordinance making one should be made, to check some officials, who perhaps from training and natural inclination, are constantly doing things to bring our Administration into disrepute.

One has been made to protect some officials if ever they do anything out of the way for which the law can hold them (!) Why not this?

Akri's writer from Sekondi of an official in the Railway Department who having recently returned from his leave of absence, has started distressing the native officials unnecessarily. It men who do this, must do it because they have no respect for themselves being so much imbued with colour prejudice, surely they should remember they are disgracing their Race and tarnishing the fair name of Britannia.

Would it not be better to take no notice of such men, for who can stop the nightingale from singing or the dog from barking; but the mischief the latter may be doing.

What is all this? Is this what is called Civilization?

Mr. Peregrine has come to find us with the agitation over the Town Council Ordinance still on. He has come, and we are beginning to realize that he has come. Ay, oh, ah, he has come.

Mr. Donovan arrived by the *Fientes* last Monday

We said last week, that Mr. Briggs Williams is a Barrister-at-law; that was an error, he is an Engineer.

The Gazette of September 2, publishes an ADVISE to the public should an outbreak of Yellow Fever occur in the Colony. We publish it next week.

KUMASI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

5th Sept.

The Chief Commissioner arrived here on the 4th inst. from inspection with his interpreter Mr. Erbyn.

Two of Millard Krooboy had a free fight at Asrafa yesterday and one (the Headman called Sunday) succeeded in hitting part of his opponent's ear, both of them are in custody.

Mr. E. G. Sampson has been arrested on the charge of receiving stolen property.

One Mr. O. Frank at the post office has been dismissed from the service and he left the Town on the same day. A warrant was pursuing after him for his arrest suspecting him to have written a threatened letter to Mr. Murray.

Does the Law permit smoking in His Majesty's Courts? Its a common thing here, and I wonder what will be said or done to me if I walked into the Court with a cigar in my mouth.

Can the rumour be true that the "Leader" of the 19th of Aug. last were detained at the Post Office for the purpose of putting down the names of all the subscribers in Kumasi? Perhaps our Postmaster Mr. W. Jackson can enlighten us a bit why all the mails were not called out at once as usual, but the "Leader" alone were detained either at the Station yard or at the Post Office.

The new Superintendent Mr. Johnson had either by himself or on instructions been very busy to find out the Kumasi Correspondent on the quiet for reasons best known to himself or those who gave him the instructions to do so, but unfortunately he has been found out. He went rather too far when he mentioned certain names, (quite innocent names) to Mr. O. whom he suspects.

We are having night meetings, galore.

The war with mosquitoes by the authorities began on the 1st instant.

Sometime ago a competent schoolmaster was promised us, during the General Superintendent's visit of which we have heard nothing since his return to the Coast, he or his *locum-tenens* may be reminded of it. The school here is absolutely too low.

Some flowers have been brought by the General Manager for the Station Master to be planted. By the way where is Engineer Mr. Cozens-Hardy? This job was for him?

SEKONDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

5th Sept.

Before noon on Monday the 4th inst. the hangers that broke into Rotmann's store and carried off goods and money were arrested and searched at the station. Their apprehension was due to the efforts of Mr. Assefank and two detectives. The men have been made out to be the very thieves that ransacked Mr. Rust's store at the market on the 30th ult. A considerable value of their booty has been recovered and up

doubt, they will be made to square the balance in St. Jago.

Bearing on the absence of rain, the intensity of the prevailing drought is increasing. We understand Accra—the seat of the Government—is somewhat worse and yet, funds are always ready at hand for Club Houses &c.

OBITUARY.

Azarel has been creating a deadly havoc among us during the past week. Mr. Johnson (tailor) who lately came here from Cape Coast died last Tuesday evening and was taken to Comenda his native home for burial. Three days afterwards Solomon Hanson fell a victim to a protracted illness, since then the death rate has been on the average of three, daily.

THE RAILWAY.

Mr. F. H. Waller, Chief Accountant, arrived last Monday by the *Akabo*, and is acting as General Manager in the absence of Mr. A. E. P. Graves who proceeded to the Canaries by the *Zugers* last Tuesday to recruit his health. Certain departmental changes are contemplated to take place on the arrival of Mr. Graves (?) who is due on the 26th inst.

TOWN COUNCIL.

Tenders are required by the Board for the erection of a Market Shed. Unfortunately the nearest spot that will be utilized for this purpose shall not be at a distance of less than a mile and half from Fort Orange, and the same forms a portion of those apportioned into leaseable blocks at 5/- a year known as the Colonial Municipal area.

The officers of the Sanitary Department of the Council are distinguished by scarlet braided khaki uniforms.

Attention is called to the dustbins which are not regularly emptied, especially those in Accra Town.

CHAMA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Quacos arrived from England last week by s.s. "Axim." We give him a hearty welcome.

The Yam Custom was celebrated on Friday the 1st inst. The custom is fast losing its attractiveness amongst the young heathen boys and girls most of whom having joined the Singing Band and would not go near it.

A Committee meeting for the agricultural show came off successfully last Thursday at the D. C.'s Court. Omanhin Freku presiding, supported by his Ahinfa, and Rev. Brodie Graham.

Mr. Peter Abraham of Sekondi entertained the Singing Band here with Magic Lantern slides on Saturday the 2nd, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Mr. Lutterodt the officer in charge has been transferred to Sekondi and Mr. Hemans takes his place.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Now that we think we have had sufficient facts as to what really took place at the D. C.'s court, Accra, when Manche Tackie Obile of Accra Dutch Town was arraigned before the Magistrate from whom he received a severe lecturing on the "Lainous" crime of not reporting to him the drowning of a certain girl, we give them to our readers, since they tend to show to what extent our Native Rulers are subjected to indignities and disrespect chiefly by some young officials, in being disgraced like common fellows before their subjects, which means loss of respect and prestige, and reputation making their rule still more difficult.

But let us say in parenthesis, that since the country is what it is, and, as Nature has made it to be, though Might may mean Right to some young and inexperienced officials, because of the Power at their beck, which leads them to some unprincipled and most un-British actions it can never be successively governed without the co-operation of these Native Rulers. The idea may be pooh-poohed, but the fact remains, and shall ever remain to be the *crux* of the administration of the country until we get the right sort of men in our officialdom, men who in their dealings with the people will ever keep the *Reputation of the Empire* to the front, and *Self or Abuse of Power* at the back seat.

The facts of the case are these:—A certain girl got drowned in the Sakumo River—a sacred river to the Accras of which the Manche (King) of the Dutch Town has always been its High Priest. The information getting to him, and the body being found, he according to custom sent his gold stick and men to bury it, as the river had been polluted thereby. This has been the custom with the people from time immemorial. The news gets to the D. C., and he at once puts it down as a wilful contravention of an Ordinance which rules that all drowned bodies when found must be taken to the Mortuary for post mortem examination. For this he arraigns the Manche before him, and surrounded by some of his chiefs and subjects he (the D. C., Mr. Curling) sitting in all his glory, and notwithstanding the fact that the Manche was defended by no less than three Barristers finds him guilty for "failing to report to the Government the death by drowning of a girl in the Sakumo River" and fines him £25 or three months imprisonment.

This took place at Accra, the seat of Government. Before sentencing him His Worship thought he should "go in" a bit for His Majesty, for was not he but a native ruler, and he, representing the greatest Power in the World? And in the course of his "lecture," he compared the Manche to a fishing canoe and the Government to s. s. Karina and to go against the Government was like the former knocking itself against the latter. Soon, said he, the country would be governed differently from what had been in the past (was this an unconscious prophecy!) The country could not stand still. She must advance in civilization, he would therefore advise the King (Manche) to "sail in with the Government as his predecessor did in his latter days."

We leave the reader to make his own surmises and inferences. In the meanwhile we say this: it is quite plain that the young King in acting as he did, was simply carrying out certain customary acts in connection with his stool, and did it with no wilful intention whatever to go against the Government. What would be his object in doing that, and what would he get out of it. The circumstances show that such a thing was far from his mind. How much does he know of the volumes of Ordinances we have? Nothing. And he only gets to know of them, when he is pounced upon to explain why he had broken this and that section of an Ordinance. This is what our natural Rulers are now put to, though in days gone by, it was even considered to be an indignity done to them, for "summoning the subjects of the chiefs before our tribunals for small matters; it tends to lower their dignity very much."

Such things are generally done by some young and inexperienced officials, imbued with the true spirit of jingoism, who do anything in the name of our Empire because they know, if even found in the wrong, they will be backed up. Assuming even that the King was wrong, was that the way he should have been treated? Then what are the Commissions of Enquiry we hear so often about, for? What is the Department of "Native Affairs" in the Government doing? Must District Commissioners go on, for ever insulting our Kings? It should be remembered, that whatever may be the notions and ideas of Kings &c. in the country of our European friends, it should not lead them to despise ours for whatever these may be, they are our Kings, and as such they are entitled to some respect and dignity. Last year this very King was fined for not preventing the exhibition of emblems in connection with the *Hunowo*—a native festival. How could he when he has now virtually no authority on the people because of the interference in his rule by Ordinances stripping him of all his authority, in the eyes of which, he and his subjects stand on the same footing?

Then the comparison Mr. Curling institutes. That was unnecessary nor did the occasion call for it for we say without the least hesitation, that there is no one in the country from our Kings down, who desire to go against the Government. They ask to be fairly dealt with, by the greater Power now staying with them, to lead them out of the barbarism, ignorance and darkness which enshroud them (!) judging from the standpoint of Western Refinement, to the blessings (!) of Civilization by wise and humane means and in the right spirit, and nothing more. This is our desire. Surely there is hardly any Nation in the whole world who can enter into more sympathetic feelings with the People in this respect than our present Protectors.

And one feels in this respect that as far as the British Nation is concerned, the need of the hour is, the right men in the right places, for our Colonies and Protectorates. As for His Worship's prophetic saying referred to above, we can only say for the present, that it has served to explain many things, which are at present can only be characterized as being mysterious to the uninitiated, in our administration. Some day everything will be cleared up, which we hope will not reflect on the fair name of John Bull.

Complaints still come in on the lateness in Court attendance of some D. C.'s: some even go to Court at some minutes to 11, and then "rise" when that hour strikes, whilst people would be in waiting from 8.30 a.m. No comment.

What is all this hullabaloo our now hears of some much in Kumasi? It seems that the Quist game is being attempted again, but this time in another form, shall we say in a civilized form, because this time, people who lay claim to the highest form of civilization are those playing the prominent part. But more of this anon. Wanted—more facts! By the way have not these men, more important things to engage their time and attention than this? The merchant is there to trade, and he should go on with his trade, and if he has his own interest, and that of his Principals at heart this would mean a lot to him and his employees. Fortunately for us, we seem to have the right man at the HEAD of affairs

this time, and so we wait for the development of affairs.

"IN MEMORIAM."

In ever green and tender memory of A. Wellington Taylor of Winneba who gave up the ghost at Nsu Ekyir motherland on the 25th January 1905 aged said to be about 58 or 60 years.

"Had he been then still in life
He left the world of pain and strife;
Then slept one evening, peaceful,
And awoke in everlasting life."

"Some years have passed, and friends may think
The wound has healed;
He little knows bitter grief
Within my heart concealed."

"And pillowed his drooping head
My heart, methinks would not have felt,
But God has willed it otherwise,"
Alas may rest in peace.

B. D. I.

Winneba, 5th August, 1905.

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, SEPT. 16, 1905.

ORDINANCE FOR A NATIVE MARRIAGE.

A FEW weeks ago we reproduced from the *West Africa* an article from a correspondent to our esteemed contemporary dealing on Governor PROBYN's administration bearing chiefly on the Native Rulers. His Excellency has passed an Ordinance recognizing the rights, privileges and the authority of these Rulers, admitting the necessity there is in administering the government of the Colony in ensuring its success and prosperity, peace and quietness by co-operating with them to bring them about. Governor PROBYN is covering himself with great glory for ever since he was inducted into his exalted position as the administrator of His Majesty's Colony of Sierra Leone he has in various ways manifested a desire to consolidate British interests by following a policy of conciliation with regard to the People of Sierra Leone and its Dependencies. He has proved himself a born Statesman with a genius to apprehend the subtle principles that underlie Native Institutions, and to act upon them; thus binding the governed to the Empire with a grip of steel.

His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies would do well to mark the career of Governor PROBYN and make his work a model for all West African Governors. The course pursued by His Excellency should be encouraged—a high premium should be paid for the quiet possession of a calm and dispassionate disposition which finds its sphere of labour in the hearts of the natives, ample and sufficient. Instead of expeditions and oppressive measures provoked by imperfect comprehension of local ideas and peculiarities or the idiosyncracies of the people—often by positive insults to the dignity of native potentates, the Governor has set himself to help his subjects in the only way open to a highly intelligent mind, by making most of the situation. Witness the Mohammedan Marriage Ordinance of 1905 wherein no local law is traversed in any shape or form. The necessary thing was to make it possible for every Mohammedan to enjoy the benefits of British Protection. Governor PROBYN in Council has passed an Ordinance recognizing the validity of Mohammedan marriages, and supporting the law relative to devolution of property and in all the marital relations, giving effect to whatever customary law that has been in operation from time immemorial.

Now, why should not the Gold Coast Marriage Law be so treated? Why introduce elements into the local customary law whereby much unrest, insecurity and distress are caused. We ask the local Legislative Council to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the Mohammedan Marriage Ordinance of 1905 of Sierra Leone.

"THE INTRODUCTION OF THE ORDINANCE AT CAPE COAST IS A SUCCESS."

AFTER what Sir John Rodger had told the Downing Street authorities, that the Town Council Policy had been "a huge success" at Accra and Sekondi—a statement which may perhaps be justifiable in the official way of saying things but known to be just the other way about, locally, there is perhaps not much to be surprised at, on hearing that his *locum tenens* the Acting Governor, Major Bryan has also cabled to the Colonial Office, that the Ordinance has been applied at Cape Coast with success! "Tell it not in Gath." The Ordinance a success at CAPE COAST? Evidently the word "success" bears a different meaning, or its capable of being used in a different sense from how it is generally understood by the World, in a Crown Colony administration. It must be so. The Ordinance a success at Cape Coast? How can Major Bryan say so? Really, how can he? But he has said it all the same; and is the information correct? No, certainly not. His Excellency cannot very well be blamed, let us be charitable enough to say. He has not been here, he has passed up to Kumasi and returned to Headquarters, without landing here. He must have cabled that, on informations supplied him by his local representatives, and, and—(as you know)—but we would seize this first opportunity to inform His Excellency that he has been grossly misinformed—nay duped by those on whom he relies for his informations, who are more eager to please the Governor, than to tell him actual facts, and must necessarily colour things a bit. We had almost said it is easy to see how *such* a piece of wrong information was cabled to the Downing Street.

The Ordinance has been applied here. It is *known* that the people are against it—tooth and nail, and would have nothing of it. The marking of houses proceeds on. Wild rumours worked up by some mischief makers get afloat that the People would fight or create a riot by opposing the marking of houses. Troops, are accordingly ordered down here from Kumasi. They come in full force; they stay a few days during which all that could be done to stir up the People is done. But in all this, they remain calm, cool and collected. Every means has been adopted to incite the People, but the Order had gone forth from the Omaniin to be cool and collected, because he has put his grievance through the Secretary of State before His Majesty King Edward VII, and he is waiting on His Majesty's pleasure. The local authorities must have been disappointed: expecting opposition they meet with none. Yes even the nocturnal visit to the Omaniin's Palace failed to bring about any disturbance. The troops must leave, some to Accra (?) and others back to Kumasi. No opposition then in the way expected and why should there be any, if the matter can be fought on constitutional grounds. Fighting? No. Opposition? None, in any shape or form. Then His Excellency the Acting Governor, let us say, as informed cables to the Downing Street, "The introduction of the Ordinance at Cape Coast is a success," a success from his point of view.

Be it known to all concerned that the People of Cape Coast are opposed to the Ordinance as stoutly now as they were, when the question of its application here was first mooted, and it is so in the face of all the possible meanings—ancient and modern—attributable to the word, Success.

THE REALM OF FASHION.

(BY A BANKER.)

From the veriest genesis of human beings right on to the present day, the garments of mankind, both men and women, have been in a state of constant and rapidly succeeding transition and change. Even in Adam and Eve's day three different fashions rapidly succeeded each other, the second, or something synonymous to it still being in vogue amongst savages; although their remote ancestors doubtless clothed themselves in the style in vogue when they emigrated from the regions of the civilization of the period; then lapsing into savagery and barbarism.

The earliest pictorial representations of fashion are of course depicted upon the Egyptian monuments; at that time the usual garments being a long, generally tightly fitting (though not invariably so) garment, the ladies ornamenting themselves

elaborately with jewellery, much of it being exactly similar to that still in fashion. Then follows a long period when, civilization having somewhat retrograded, no pictorial representations exist to show us the various changes which took place until the times of the Greeks and Romans, when extreme grace and elegance characterized the robes of both sexes. After another long interval, the rude and archaic efforts of the artist of the ninth century indicate that the smock frock was the general garb adopted, a garment which has only been discarded, after a reign of a thousand years, by English shepherds a few years ago.

And now fashion commenced to run riot. In the fourteenth century ladies wore a fool's cap, or extinguisher, apparently nearly two feet high, from the tip of which depended a long veil, white, later on, nobles wore a hat decorated apparently with flowers of feathers, almost exactly like the large hats worn by ladies at the present time; their coat being made from the figured silk of their wife's dresses, and their lower limb decorated with frilled caubric; while, at the end of the sixteenth century, the dreadful and repellent crinoline, in all its unloveliness and egregious eccentricity, violated the finer feelings of those with any pretence to classic æstheticism, again, in our own time, re-appearing for a short time in all its enormity to shock and irritate us by its extravagant and senseless imbecility; then, after happily a brief reign, the hideous thing, is, it is to be hoped, finally exorcised for ever. And now, happily, common sense prevails, and the fashion of the time, both for men and women, is most certainly more sensible, more convenient, and altogether more rational than any which has been in vogue right back down the ages.

But a time will come when those who have placed their hopes of salvation solely and entirely upon Him who died that they might live, and that all record in the Great Book against them might be obliterated, will be clothed in robes of dazzling glory for ever and for ever. But alas! there are others who, refusing to come to Him for salvation, will find the gates of Paradise barred against them, and they will be hurried off to the realms of darkness and bitter remorse.

LITERARY CHAT.

BY LUX

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It is refreshing to turn from the defeat of the Unionist Government in the House of Commons, the fiscal question, the political controversy which engages our own immediate attention, and other home matters of less moment, to a love story of considerable merit, contributed by Mr. Anthony Hamilton under the heading "A white lie," and which appeared in the English newspaper known as *The World* in its issue of July 15 last.

The hero is a white man and the heroine a black girl, and the scene is laid in the back country of Lagos. But that needn't mislead anyone as to the nationality of the girl. For it is made clear that she is a Gold Coast woman by birth, coming from our own Accra, one of the principal seats of culture in the Gold Coast. She is black, but very comely; and she is described as a "bright little brown girl" and as a "proud young African." Ora—that was the white man's name—loved other woman than Dadaye, our African heroine, or, to be more correct, he loved "darling Beryl" a "fair-haired, blue-eyed English girl;" yet in the back country of Lagos, whither he had taken this unsophisticated daughter of Africa, he pretends to her the whole time that he loves her, and he is even successful in inducing her to "kiss him passionately, with tears springing to her eyes," and he is not above swearing to her: "I do love you. By God I do," and kissing her lips. All this is very fine; and as we read this love story, it looks as if *Africana* is getting on, were it not for treachery lurking in the background.

The author of this story waxed eloquent when he describes how Ora "plucked flowers and placed them in her back hair and on her bosom," and he sees nothing incongruous in the African woman carrying the English man across streams in the bush journey in her strong arms, "so that he should not wet his riding boots." Of course, that is the lot of *Africana*—to shoulder her burden wherever the turnings of life find her! She has ever been the sport of the nations, and she can hardly be spared even in a love story where the hero might be expected to be gallant! But that is a little matter, and I am anticipating.

Ora and Dadaye, as sweet a pair of lovers as ever you could wish to find, pursue the even tenor of their way in the bush, and, at times, they would have real good fun, and "laughed and roared like children," and "he remembered how" (once) "he had eaten a pic-nic meal with Dadaye, laughing at her mimicry of the few white women she had seen." Naughty Ora to permit such conduct on the part of an African girl! And yet so it was; and to show that all this was very real to Dadaye, that it meant

to her all that was high and true and noble in womanhood: "Ora, she said, taking his face in her hands and looking into his eyes, you no sorry you take me for wife?" "No Dadaye," he answered, with a slight hesitation at once hastened by the girl, "I no sorry. I talk true."

Then comes the snapping of the bow—the dissolution, the "tears splashing down her bosom." Of course, says the reader, whoever thought that Ora really cared one brass farthing for the African girl! And that is the moral of the whole thing—for Ora's coquetting with Dadaye bears a striking resemblance to the relations of Ora's race with *Africana*. That is easy to understand. You may represent *Africana* as the unlucky lady, the sport of the nations, from whom they wrest all that is worth having, even to the extent of wrenching her very heart strings, while harping to her the whole time on a gold-stringed lute: "O I love you. By God I do!" And we know that for *Africana* some it is strikingly true that, *unlucky* as they are, if the tree of life rained down golden apples, and the nations were rushing down to gather them, they would have "a paralytic stroke," the effect of the white man's juice!

But we must hasten on with the tide of events. One day, Dadaye breaks the hinge of Ora's cigarette case, and he curses the girl to her face. The thing stings her to the quick, and she betakes herself to the forest beyond where she is found subsequently in a death swoon. She does not recover, but dies with a complaint on her lips to the gods of her fathers. But even in death she is deceived. "Dadaye—O, you tink wrong. I do love you. By God I do!" Ora said, "bending close to her, and telling the lie like a man of honour." "Tankee you, Ora," she whispered, "I—savvy—you talk—true—dis time—" Yes, it is only an idle tale—the outcome of a ferrid imagination, perhaps you would say. Still what a world of meaning there is in this bush story! If *Africana* could always say in her relations with the race of Ora not "I—savvy—you talk—true—dis time—" while gasping for breath, but "I savvy you talk true always," "What a difference it would make in her wordly experience!"

To turn from a love story to a would-be instructive article on the "moral law" as it appertains to the African, commend me to a piece of wholesale generalisation, being the contribution of Mr. R. E. Dennett on "The breaking up of African Kingdoms, and the possible cause" to the columns of the *West African Mail* of July 25, 1905. From the way Mr. Dennett writes, it is difficult to say from what parts of the continent he has gathered his experience of the ways of the African. Here is a piece of generalisation that is simply impossible to locate: "Before the governments occupied the West Coast of Africa fathers brought their children to the European traders to act as their servants, and to 'learn sense,' as they used to put it. The parents received occasional presents from the trader, but the idea of paying the little ones anything for their services was never thought of. . . . On the other hand, when the boys arrived at an age, a standard of knowledge entitling them to pay, their first earnings were given to the steward or head boy under whose training they had learned 'sense.' When the Governments urged by the different philanthropic societies, occupied the country, the traders, fearing that this form of employment might be looked upon as a kind of slavery, gave each boy a book entitling him to so much pay per month. The result was disastrous. No sooner had these little ones saved a trifle, than their characters seemed to change. That sense of restlessness under control innate apparently in the Black man, asserted itself in the children, and they refused to give up their earnings to their fathers, and in a fashion declared their own independence. Fathers attempted, by punishing these boys, to bring them to a sense of subjection, but they went to the Government and complained of their fathers' brutality, and at last the weak fathers gave way."

Is Mr. Dennett in this paragraph talking of the Kroo tribe, or of the Southern Nigerians, or of the people of Kakongo and Loungo? Must you Africa is a large continent, bigger than Europe by a long way. The trans-continental railway is still an unaccomplished fact. Except for the occasional way-faring man, the country and ways of the Kroo are as foreign, say, to the Southern Nigerian, as the latter's ways and country may be to the Fanti. Hence arises the danger of generalisation in matters African, except the same is undertaken by a master hand with a scientific touch to which qualification Mr. Dennett would be the last man to lay claim. To which particular tribe, one would like to know is the phrase, "restlessness under control," applied, and who are the people who give their children to the white man to "learn sense," and so on and so forth? Surely, not the Fanti, and the practice referred to does not apply to the Gold Coast! Are the people of the Gold Coast *restless under control*? Not a bit of it. If they were, occasion would have been found long ago to wrest their country from them and to

despoil them of their heritage. It is just the other way about. Tact, patience, self-control are their main characteristics, and, therefore, are they able to stand up and plead for their constitutional rights.

But from the way Mr. Dennett works in the unhappy episode of the Governor having received a hooting at Cape Coast, a mark of the people's disapproval of the Government policy, and for which an apology has been expressed, it is evident this phrase, "restlessness under control," was coined to serve a purpose. If so, facts falsify the suggestion when applied to the Gold Coast, and a greater mischief could not have been sought to be done to the people's cause by the unfair suggestion.

It is somewhat late in the day to found a new school of African philosophy, and to christen it with the cut that is apparent in words like the following: "Being satisfied that there is only one God and one moral law for man, be he white, or black, or any other colour, and that the plea that the black man has a moral of his own has only been brought forward by him in a desire to avoid certain responsibilities; it is the evident duty of the protecting Government to do all in their power, in a logical and just way, to help the black man to conform to it." Here one feels inclined to pause for breath. Who constituted the white man the guardian over the morals of the black man? Did the Almighty do it, or did the protector assume the protectorate of his own initiative?

One of the commandments upon which Mr. Dennett expatiates with so much gusto says: "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." I cannot resist the temptation of quoting from a local newspaper the way the White man helps the Black man to keep this law. It is a rare bit. Here it is: "In the course of his sermon," writes the Sekondi correspondent of the *Gold Coast Leader* (see issue Aug. 25, 1905) "Bishop Hamlyn remarked it was no good excuse to give if 'Onocero' attributed the cause of their irregular religious attendances to weariness as the promulgation of christianity in this country has only been made quite recently, and that the example of the European element living among us should not be looked upon or copied in this respect. While every ear was attentive to this discourse, the noise of the European cricketers could be distinctly heard." This is taking care of the morals of benighted Africa with a vengeance. No, the thing is too bad. Fancy Mr. Dennett, for example, holding the light in morals to a Blyden, or a London street Arab holding a candle in righteousness up to the African bush-ranger! Where is the comparison going to begin, and where is it going to end, pray? No, the thing is too bad—the kind of sophistry that misleads the careless reader to the lasting harm of Africa. The words of Mary Kingsley, echoing from the immediate past, are yet ringing in our ears, and the teachings of men like Dr. Blyden and Sir Andrew Clarke are yet in the memory of thinking men to warrant any undue weight to the hurried deductions of the *West African Mail's* contributor; and so for want of space, we shall not attempt to follow Mr. Dennett further on the present occasion.

SCRUTINEER.

An idea struck me and before it had developed to an appreciable shape the open letter of Prince Bawa of Dunkwa came to strengthen its expansion. Probably those young students of Yankee occultism would hastily assign the source of this to what they term sentimentalism, if I am not mistaken, or to some of these aberrant theories peculiar to the sect. It has reference to the important suggestion of representation in London, the fountain of all authority, for surely the authorities there have only the versions of their representatives on the coast for their guidance. Of good intentions towards the People of the Gold Coast and solicitude for their safety and welfare, His Majesty's Secretary of State at Downing Street may seemingly have abundantly, which is evident from resolutions and findings of Parliamentary Committees and instructions upon instructions to the officers who have had to administer the Government of these Settlements; only it appears unmistakably that the desires for the good Government of this country on scientific lines to the peace and prosperity of the People is thwarted by an agency of deliberate misrepresentation of affairs. Reading between the lines it is difficult to believe that the Secretary of State would brook over the way things are managed in this country if he has the opportunity of seeing things as they really are. There could be no question then of the advisability of appointing representatives on the lines indicated, or pretty near to them, on whom we can rely for veritable information, enlightenment, and explanations on matters of vital importance, to Downing Street and through whom we can assure *inter alia* how this country was once rich and now is poor; the way officials carry out their duties, the cost of their upkeep and recklessness; the treatment given by even petty officials to native Chiefs; the way laws are conceived and passed into existence and how they affect the People; the infringement of the provisions of bonds and other documentary pledges defining the relations existing between Great Britain and this country; and many other things done contra-

ry to reason or equity.

When a man of the Crown Colony System of Government has pledged himself to carry out a certain policy it is not strange to what means he will resort, and with this experience we need not be taken aback by the unusual rapidity of the propagation of untruths at Downing Street of which probably we have only had a few so far. The ninth Commandment ought to be emblazoned in bold gold letters on a post of the recess of governors and all those who take a hand in ruling mankind—Thou shalt not bear false witness against a nation (neighbours.) With all our previous experience, however, we were not prepared to be seriously told that the Town Councils establishment has been a success at Accra or Sekondi nor that the sanitation of Cape Coast is in a beastly condition. But if the gubernatorial conscience is so dead as to be enabled to speak the truth, let it; for nothing ever succeeded in the world that is carried on under misrepresentation which is but the other word for fraud.

We are informed with all the truth officialdom is constituted that Cape Coast cannot manage or undertake a municipality until some four or five years to come. Now, apart from the fact of the conspicuous ability of the Town in managing one in 1858, if the People are incapable of working such an institution now, what will render such revolutions, during the four or five years, as to make them capable of working one? And if there is a beginning to anything under the sun, why not now? That this is merely a subterfuge and an official evasion and tomfoolery, I have only to tell you to believe that after the expiration of the four or five years, the Gold Coast Government will simply tell you the same thing.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

ANAMABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Sept. 3.
Dr. Waldron the D. C. has been here, he visited the Omanhin who returned the visit last Sunday; immediately after, a gong-gong was beaten by the Omanhin's order at the request of the D. C., that all those that have lands with weeds thereon should have them weeded, those owning houses to sweep round their houses, and any one found infringing this law a fine of 20/- will be imposed on him. In fact gong-gong beaten on Sundays is not known here and it is no wonder that the same gentleman ordered Tuafu and Etiaifu Nos. 1 and 2 Companies to beat their drums on one Sunday to clean the main road. The Asafuhin through the Omanhin at this instance, told the Dr. that they would do the work on the next day, the day being Sunday. He told them if they would not obey his command, a fine of £50 each will be imposed on them. Judging from the state of things in town especially its sanitary condition, I used to wonder what kind of report is sent to Head-quarters. Thanks to the Omanhin Amonoo V, who is ever doing his best to improve the sanitary condition of his town.

By the way I have not seen the D. C. one day in the streets on inspection; who used to furnish him with information for his elaborate reports to the Head-quarters then? Perhaps from his knowledge.

I hope the D. C. has seen that there is no Union Jack flying at the "Fort Anamaboe," if not I take the liberty to inform him of it and I think, as he is such an old hand in the service, he will endeavour to see that one is sent to replace the one torn.

I promised to furnish your readers with the proceedings of the meeting held at the school room presided over by the Omanhin Amonoo V in connection with the Anamaboe Wesleyan School, but I am sorry to say, the materials have not yet come to hand.

Whoever may be the Manager of the local Singing Band he may be informed of the amount of trouble some of them used to give the public at nights, this is awful. I mention particularly the night of the 21st. ult. when Graham alias Kwezi Esuman, generally known in the Singing Band as "Singing Band Abokyi of Anamaboe," with his assistant Coleman, played concertinas from 9-30 p.m. to 5 o'clock a.m. the next day, up and down the streets, disturbing others from resting.

At about 2 a.m. some Singers, headed by an elderly woman, a leader of the Church, went round twice the town with songs, and on my enquiring the cause of this, thinking they were celebrating a feast I was made to understand they were keeping up wake at the late Mr. Anderson's funeral custom. I think there is a rule in the Wesleyan Church that no wakes should be kept by the members with songs on the eighth day of a funeral if I am not wrong. But this leader singer must exempt herself. The idea is not bad, but to go round the town, means cruelly depriving others from sleeping; they may keep to the place where they may be keeping the wake. I trust the Manager of the band may take due steps to stop his two distinguished singers from their nocturnal visits to the streets at late hours.

The dispute between the Ayan chiefs about their stool has been handed to Amonoo V, and it will be heard when the Provincial Commissioner will be present on the day of hearing. The case comes on

early after his Yam Custom.

It is gratifying to notice the repairs that is going on at the Omanhin's palace. The whole yard is roofed with iron (galv'd.), and the concreting and cementing work in the yard, which may take about 3 weeks to be finished is going on apace.

My attention was called on the morning of the 24th inst. (ult.) to a notice written by one "Revealer" dated at Cape Coast on the 17th ult. One of the notices has got to the hands of the Church Authorities, and steps are being taken to deal with the contents it contains, the notice in question refers to Rev. Anaman, and his Schoolmaster, Mr. Wilmot.

Ridley versus Amonoo V is still waging, where is Chief Harrison and the other influential men from this side; why can't they step in to prevent these litigations?

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*.

FANTSI HON AKYRE KYIRE KWAN.

Nase anyiupa oyar kur ma warisan na wamakwar ma wafa tam a woziri risan autu kur n enyina ma efurAsian ana borna owo kuru enyimin efisheo nna onu na orubow abur ana wara na ribo wuhu abur. Ka manku a nkye Aborigines akylrem mbre kurun obeye.

Qwire hunyi,—KOBINA.

Cape Coast, 10th Sept. 1905.

Sir,—I beg to write you this to allow me a short space in your columns to say one or two things. We hear that the D. C. of Cape Coast always goes round to the villages, how is it that the place called Amosima has not been visited one day? There is a Missionary Agent at the place and still they play Drums on Sundays giving no chance whatever for the agent to preach.

I hope the D. C. will see to this because these people do not consider themselves as subjects of any king or chief.

I am, Yours truly,—AMOSIMA.

Cape Coast, Sept 2.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Kindly allow me a space in your valuable paper for the insertion of the following—

I regret very much indeed about our people who call themselves petty Traders for this reason; since Europeans came to this place they have always made us fools by taking unnecessary advantage because some people in England with little or no capital form a sort of company with a big company name and then collect samples from some manufacturers, appointing some people as client agents here just to fool them and induce their fellow Blacks to send their few pounds to them only to enrich themselves and then after two or three years if they see that they had got sufficient for their purpose go to the Bankruptcy Court and declare themselves bankrupt and then forfeit the money. The names of some of these are Messrs. Ernest F. Smith & Co., of Manchester, Arthur Henderson & Co., of Liverpool and many others: they have done this to myself as well as some of my friends. The next thing is to try in some trickish way to get their few pence out here with some people, because we blacks have no Bankruptcy Court to go to as they have. I call therefore the attention of the poor petty Traders to this to be very careful how to deal with some of the present small firms in England, and I advise them strongly that it will be far better for them to do with the old firms than these sharks.

Yours obediently,

22 YEARS EXPERIENCED PETTY TRADER.

Cape Coast, 5/9/05.

Dear Sir,—It is of the utmost importance that I write again, otherwise I would not waste ink and paper, about a puzzle whose absurdity the writer of which is still incognizant, though plain and reasonable language is used.

This serves to inform *Whisper* and others that I am not one having any interest whatsoever in the F. P. S. Company, much less a friend of theirs, and least a Director. I would have signed my real name, if the puzzle and its solutions, (the senders of the latter are not known to, but only suspected by, even the Editor of the G. C. A.), were not non-de-plumed.

I wrote what I did in the interest of that portion of the public who are easily persuaded, and for fairness sake. I did not solve that puzzle nor do I care to do so now. What I did was to prove the absurdity of the puzzle and its possible solutions by using their own formula and process of solution. One should understand the distinct difference between real and possible. When one says a possible truth is not the real truth, he cannot be said to contradict himself.

There are clever and eminent men outside West Africa who are anxiously looking forward to the civilization of the Gold Coast, and it is a pity such prejudiced-brain-work-of-a-puzzle should be allowed to cast a slur on him, or to serve as his standard of making and solving puzzles at such crisis. Thanks for space allowed.

Yours faithfully,—ABASH!

Printed at the Office of the GOLD COAST LEADER Salt Pond Road, Cape Coast, by E. J. ACQUAH.

"MEMOIRS OF WEST AFRICAN CELEBRITIES."

BY C. F.

I am of the few who have had the early privilege of reading this epoch-making book which emanated from the pen of the Rev. Attoh-Ahumi. In the "West African Celebrities" we have an account, a bright account of our own great men of whom we can sing with pride:—

"Lives of great men all remind us,
We can make our lives sublime,
And departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time."

Let the traducers of our race but take the trouble to lay aside their prejudices and read this book carefully and they would be persuaded to own that the Negro is after all a man not "a brute bereft of all the noble feelings that help to lift the human being above the level of the beasts."

I hope our young friends will not only buy, but will also carefully read the book through and ever bear in mind the following useful advices of the author.

1. The elements of progress and advancement are not to be found in rioting and sensual indulgence. It is suicidal for any young man to draw his pleasures from such questionable sources.
2. The country needs strong, stalwart men, not broken-legs and carpet-baggers, civilised and refined citizens who respect reverence and control themselves: for such are the men that constitute a state.
3. We must not be bad examples to those who are far behind us in point of time.
4. Our spare hours must be spent to better profits. Our evenings must be hallowed, there should be "no time for nonsense, no call for unreasonable dissipation, no need for that sort of stimulants which waste itself in mere titillation."

I need hardly reiterate that our young men upon whom the future of our country depends ought to, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the above valuable advices.

The work in reference added to the productions of the Hon. Mensah Sarbah, and the two Hayfords will give a fourth demonstrative proof of the intellectual capabilities of the sons of the Gold Coast of to-day; to say nothing widely of the African race generally. It is painful to remember that even now when the Gold Coast could count men of culture, who are capable of much by scores and many an intellectual giant like the men mentioned above we are still thought unfit to have a voice in the management of the affairs of our own country! To God alone we must look for deliverance from this gross injustice.

Nearly all that can be said upon this grave subject has been said by far wiser and greater men than I can pretend to be. I can therefore not expatiate upon it; still the words of Oscar Browning will very fittingly come in here:—"In the central government as well as in local government of every kind, we choose representatives to speak our opinions for us and to administer for us. In no other way could states of the dimensions with which we are familiar be governed at all. In order to secure this we have elections for the House of Commons, for School Boards, for Town and County Councils, and even for societies and clubs. We choose those people in whom we have the greatest confidence, and who most fully represent our views, to act for us in cases where it would be impossible for us to act ourselves."

The question of questions of the day is the application of the Town Council to Cape Coast and other places and without hearing what objections the people have to give against the same, I wish to prove on the authority of the author already quoted that we are not being fairly dealt with. Oscar Browning says:—

"It has long been a principle in England that there should be no taxation without representation, that is, that no one should be asked to contribute money for the purposes of the state without having an opportunity of expressing an opinion upon how the money should be spent, and indeed, whether any expense should be incurred at all. At an early period the consent to grant money was also coupled with the opportunity of criticising the acts of the government generally, and obtaining what was called the redress of grievances. The sovereign asked for money for his needs. The people replied: 'We will not give you money unless you alter this and that detail in your method of government to which we object.' In this manner the people, through their representatives, gained a considerable share in the government itself."

One conclusion my own observations afforded me to make is that our Governors do not care a rap for what effects their many ordinances have on us as a people and yet Browning says:—

"A government must be judged to be good or bad, not only by the manner in which it performs the duties of administration, but by the effect which it produces on the people who are governed."

SUPERFLUOUS CROWN COLONY RED-TAPISM.

(BY DOOVER.)

The down-trodden Gold Coast is undoubtedly a part of the Greater Britain and a very profitable possession too, though a Protectorate as viewed from Political standpoint. We dogmatize its loyalty to Great Britain when we circumspect and discover that it is a God-sent receptacle for her overcrowded children and a sphere of very lucrative labour for the forlorn bread winner.

But what does the country receive from the harpies in return? The answer would be an endless tale of disappointments and disregard but it may be tersely termed, Trampling contempt. As for her dear children they are practically in a severe bondage than what the Israelites of old passed through in Egypt. Oppression most intolerable is their unfortunate lot plus tantalization. For the oppression, look into the "modus operandi" which the Local Government is adopting to apply the inimical Town Council Ordinance to Cape Coast; for, how we are dexterously made to participate the fate of Tantalus, look how an extensive and well populated country like this is teasingly represented at the *Legisfactory* erroneously called Legislative Council, by only two natives. Of course, the latter misnomer may be right to the powers that be since the superfluous ordinances are in reality enacted and enforced by the paid Officers of the Government, irrespective of any views or opposition adduced by the "three mock-unofficial members" who are ever in Minority. The heartless teasing does not end here. A few years ago the Local Government thought it wise to augment the amusement obtained therefrom; so they set to work to bring about a sham scholarship examination scheme wherein University subjects were embodied, and candidates who had scarcely passed through Secondary School course were invited to sit for examinations! Mark you, the authorities knowing the local disadvantages of the so called grantees laid down emphatic conditions. The one that branded the whole thing as a sham concern was, that any Candidate who had received his education abroad was not eligible! What a really meat-concession for the natives who may, in this connection be branded by their would-be benefactor "Numakulls!" Yes! This may be the apparent deduction supporting the foregoing Criterion. But, Uncle Sam, don't run away with that fallacy. You don't mean to say you feed your baby with bones instead of milk. Now, set your reasoning powers to work and throw the odds and whims to the walls and centre your generosity (if you really have any) on the promising Fantsipim School recently established and see if you cannot find a Gold Coast youth to pass successfully the sham Examination in 7 years' time from date, if not sooner. If you want to gauge the mental capabilities of the Gold Coast Native, look at the occupants of the Local Bar and the medical circle.

To crown the tantalizing torment, the old native officials are to be examined! If this practical dodge of the local Government has not attained its "Zenith" then we are not far from the Last Day! A more absurd policy cannot be imagined. It is true that there are three ways of achieving the mundane greatness; (a) by birth, (b) by nepotism, or favouritism, (c) by meritorious services or diligence in business. As the position of mediocrity held by the native officer peremptorily comes under class c, any attempt to examine an old officer of five to twenty-eight years' standing before awarding him an increment of salary or promotion, would be simply ridiculous and illogical. Does a Barrister at Law matriculate after he has been called to the bar? This is a sane question for John Bull the lover of fair-play to answer, to the best of his ability and conscientiously too. Perchance to his own peculiar way of dealing with the negro, this would be practicable on the Gold Coast. In sooth, we have a judge—an adept in English and Native Customary Laws but as his blood is tinged with Gold Coast blood perhaps he must needs be examined locally before his juniors came "skipping" over him into a better berth as they are wont to do! Turn to the Medical Staff of the Government and you will find the same anomaly and contortion of order of precedence where a professional nigger is concerned. R. I. P., Dr. F., for all is over and to Dr. P. we say, "Nil desperandum."

The clerical staff who have stood a good many years' test in the efficient discharge of their hard and multifarious duties, must be deprived of their time-honoured medium of privilege by the introduction of competitive Examination! This unprecedented innovation seems to be more of an Irish than an English Scheme, for how on earth could one exhibit much anxiety to have a taste of a plum-pudding which he has enjoyed with relish for many years—ahem! Are European officers' promotions to be effected on the same conditions? It should be, "what is sauce for the gander is sauce for the goose," says the astute John Bull himself. But this red-tapism of the deepest dye must be only applied to the poorly-paid native staff who do

the menial part of the official work; but the white hue of the body of the European officer constitutes his intelligence and abilities and enables him to perform the "Nigger-driving job" right enough without the aid of any intellectual or political qualifications.

This is a cruel, partial and inimical measure that directly affects the zeal of the Native Staff—another way of muzzling the oxen that tread the plough.

You can test applicants for appointments as much as it is essentially necessary, but don't re-try your 23 claret gold guard that you have worn for many years, for conscience sake.

By the way, Saul the first king of all Israel did not pass any military or gubernatorial examination nor did David the youthful shepherd who succeeded him, Napoleon I (the terror of Europe at the dawn of the 18th century) who became an Emperor of France, started life as a Lieutenant of the Corsican army and in a few years rose to that distinguished and highest rank that even a monarch can attain. To come nearer home, there is Lord Wolseley of Ashanti notoriety who landed here as a Colonel during the aforementioned war of 1873 and he is to-day a Lord! Surely, the foregoing ancient and modern celebrities achieved their respective climaxes through continuity of, and devotion to, their duties just as the poor native staff are doing to-day in His Majesty's Service. But no they must be examined before they could be promoted, automatic promotion based on progressive work being a reserve privilege for their white colleagues who work more than the native staff who perform the menial part of the work! It is here one finds the vindictive French Government to be simply impartial in dealing with their officials, irrespective of creed or colour. They award salary and promotion according to the merits of the work done by an officer. We don't seek to scramble in common with Uncle Sam for the money. But in all you do, add no more insult to the injury already sustained.

It has been said "It is excellent to have the strength of a giant but it is tyrannical to use it like a giant." Who dreamt in 55 B. C. that Great Britain would be to-day in such prosperous state.

REPLY TO NEMO.

(BY THE BAKEL MISSION CATECHIST.)

I admire the gallantry of Nemo in coming out so boldly in defence of the female sex. I admit the ability of my opponent, but I dispute his arguments and I utterly deny his conclusions. Let me begin at once to expose the weakness of his arguments and his torturing of my words out of their correct meanings.

I did not intend Watson to pass for one of the inspired premen, I must therefore, in passing, sympathize with Nemo for ignorantly looking through his Bible for that name.

I quoted Watson as a Divine whose opinion on the question of Divorce is entitled to more and greater consideration than the opinion of Nemo or mine on the same subject.

It was not because wives were considered the property of their husbands but rather for want of right given in the Mosaic statutes that they were not able to dissolve the matrimonial alliance by giving a bill of divorce. To prove this let me again quote Watson. He says:—

"In the latter periods, however, of the Jewish state the Jewish matrons, the more powerful of them at least appear to have imbibed the spirit of the ladies of Rome, and to have exercised in their own behalf the same power that was granted by the Mosaic law only to their husbands." I do not think that Nemo is more indebted to woman than Moses was. First, the untiring efforts of his mother, then, the watchfulness of his sister, and, finally, the compassion and motherly care bestowed on him by the daughter of a King. Surely Moses, under these circumstances, would be just to woman, when he should become a ruler in Israel! Yet true to inspiration he put woman in her right place so much so that according to Numbers (Chap. XXX), a woman had no power to obligate herself by oath, by vow, or otherwise, her husband or her father must in all cases act for her.

In fact Moses looked upon women as only an instrument of procreation; hence under his laws, polygamy prevailed to a greater extent than in all oriental Asia. But enough of that.

I have no quarrel with the fair sex I therefore regret being so far provoked by Nemo to write on my side of the question as if I am against them or wanting in due respect for them.

However, I prefer truth to reputation, and I do not mind a wound or two in a cause that I feel to be right. So far as I have been enabled to judge, I have been led to believe that only to husbands are given the right to apply for relief from matrimonial ties for the sake of a wife's adultery. Nemo feigning great ignorance asks "Where is the licence to man to divorce his wife?" The licence he will find "if he will this man look carefully" in Deu. 24, 1 Jer. 3, 1 Mat. 5, 31, 32. Mat. 19, 7, 9. I quoted the above on the authority of the Rev.

James Inglis the author of the Bible text Cyclopaedia as passages permitting the divorce of the wife on account of adultery.

Nemo next charged me with citing scriptures which by the way are not in point. That was when I said I agree that conjugal infidelity in the husband is bad and quoted (Mal. II 14, 15 and Prov. V. 20) in support of my statement. I will this time give out the passages and leave your readers to judge whether or not they are in point.

"The Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she the companion, and the wife of thy covenant. And did not He make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth." "And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?"

Nemo next running away from the rules of debate referred me to how a husband can condemn his wife to a life-long of untold misery; and how annually hundreds of cases go to the Doctors which can be traced directly to the imprudent practices of husbands. The word "irrelevant" is enough to condemn the above remarks of Nemo. I wonder how he can write all this against me when I have not said one word in favour of the adultery of the husband.

I should like to make it plain to Nemo and all, that I wrote on divorce from a Bible point of view; personally and from a humanitarian standpoint I should say that if marriage remains as easy of commission as it is, divorce must be as correspondingly easy for either husband or wife, and that no child bearing woman should be held by the galling fetters of the law to any man whom she does not love, for even twenty four hours; especially if that man is unfit to bear with the woman viable and well-balanced offspring.

If I had a sister or daughter kept by a husband of bad morals and whose character therefore is likely to produce only domestic misery and a group of weak and degenerate children, I should certainly desire for such sister or daughter a decree of divorce. But how can my desire be said to be in accordance with the teachings of the Bible, when St. Paul says in 1 Cor. VII, 10-11 that "Let not the wife depart from her husband: but if she depart let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband." The passages in Rom. VII, 2-3 is even much stronger and do go to confirm my statement that a woman once lawfully married to a man is bound to keep to him and to him alone under all circumstances until death departs them. Is it not for want of plain Bible authority like the above passages that polygamists appeal to inspiration in support of their practice? Returning to the equality question Nemo again deviates from the rules of debate by saying "fetch me" a man who has no self-respect no self control and tell me that a woman who is chaste and virtuous is not his equal I would rather tell you that she is above the man." How poor! A woman of the qualities mentioned by Nemo will not go out of her way to enter into the marriage state with any man without thought or calculation or reflection of any kind about relative fitness. I do not deny that physically, mentally, morally and socially there are many women who are superior to many men.

It was in the natural order of things that I put man above woman. "The whole is greater than its part" is an axiomatic truth that Nemo ought to know. But if we are to compare man with woman from the positions they have made for themselves in the world, it must be the best of men with the best of women, not the best of women with the worst of men.

On Bible grounds I say if Gen. III. 16. Eph. V. 22-24 and 1 Tim. II 11-14 do not teach Nemo that man is above woman, then he must have a very queer way of interpreting the scriptures. Obedience and Submission are due only to Superiors not to equals.

Even the late Great Queen Victoria once admitted the superiority of man. On the occasion of her marriage, difficulty arose about the words "Will thou obey him?" When the matter was put before her she said nobly "I wish to be married as a woman not as a Queen." With this saying from so high a quarter I cannot help thinking it presumptuous on the part of any woman, white or black to think herself equal to man.

In consideration of all I have written above I feel free at the finish to say again that any attempt to put man and woman on equal footing is a violation of Divine Will and a perversion of what was originally intended by the Creator.

THE COLLEGE CORRESPONDENCE OF SAMUEL.

EN ROUTE. III.

My Dear Father,—I am deeply thankful to report our

safe arrival to our destination after thirty day's sail on the deep bosom of the mighty ocean. The sea was rather choppy over the Bar what time the pilot took over the command of the ship; but it was nothing really to speak of. Ten day's steaming from Madeira brought us to Liverpool—a proof of the Parliamentary speed of the good old "Niger."

The night we entered the Mersey and were expecting England to heave in sight, I made up my mind to stay on deck so as to witness the event. I had been all along under the delusion that houses in England gleamed with the dazzling whiteness of English lime; with the moon dimly shining, therefore, I waited patiently for the entrancing vision of pearly brightness I had conjured in my own mind. I risked the keen blast of the East wind and faithfully kept my vigil. But in vain; the scudding hours passed by still nothing but thick mists enshrouded the landscape over. My disappointment was intensified at dawn when after my broken slumbers I came up again to see bleakness and dullness as far as the houses were concerned. Except the white cliffs of Albion there was absolutely nothing to remind me of the white-washed houses I had left behind in Africa.

On the Welsh coast one of the pantry stewards who had closely attached himself to us and was in the habit of explaining important points of interest throughout the voyage came to us with the information that we were off his home remarking almost in the same breath and with glowing pride:—"Wales was Wales before England was born." The effect on us was electrical and we were naturally drawn towards our own home four thousand miles away.

"Such is the patriot's boast, where'er we roam,
His first best country ever is at home."

Goldsmith never penned a truer word; Howard Payne the author of *Home, Sweet, Home* perhaps expresses the sentiment better. The proverb is, "Home is home though it be never so homely;" out of this he wove those inimitable lines beginning with—

*Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home.
A charm from the skies seems to hallow us there,
Which seek through the world is ne'er met with elsewhere
Home! Home! Sweet home,
There's no place like home."*

I am pleased to report that like a true Briton, the gallant officer referred to in my last letter held out the olive branch to Davies on the River Mersey and they parted warm friends.

We were at our wit's end as to how to act in the event of no one coming to meet us as if such a thing was possible. Mr. Cannell had written a second letter to Revd. Terry Coppin telling him when to expect us, but the *Malamba* aboard which it was mailed was still lagging behind. Our fears however were groundless; for as soon as we anchored, there was Mr. Coppin in the Tender waving to us, and a great load of care was off our shoulders. We had arrived in England. Everything appeared strange at the outset. Before our bewildered gaze were miles and miles of steamers and other craft of various shapes and sizes, whose masts looked for all the world like an immense African forest with its giant trees bare of leaves.

In the excitement which of course attended the debarkation of passengers, "Cape Coast" nearly slipped through the Skipper's hands. In the twinkling of an eye he had arrayed himself in clothes many inches too large for him looking as spruce as possible under the circumstances and apparently ready for the "Blue Goat School." One unmistakable roar from Captain Wharton however soon brought him to his senses. "I watch you," "I give you sense," he shouted after him as the youthful *Mumbo-jumbo* in distress scuttled down below to strip off and lend a hand at unloading the ship as an Able-bodied Seaman should do before a proper discharge. With all "to-do" as an excessively strict disciplinarian, the Captain wears his heart upon his sleeve and is as tender-hearted as any woman can hope to be. He promised to take the lad under his wing and return with him to the coast next voyage.

At the Prince's landing stage we were ushered into the Customs Department where after a cursory examination our luggages were chalked off. This inspection is necessary as a check on smugglers and others carrying contraband goods from one country to another. Mr. Coppin assured us that before we got to the station our things would be there awaiting us. He then caught hold of his portmanteau and off we started; after two or three steps Penny was suddenly struck with the incongruity of the General Superintendent of the Gold Coast District carrying his own bag and therefore rushed forward to repair the breach and you can imagine our amazement when he naively said "No! *Thanks we carry our own bags in this country,*" his face wreathed with smiles at our evident confusion of ideas. At this time we were pelting along at the rate of 10 miles an hour as if for a wager. Every one we met was either rushing headlong or running for dear life. We could not understand it; but we were told that was the rule. At last we made for the *Shaftesbury Temperance Hotel* where we stopped and rested from our labours; and I can assure you, Sir, we needed all the rest we could get after padding the hoof at the terrific rate above stated. Never in our lives had we accomplished such a feat of a morning and within the time. The worst of it was with all the skip and hop and jump we could not perspire; at home we would have been simply pouring wet, here not the shadow of a drop. Curious country this! Later on after some light refreshment, we wended our way by easy stages to the *Midland Railway Station* and were much embarrassed to find ourselves the observed of all observers. On the street, our ears tingled and burned with assorted complimentary greetings, the choicest bits of them were shouted at topmost notes; such for instance as the following, "Blackie!" "Blackamoor!" "Black Nigger!" "Pudding Face!" With suggestive enquiries about *Pear's Soap*. We wondered whether the rudeness of those gutter snipes was due to the inefficiency of the local school board and other educational organisations or to the doctrine of human depravity. Coming to England is certainly not all beer and skittles. This unexpected reception made us sigh for the leeks and the onions of Egypt. To make confusion worse confounded, Davies had with him four Canary birds, in two beautiful cages, which he would carry himself. Loudly and sweetly his portable aviary added to our woes by the exercise of their vocal powers—pouring forth with impassioned ardour their songs of captivity; thus attracting unwelcome attention on their own and making matters worse for us. At last our train drew in and at a given signal we took our seats ready for a new and thrilling experience. The iron-horse began to move by slow space at first, gradually increasing its speed until we were tearing away

with the greatest momentum never imagined before to be possible in the act of travelling. The transformation scenes delighted us beyond measure—now in the thick darkness of a tunnel, then in an open country studded with hamlets, farms, and pastures where cattle grazed unconscious of the bellowing monster; again underneath a river, and then above it, on and on we flew on the wings of the wind; again and again stopping at different stations to discharge and receive visitors and travellers; for hours and hours we kept the noisy terror of our way until we had done fully four days' journey according to our rate of travelling at home. At 2 o'clock we reached *Leicester*, here we found Mr. Horace Stephenson a particular friend of Mr. Coppin's waiting for us. He welcomed us most cordially and escorted us to his father's house where we were entertained as personae gratissimae.

At Rothley Temple in this country was born on the 25th of October 1800, Thomas Babington, Lord Macaulay, the historian, essayist, and politician. His father was His Excellency Zachary Macaulay, Governor of Sierra Leone to whom reference was made in my last letter. As a child he was a prodigy. Before 8 years of age old he had written a *Compendium of Universal History* recording all the leading events from the creation of the world to the year of his birth, besides a Romance entitled "*The Battle of Cheviot*." In 1833, he was one of those who strenuously opposed the Anti-slavery Legislation; like Mr. William Ewart Gladstone, he believed in and advocated modified abolition—holding that emancipation should be a gradual process until the slaves were duly prepared for the new life. There was a wise contention dictated by a far-seeing policy. The "brilliant Macaulay" as Emerson calls him is the author of English classics, two of which the *Lays of Ancient Rome* and the *History of England* are in your library. About 4 o'clock we left for Richmond and in 5 hours our long journey came to an end. Alighting we were soon bowling through the streets in a four-wheeler for the College on Richmond Hill. The College is a magnificent structure and we are being made very comfortable. There are thirty-seven freshmen in all. Term begins next Tuesday when all the men will have arrived. We have to furnish our own study and the unwritten law is to buy in at the College auction as many things as one could find in the "estate" of the brethren gone before us into the Mission Field—such as chairs, cushions, table-cloth, desk, and other articles of vertu or nick-nacks. The Auctioneer is a second year's man by name Matthew Hall or "Matty" as he is familiarly called. We have not as yet attended to the requirements of our wardrobe. Our bills in connection therewith will necessarily be heavy as we have to provide for the coming winter as well. The Governor of the College is the Rev. Daniel Sanderson a returned Indian Missionary; our tutors are Professors Davison, Beet, Tasker, and Kellet. There are altogether seventy-two students in residence including two brethren from Lagos, Messrs. Samuel and Wright; the former has been of great assistance to us since our arrival by making us *au fait* with the mysteries of Gas light, Bed &c. &c. of which more presently.

We had the pleasure of attending City Road Chapel—the Mecca of Methodism—night before last. By missing our train, we were obliged to walk at full speed three miles to catch one to London and then another five miles in breathless haste to *John Wesley's Church*. We were in the company of between thirty and forty fellow students who seem to enjoy the pedestrian exercise. I must confess I nearly gave it up for a bad job and you can conceive with what frame of mind I entered the Church at last. I was so footsore that I could not put on my boots all yesterday. The valedictory meeting we went to was on behalf of five brethren who had received their marching orders to India, China and the Gambia respectively, these young missionaries spoke with such pathos and fervour that I was very near playing the woman and but for the thought of the homeward journey which off and on disturbed my mind, I would have enjoyed the service exceedingly. During the singing of No. 1004 the *Hymn of intercession for those at sea* sung in anticipation, I casually looked up and to my agreeable surprise there was John Sarbah in the gallery; we exchanged telegraphic communications at once and his presence fairly reconciled me to the situation. After the meeting he led us half way to the station, first giving us a bad quarter of an hour for not having on overcoats and then plying us with multifarious questions concerning the old country and the long wished-for home.

Penny and I occupy the same study and the same bedroom.

I may mention that I am afraid I shall suffer financially in the matter of clothing considering my growing dimensions.

With my warmest love and best wishes to my sisters, brothers, and all enquiring friends to whom kindly remember us.

I am, my dear father,
yours affectionately,—SAMUEL.

9th September 1886

WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Omanhin Kodwo Nkum is to be congratulated in bringing the dispute between Ohin Acquah II and the Town Scholars Association to an end.

Dear Mr. Editor—, I am a reader of your valuable paper the "Gold Coast Leader."

Being much interested in the supernatural I shall be obliged if any of your readers who know some will send me stories about Ghosts &c. These should be written in tolerably good English and they should be hair-raising stories; they should also have somewhat of truth about them i. e. the names of the persons who saw them, the names of the persons whose ghosts were seen, places where seen, and names of persons to whom the stories were first told, should be given. I hope if any stories be sent to C. C. C. 2357 c/o The G. C. Leader I shall get them. Any stories received will be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,—C. C. C. 2357.

5th. Sept. 1905.

The Gold Coast Leader.

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No. 170.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1905.

Price 3d.
Including postage 4d.

THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

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MANAGER.

Aboom, Cape Coast.

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THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL CAPE COAST.

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Head Master, Mr. J. Leslie Mayne

Assisted by Mr. W. Jaber Halm and others.

Patrons:—The Hon. J. H. Cheatham, P. A. Renner Esq. B.L., G. H. Savage Esq. B.L., Osely Hayford Esq. B.L., A. K. Bissoe Esq.

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At the Infant	4d. to 6d. per month
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Extras. In such subjects which are optional apply to the Principal.

Arrangements are being made for a Boarding Department. Friends abroad wishing to send their children will communicate with the Secretary of the School (Mr. Halm.)

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For more than eighty years Dr GUILLIÉ'S Elixir has been successfully employed for diseases of the Liver, Stomach, Heart, Gout, Rheumatism, Malarial and Pernicious Fevers, Syphilis, the Grippe or Influenza, Etc. Diseases and Intestinal Parasites.

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NOTICE.

ON SALE.

Memoirs of West African Celebrities,

(WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE GOLD COAST.)

By the

Rev. S. R. B. ATTOH-AHUMA.

(D. Marples & Co. 280 pages. 3/6)

4/- Post Free.

Orders received by Mr. H. Solomon-Ahuma, Jackson Street, Cape Coast Castle.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Hon. J. P. Brown returned from Axim by the "Borutu" last Saturday.

By the same steamer, there arrived from America via Liverpool, the Rev. T. E. Ward A.B., and Mr. S. E. Inaidoo who have been away for the past six years. The young men were trained at the Wilberforce College, Ohio. We welcome them home.

The Templers had a picnic at the Sweet River last Saturday; it came off well.

We learn with much regret that our friends the Quapses lost an aunt last week, the mother of the brothers Jonah. Our sympathies with all.

The Director of Works is in Town on inspection. We hope he has on his Agenda for this Town the Parade ground question.

The Acting Postmaster General also is up here on inspection, and has left for Elmina—and he did go.

We learn with very much regret from Sierra Leone papers, the death of Brigadier-General Frank Graham, the Acting Governor of Sierra Leone. Another good man is gone! The Hon. G. B. Haddon-Smith C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary is acting.

A boat going too near the stern of the "Borutu" when she was in last Saturday, was cut into two by the propeller, one of the two baskets of koka nuts, in it sank, no life lost.

A man failing to go through a fire ordeal, to which he had appealed himself against some charges brought on him, was the victim of much laughing and yelling at Bentin last Wednesday.

Says the Monthly Magazine (September) of the Free Gardeners:—"From Gold Coast papers to hand we note that the Editor who has been playing the role of a Labourer in castigating, in his paper, a prominent police official for an alleged serious offence, has come through the ordeal of a trial for libel at the assizes victorious. We feel very proud that the long arm of English justice is powerful enough to throw its protecting shield over even a negro Editor when doing a public duty. We know full well all the influences that would be brought to bear for a contrary decision. Our sincere congratulations are here tendered."

Thanks and thanks also to the kind friend who sent us the Magazine.

There is an Ordinance now in the making to be known as "The Firearms Ordinance," the object of which is according to the Attorney-General (Mr. Osborne) "to put a further check on the illegal disposal of arms of precision. The present state of the law, which penalizes only importers and license holders is inadequate to prevent the alienation of revolvers and sporting weapons, with the result that not unfrequently they find their way into the hands of the criminal classes."

The Hon. Mr. Osborne having gone home on leave the Hon. Mr. J. P. Foster is acting.

J. James (Assamboo): Surely you cannot be serious in asking us to publish such a scandalous thing. You will see with us perhaps, if you consider about it, in all its aspects.

Grand Kormantien. Your signature is not at all plain, and if you wish the article to be published—which is a good one, sign plainly.

J. B. Nothing of the kind. Don't write, go straight to him, better. Its only natural that the whole thing should seem an incomprehensible to you, but then, what do you expect.

M. W. S. You are quite right, we know nothing about it, incredible as it may seem, but write again next week as you promise. Thank you.

D. Yes, we are not unacquainted with what you call "Church affairs" only, hold on a bit.

Salt Pond. Your note received, it will be attended to.

I. O. G. T.

On the 9th September 1905 at Pram Pram the Bright Morning Star Lodge was instituted by Brother J. L. Minnow H.D.G.C.T. when 70 members were enrolled. It was resolved to meet on Saturdays at 5 o'clock p. m.

Officers for the quarter:—P.C.T., J. B. Nelson C.T., Alfred E. Maddy; T., A. Riba Williams; Sec., W. Stephen Nanao; Chap., Louis E. F. Holibert; Mar., J. T. Mensah; Treas., Cudjoe Abbey (the Omaniin of Pram Pram) F. See, J. W. Quaytey Papa; A. Sec., E. K. Appenteng D. Mar., Amalia Narrey Gil, John E. Narrey Esq., William Lartey, D.G.C.T., J. Jonah Netin. The membership includes the Omaniin in English and the principal inhabitants and some of the Government officials viz.—the Registrar, the Customs and Treasury clerks.

AXIM

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

We understand that the Postbox of the African Gold Dredging and Mining Concessions Limited is owing to severe drought in the Anobra River aground. We trust that the Manager would soon be able to get it out.

On the 5th inst. while shipping logs on the s.s. "Chama" one of the young boatmen alongside met with a serious accident by coming in contact with a log which was being hauled into the steamer which killed him. The body was not found till after five days.

On Tuesday the 13 inst. the First Half Yearly Public Meeting of the Axim Literary Club was held at Mount Pleasant. Several Ladies and Gentlemen were invited and encouraging addresses were

delivered by Messrs. M. F. Ribeiro, Moses Kinnah, H. F. Ribeiro, Mrs. Casely Hayford, Mr. J. G. Smith, and Mr. Casely Hayford.

Mr. Beddoes, agent of Messrs. F. & A. Swanzy Ltd. arrived by the s.s. "Akabo."

Among the several passengers who arrived last Tuesday by the s.s. "Sobo" was Rev. Attoh-Ahuma Principal of the Accra Grammar School.

The meetings of the Executive Committee of the Aborigines Society have been frequent of late, and as the result Monday the 11th September was set aside for an Intercessory Prayer Meeting and the Town Council's agitation. The members of the society attended in a body and the meeting passed off successfully.

Owing to the indisposition of his Honour Mr. Justice Purcell the sitting of the Assizes has been postponed to the 18th.

Under the auspices of the Axim Literary Club Rev. Attoh-Ahuma delivered a most able and instructive Lecture on "Philosophy of Individual Unity" in the school room on the 14th inst. The chair was taken by E. C. Elliot Esq. District Commissioner supported by Dr. Horn Colonial Surgeon. The Lecture was well attended and at the conclusion contributions were taken in aid of Secondary Education.

KUMASI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Sept. 12.

A new Gaoler, Mr. Dadson arrived here on the 7th inst. to relief Gaoler Anquandah for Saltpond.

Chief Quarri Tuia was brought before the D. C. on the charge of receiving stolen rifles from certain people and failing to report same to the Government. He was therefore fined £17 15/-. For some hours the chief was in the box and to avoid the disgrace Chief Fympon offered himself as security, but Capt. Greene refused, until the Chief Linguist of Kumasi one Inuama paid the fine.

DESTOLEMENT.

It appears that during the trial of his case part of his personal properties, the state umbrellas, and the stool had been all removed to the village by his subjects for the purpose of depositing him under the following charges to be brought before the Chief Commissioner Mr. Fuller (1) For extorting a gold ring from one Yesireh and presenting it to Mrs. Houston for which action was taken against him and was fined £5. It is stated that the D. C. may likely write to Mrs. Houston in England to return the ring. (2) For receiving brides from his people, all roughly amounting to about £2,000. (3) For disrespecting Buabasah's family, the man whom he succeeded. It has come out that all his subjects had taken an oath since ten days ago to flog him on Sunday the 10th inst. during the Addeh festival and then to remove him to some distance from Kumasi. The plot was however disclosed to the Chief Commissioner and three of the principal men were immediately arrested and kept in custody pending investigation. Mr. Fuller insists upon putting the Government-made-chiefs on the stool again which the people are strongly against. This affair Quarri Tuia being too wide awake has wisely represented it to Mr. Fuller, as an action on the part of the people to plot against the Government. Mr. Fuller therefore ordered them to bring back the stool and the other things before the matter could be properly considered. The people accordingly sent for them and on Saturday evening at 6 o'clock (the 9th inst.) six stools were brought to town for the Chief Commissioner. Mr. Fuller from all account insists upon Quarri Tuia being on the stool but notwithstanding the fact that he has the six stools in his possession the people are strongly against having him for their chief. The police are always with the chief to prevent him from being beaten. The matter may probably end during this week and the result will be given to your readers.

It is understood that another inspection will soon be taken by the Chief Commissioner to Obuasi.

Mr. Barton of the African Association and Mr. Drewry of Messrs. Drewry & White arrived here by the Train of the 9th instant on business. Messrs. Ore and Croford all of the African Association are leaving for England to-day (12th.)

It is being rumoured that Dr. Bue will probably be sent here to relieve Capt. Greene for Sampah where he was stationed sometime ago. Mr. Fell the civil D. C. is now at Odumasi.

BROOMASSIE

Sept. 11.

The General Manager Mr. Norman Buckett who has been away to recruit his health returned by the "Zunguru" last week.

Mr. Ellis the acting manager has been appointed to take charge of Botoboy where mining tools are being conveyed.

An accident took place in No. 2 Shaft opposite the 150 feet depth when two persons were wounded.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Nearly every week some thing or other has been

said on the management of our Railway affairs, and on the treatment some of the native officials are put to, and it seems that things go on still as usual—as bad as ever. The only thing we can say at present to those whose lot is cast that way is, to quietly submit to their fate, hard as it may be. It seems that at this period of our existence we are destined to live with the class of men most of our correspondents complain so bitterly of, and enough has been said in the interest of the Race and of the government, that should let us hear very little, if ever at all of such complain'ts. Let the men be true to themselves, honest in the performance of their duties and loyal to the Government, and then leave these men who so wantonly distress them, and who seem to take more delight in doing such things than in their work for which they receive their hundreds, to go on.

Probably these things are intended for some good to come out of the prevailing evil, for our national existence. Let there be less complaints then, but more tact to profit by the situation; let it be understood that both in the official and mercantile world perhaps some of the men from principle if not by training cannot help being what they are: they must be our taskmasters to oppress us, for us to come out of our Egyptian bondage, and instead of continually complaining let us begin to think. It seems clear that so long as some work is done by them which would justify their signing their vouchers or pay sheets the Legislative Council does not care, or is not responsible for whatever else they do, even though the reputation of our Empire may be dragged in the dust. No, we cannot expect it to be a Moral Curator. So, as we have often pointed out, had as the Crown Colony Policy may be much also depends on the men in whose hands falls the official discharge of the duties thereof. And who does not know that these men of whom we complain so much are quite different men if you meet them in their own country. And do we not now and again, meet with some really good, well-principled and decent men both in the service and in Trade. At one time we seemed to have had a different class of men altogether in the country whatever might have been their faults, and now it seems the other way about. Let us do the best we can under the circumstances then. Rose is rose and cauliflower, is cauliflower, no matter where you may find them. We say then to our friends, that they should be true to themselves, loyal to the Government (or their employers) and the country and take no notice of men who seem to have lost all sense of self-respect, of their duty to themselves, 'neighbours' and country, who would disabuse their privileges and positions without any compunction; but such things will not go on for ever though.

Not very long ago we threw out the suggestion that our Appeal Courts should be presided over by the Chief Justice of this Protectorate, with those of Lagos and Southern Nigeria, and perhaps the suggestion is having the consideration of those directly concerned in the ruling of such matters. We pray so. We were pleased to find the last Appeal Court in Lagos the Chief Justice there as President was supported by our Chief Justice and that of Southern Nigeria. We hope their official duties will allow their coming over to support our Chief Justice at the next Appeal Court. Not only the lawyers and his Brother Judges but every body will be pleased to see Mr. Justice Nicol once more in our midst, and "to form the acquaintance" of the Chief Justice of Nigeria.

But we would at this time venture to make another suggestion, which we hope will meet with some consideration in the interest of justice at the hands of our Executive. It is being strongly rumoured in Town, that Mr. Justice Smith who has been dispensing justice these many years amongst us and whose abilities and intelligent grasp of the intricacies of our customary laws are unquestionable may probably retire next year. If this report be true, we would make this suggestion. In England we are told, there exists an Appeal Court composing entirely of retired Judges in the House of Lords, whose decisions in appeal cases are said to be final, at least as far as the law with its technicalities and ramifications go, though it is said, the King in Council may deal with their decisions, should an appeal be made against their decision. At all events there is such an Appeal Court. Now, the retirement of Mr. Justice Smith, if true, goes to swell the number of retired judges we have in England, men who from their own knowledge of the English law, and the experience the number of years they had spent on the coast had given them of the customary laws of the country, in our opinion entitle them to be constituted into such a Body, to which any feeling dissatisfied with the decision of the Appeal Court may go.

We are aware that the suggestion as it stands has many knobs and excrescences to be knocked off it, but it will be a pity indeed, to lose such invaluable experience gained in the laws of this country such as that of Mr. Justice Smith's, quietly shelved on his retirement, like a few others before him, and

then to have fresh men on the Bench, who in the gaining of their experience may unconsciously do a deal of harm to many a good cause. Such an Appeal Court may exist for the whole West Coast, the Judges to come out once a year for the purpose; but these are matters of details on which we invite the views of the Public, and the Bar Association, with the suggestion itself.

Just an illustration to show how the revenue of this Protectorate is managed. A short while ago, there was such a fuss made over the sanitation-cum-mosquito question of this Town. Thousands of pounds were showered upon it. A specialist in the person of Dr. Logan Taylor was here for it. Dr. Barker simply worked himself to death for it: the doctor spared no pains, and barring his excessive indulgence in seeing people sued for trifles, which he could have managed in another way with people, having their own ideas of sanitation which he wished to alter to that of his country, he did his best. Fine things were written about him, and those for whom he worked so indefatigably duly appreciated his services and recognized them. The papers were full on the great work he did. For this, he put off his leave of absence more than once, but he had to leave, no doubt with the hopes that he would come back to finish his work to some extent, because the place must be made fit for the foreigner's residence. He left and that was the end of him and his work, *for continuity of work is a thing unknown in this Protectorate.* His labour is lost, and with it the thousands of pounds, which were squandered. His fine reports, and Governor Nathan's splendid despatches and Memoranda must all be shelved, for the next thing we hear of, and that from his immediate successor is, this Town is most beastly from a sanitary point of view not worth living in! Such a sweeping remark must be made, if only to support the introduction of the Town Councils Ordinance here. Such is the policy of a Crown Colony, and we must not "croak."

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, SEPT. 23, 1905.

MR. PEREGRINE AND THE TOWN COUNCILS ORDINANCE FOR CAPE COAST.

A good many persons seem to be very much excited over the activity which Mr. Peregrine our Provincial Commissioner has been displaying since his arrival over the Omanhin's Memorial. They need not be. It will be remembered that the whole affair started in connection with this town when he was with us, just before he left on furlough, and it is only natural since he had met the question still on the board to evince some interest in it. He should not, and ought not to be blamed, some thing must be done. But that the Town would not have the application of the Ordinance here he must at this time be more than convinced about it, even though the conviction may go against his will; and if we must credit what was being circulated in some circles just on the eve of his departure for his last furlough, he himself was of the opinion that the Town at all events was not prepared for its application. He spoke or wrote from what he saw. He was present at the meeting held at the Chapel Square in August last year. He sat with the Omanhin and his people and not with those members of the Aborigines Society who attempted to explain the Ordinance to the people, and therefore saw ALL that took place. He saw and believed, that the People would not wish to see it applied here; subsequently he reported every thing to Governor Rodger. His Excellency could not understand the situation, and how could he, when he had been assured that the People were prepared to receive it! How this assurance was given to His Excellency, through whom and by whom, let us for the present draw the veil over it until—

What happened then is all a matter of history

how, and it was during this time that Mr. Peregrine left us, for surely he needed some rest. He has come back to us. We give him a hearty welcome. And what does he find? The people being still dissatisfied with the Ordinance as it stands have through their Omanhin memorialized the King in Council and are awaiting with the greatest equanimity on His Majesty's pleasure. In this Memorial they have clearly stated their grounds for objecting to the Ordinance. A copy of it has been sent, not to the Governor who is now in England on furlough, but to the Acting Governor for his remarks on same. He has made them and sent them to Downing Street. And now the next thing we hear of is, the Town is astir, at least in certain quarters over the signatories attached to the Memorial. Private meetings are being held over them, communications are going on between certain parties, private interviews are being held—all over the signatories, and *not the subject matter of the Memorial*. In these transactions the official who is thus hard at work is to some extent assisted by certain party or parties who in their heart of hearts are against the Ordinance for there is not a single man in this Town, who (is for it, say what they will and do what they would,) yet find themselves in the unenviable position of doing what is being reported in Town, and the reader should not be surprised at this, for truly, there are more things—strange things—in this our fair world, than some of us choose to dream of in our philosophy. And what about these signatories? Nothing. But man, this 'fearfully-and-wonderfully'-made man can at times 'create' something out of nothing, and the public calmly take in all the manoeuvrings of this and last week, in the meanwhile our word to the reader is, "Be calm, cool and collected," for 'all's well that ends well,' and justice will be done though Heaven may fall. We make no undue haste to say much, though we may stand the risk of being enigmatical, in the meantime let him join us in wishing the Omanhin and his People success in their endeavours.

MONSTERS OF THE DEEP.

(BY A BANKER.)

Far back, down the long and dim vista of the great past, eons before man existed upon the earth, ages before any (true placental) mammalian life—lion, horse, ox, giraffe, or hosts of others drew breath, the aspect of Britain was altogether different to that of the present day. Instead of the sturdy oak, the lofty elm, or the wide-spreading beech or sycamore, the vegetation consisted of tall, succulent reeds and mosses, with also palm-like cycads and conifers and some others. There were no chalk cliffs, for chalk did not exist, scarce any flowers, it is conjectured, but principally flowerless cryptogams and other forms producing their seed on the under side of the fronds and in other ways, all of which grew in luxuriant vigour in the warm humid soil, and the general appearance must have presented aspect far less beautiful and attractive and far less picturesque and lovely than the natural beauty and richness of the scenery of the present day.

But the country was utterly unfit for the habitation of man, who would soon have become exterminated by the vast hordes of gigantic and monstrous creatures which then ravened over it in countless numbers; giant mailed monsters of stupendous proportions; mighty frogs as large as an ox; tremendous lizards fifty feet long, with jaws of immense capacity, their eyes the size of a football, and their formidable teeth equal to crushing a hippopotamus. And there were flying beasts something like bats, which could easily have swooped down upon a man like an eagle seizing a lamb, carried him off, and devoured him at leisure in his lair.

But doubtless the most prodigious and altogether amazing creature which ever trod this earth—attaining, according to the great geologist Geikie, a length of nearly a hundred feet and a height of more than thirty feet (a specimen has recently been discovered in America of nearly those dimensions)—is the Atlantosaurus, a dreadful and hideous monster, capable, if man had then existed upon earth, of devouring at a meal several dozens of men, women and children. As the creature's hide would perhaps have been many times thicker than that of an elephant—if in similar proportion it would have been two or three feet thick—"big game" shooting would involve taking a battery of cannon instead of the usual rifle.

But there is another existence upon earth far more dreadful and far more powerful than these, our great Adversary, who (with his invisible myriads) "goeth about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour." Aye, but our omnipotent Friend and Deliverer, the Son of God, Who took

upon Him the form of man, and made Atonement for all who come to Him for rescue from the power of the Evil One, and will both cast their sins into oblivion, and will deliver them from all his assaults and all his subtle temptations.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON AFRICA (WESTERN COAST) 1865.

Mr. Andrew Swanzy examined.

4609. Chairman] Will you state the number of years for which you were formerly resident on the Gold Coast?—I resided on the Gold Coast for six years, from 1844 to 1850 and afterwards in 1853.

4610. Will you state what offices you held during those years?—I was Commandant and Magistrate in the Ahanta district in Dix Cove for two years, and for three years at Anamaboe. I held the same office there under the Judicial Assessor.

4638. When was the Judicial Assessor first appointed?—In 1843 I think; but prior to that time Mr. Maclean took the office of Judicial Assessor.

4639. Do you know whether the office of Judicial Assessor has been carried out to the present day, in the manner first intended?—No.

4640. In what way has the office changed?—By taking, as I hear, all the power from the native chiefs.

4641. So that the Judicial Assessor is practically an English judge administering the English law?—Yes.

4642. Not sitting with the chiefs?—No; on the contrary, he has ignored the powers of the chiefs.

4643. When you were judge under the Judicial Assessor, what was the assessor practically then?—An assistant to the native chiefs.

4644. Was that the case during the whole of your experience?—During the whole of my experience, all cases brought before the judicial assessor without referring to the native courts were tried by him as a matter of course, but up to the year 1850 the native chiefs themselves had the whole jurisdiction which has been taken from them.

4646. Was it because the administration of the native law was found difficult that the assessor gradually became an English judge?—I do not think so. I think that the native law was very similar to ours.

4647. Then what was the cause of the change?—The desire of obtaining power, I suppose, or probably in ignorance of the rights of the native chiefs themselves.

4648. Did the native chiefs practically in your time sit with the assessor and assist?—Not always, but in a number of cases they did. They were allowed themselves to hold separate courts.

4649. Was that found satisfactory in your time?—Yes. (To be continued.)

THE CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHER.

NO. XI.

VOLCANOES.

One of the most remarkable phenomena in nature is the Volcano, or burning mountain, which emit flames, ashes, stones, liquid sulphur, melted metals, and other substances, with surprising force. In Europe there are five burning mountains: Etna in Sicily, Vesuvius near Naples, Stromboli in the Islands of the Lipari, Hecla in Iceland, and Chimera in Greece. They are to be found in other quarters of the globe, but are most numerous in America. Of the European Volcanoes, Etna is the most considerable; fire and smoke are continually discharged from its top; but it rages at times with peculiar violence. In 1669 an extraordinary eruption happened, of which the following account is given in the Philosophical Transactions:—

"It was preceded by a dark thick sky, thunder and lightning and frequent concussions of the earth. At length a stream or river of melted metals, rendered liquid by the fierceness of the fire, boiled up, and gushed forth like water at the head of a great river. When this torrent met with a bank, or any building, strong enough to resist its progress it increased in depth till it flowed over it, forming a fierce cascade. Its breadth was about three miles and its length seventeen. In its course, this tremendous inundation overwhelmed 14 towns and villages, and destroyed the inhabitants of 27,000 persons. Its progress was at the rate of a furlong each day, and it continued to flow from the 11th of March to the 4th May during which time neither sun nor stars appeared; and the noise produced by the eruption was heard at the distance of 60 miles. After it had ceased, the melted metals cooled and became a solid mass of lava, as it is called, which completely changed the face of the country; nor could any trace of the towns above mentioned be found, except the Church of one of them, which, happening to stand on a little eminence, escaped the fiery deluge. After the lapse of a century Sir William Hamilton visited this spot, and observed that a space of country, of 14 miles in length and six in breadth, was still destitute of any signs of vegetation. The crater, or opening at the top of the mountain, through which the stream made its way appeared about two miles and a half in cir-

cumference.

In 1779 Sir William was witness to a tremendous eruption of Vesuvius, in which he informs us, a vast quantity of red hot liquid lava was emitted, which ran with violence four miles from the place where it was discharged at the same time, a fountain of this liquid transparent fire, mixed with stones and scorie, began to rise and gradually increasing, arrived at a height not less than three times that of the mountain, forming a column of fire at least 10,000 feet in height and two miles and a half in width, which cast a prodigious heat for a distance of at least six miles; a cloud of black smoke accompanied the lava, in which were seen strong and vivid flashes, of lightning, continually issuing from the fiery pillar, and returning back to it. Volcanic ashes were discharged to the distance of 100 miles and the number and size of some of the stones or fragments of rocks which were thrown up are almost incredible. The largest was in circumference less than 108 feet and in height 17, it was a solid rock and thrown at least a quarter of a mile clear of the volcano. Another grand eruption occurred in August 1805, of which an account is inserted in our magazine for that year, p. 572 near Guarimala in South America are two mountains, the one called the Volcano of fire, the other of Water, out of the first, huge pieces of rocks are frequently hurled, like bombs out of a mortar; and a person may with ease, during the night, read by the light of its flames at the distance of three miles. From the other mountain vast quantities of water are continually thrown up. The remains of volcanoes have been discovered in the inland parts of most countries when these mountains have ceased to burn: the crater sometimes falls in and is defaced; at other times it is filled with water and forms a lake. The immense masses of lava ejected by volcanoes are many years in cooling, and a much longer period is required before the surface of the lava is decomposed and covered with mould, so as to answer the purposes of vegetation.

Destructive as the explosions of these burning mountains, "their existence may be considered, says Dr. Woodward, as a special favour of divine Providence, as they serve as a kind of spargules, or tunnels, to vent the subterraneous heat and vapours which, if pent up, would make much more dreadful havoc by convulsions and earthquakes. There is scarcely any country much annoyed with earthquakes, but has one of these fiery vents, which is constantly observed to be all in flames whenever an earthquake happens; by which means that fire is discharged which was the cause of the disaster; and there are not wanting instances of countries which have been wholly freed from them by the eruption of a new volcano. Could the reader behold Vesuvius or Etna in flames, he would probably be able to form a lively idea of the tremendous scene which was exhibited when Jehovah gave his fiery law from Sinai when "the sight of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring flame in the eyes of the children of Israel." But it may fall to the lot of few, perhaps none, who read this paper, to see an eruption of either of these mountains. "Every eye," will, however, one day, witness a sight much more awful as much as the crumbling of the mountain before it bursts is louder than the whispering wind, and the fiery column more terrible in its brightness than the dancing meteor," when every mountain shall smoke and every hill be moved.

Amazing period, when each mountain's height
Out bursts Vesuvius—Rocks eternal pour
Their melted mass as rivers, and they gouted?
Stars rush, and final rain fiercely drives
Her ploughshares o'er creation!

Then shall "the Heavens pass away with a great noise, and the elements with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burnt up." There is, however, one Mountain which sends forth no flame, one Rock which cannot be moved and that Rock is Christ. "The real Christian, united by faith to him, looks down as from an eminence, where he stands in security on the wreck of nature. In that crisis is that delightful hour, lift up your heads (O ye saints, for your redemption draweth nigh), ye shall then receive the gracious recompense of all your trial, and enter on the possession of all you have ever wished or desired. In the mean time, seeing you lack for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot and blameless."

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE TRANSFER OF THE TOWN OF TOGO IN 1894.

(BY AN EYE WITNESS.)

The land of Togo on the west side of the Volta river, formed part formerly of the Ashoo Kingdom. The British Government handed over this country to the Germans without the least consultation or consent of the natives, and as a matter of fact the natives are generally treated as a little above the four-footed animal. As soon as they came in possession of Togo land, they began to make several

expeditions in the land, notwithstanding that several towns in Togo had been supplied with the English flag, and were then of course English subjects.

The expeditions aroused the natives that the Temonics were upon them.

When Captains Farminger and Dr. Easmon were sent by the English Government to Sahara (Saraga) they distributed flags to a great many towns and villages, of which Panto the capital was one of them.

One of these Expeditions sent by the Governor of the colony reached Panto one fine morning; the head Chief of the place was Dagada, who refused to accept the German flag, on the grounds that he was serving the English and holding their flag.

The Officer was very much angry by that and abused him very much, and went so far as to threaten his life by pointing a revolver at him, which induced him to accept the German flag. He received from that Officer several bad treatment afterwards.

Next morning the Officer proceeded to Adalekpodji (Adanpow Hill) or Ngabi as up Hill town of Avenue country a place about 2 hours from Panto where he arrived at 5-30 a.m. on Sunday morning the 16th December 1894. This was close to a river called Bame and it was built by Messrs. Cournoo Bros. of Ada.

One Em. Odonkoh a Prince of Eastern Krobo an elephant hunter was in the town. The Officer sent his Clerk with Mr. Em. Odonkoh to call all the traders to him to the Produce Market. And before 5 a.m. in the morning all had come over there; the Officer first spoke to his Clerk, and Mr. E. Odonkoh translated into the Adaugme dialect to the traders, asking them not to go out of the place where they were sitting, and ordered two soldiers that were guarding them to shoot any of them who would disobey this order.

He then marched other soldiers to the town and set fire to the houses. The women in the town gave alarm, and all escaped to the bush, leaving all their properties behind them to meet the awful scene of conflagration.

The soldiers caught hold of the run away women, ransacked them and robbed them out of their cloths and beads. There were in the village more than forty principal traders, and where they were sitting was closed to the burning of the Oil shades, which covered several casks and barrels of Oil including an amount of shooks and hoopings which were in flames.

As the blazing was great the traders asked permission to be allowed to remove from there, but were refused.

The Captain then proceeded to the next Village (Bame) on the river, burnt it and broke some of the canoes he met there, the rest, he pushed away into the river.

One Ghennah of Ada had 60 bags of salt loaded in a canoe ready to start for Kra-chi, he detained it and sank the salt with the canoe. The wife of Ghennah, having seen what was done, she began to scream, the soldiers ill-treated her badly and untied her money from her waist.

After that the Officer with the soldiers returned to the Adalekpodji, where he made up his mind to kill all the traders.

Mr. Em. Odonkoh pleaded for the lives of his English friends reminding the Officer of the day of which they were in. The Officer concluded that the traders must leave the place then, but if they do not go away until his return from Panto, he would kill them all.—When he left the traders they immediately ran to Bame, after little success in pinning out all their wives from along the bank of the river as far as Chome, where they crossed the river to the other side to a town called Asabi Ngabi belonging to the head Chief called Quansi-ba-koi.

He returned to Panto, where he informed Manche Dagada that he had burnt Adalekpodji and Bame, wishing him to go and capture all their valuable goods there and his subjects went and did so.

From Panto the Officer proceeded to Tappa, where he also burnt the houses full of Palm kernel belonging to Asida traders; proceeding thence he got to Kra-chi, where was another Officer called Grunner.

Basumbo the head fetish Priest of Kra-chi refused to accept the German flag and in consequence of that the German made that expedition against him.

Hearing this he prepared his warriors in defence of his country, but the head Chief refused and on that same evening Dr. Grunner got to the town trying to catch him, he ran to the other side of the river called Nkoui where Dr. Grunner also sent his soldiers and brought him back from the British Territory to him and was shot.

For the following year 1895 all the traders in Adia reported the whole affairs to His Excellency the Governor and His Excellency also ordered Judge Smith to go to Adia to enquire into this destruction.

The loss sustained by the Adias were considered to be over ten thousands pounds (£10,000.)

It is supposed the Governor at Accra forwarded the report to the Secretary of State for the Colo-

nies. They were promised by the Colonial Government. The answer from the Secretary of State kept long.

The traders also continued in reminding the Government for their losses. At length an answer came to say that, the Germans said the traders had removed all their properties before the towns were burnt.

[We let "An Eye Witness" tell the story in his own way, better.—Ed.]

THE AXIM LITERARY CLUB.

The first half-yearly public meeting of the Axim Literary Club was held on Tuesday the 12th inst. in the Club Room, Mount Pleasant. The chair was taken by Mr. S. R. Wood, the President of the Club and supported by Mr. J. A. Anderson the Vice President. Irrespective of the members the following ladies and gentlemen attended viz.—Mr. Caseley Hayford, Mr. M. F. Ribeiro, Patrons of the Club; Mrs. C. Hayford, Mrs. M. F. Ribeiro, Mr. C. E. Moses, Mr. M. Kinnah, Miss R. Hughes, Mr. R. T. Arthur Jr., Mrs. M. Essien, Mr. G. A. Coleman, Mr. E. H. Brew, Mr. E. A. Asmah, Miss Juliana Wood, Mr. W. B. Hamilton, Miss Emma Sam, Mr. S. A. Hughes and Mr. J. G. Smith.

After a short opening address by the President in which he stated that the object of the gathering was to celebrate the first Half-yearly meeting for the purpose of encouraging the members, the Secretary Mr. J. K. Williams read an interesting report of the work done during the period. The report showed that for some time past the necessity for the establishment of a literary organization for the benefit of the youths in the town had been acknowledged and discussed by all classes of the community; and consequently at the instance of Mr. John Acquay a public meeting was held on the 11th of March last when the matter was thoroughly discussed and the gentlemen present constituted themselves a body with the name of the "Axim Literary Club" whose object would be the cultivation of General Knowledge with particular reference to

- (a.) The establishment of Reading Rooms.
- (b.) The Holding of Debates.
- (c.) The Study and Development of Native Customs and Institutions.

There was a prolonged applause when the Report mentioned that His Honour Mr. Justice Purcell, Mr. Caseley Hayford B.L., Mr. M. F. Ribeiro B.L., Mr. J. G. Adlo B.L., and Mr. A. S. Moses Spio, were the Patrons of the Club. The membership of the Club was reported to be 22, of which number 8 had been received since its institution but owing to irregularity of 3 members who had thus practically ceased to be members and the absence of one, from the town the standing membership had been reduced to 18. The financial status of the Club was stated to be very encouraging; rendered so by the payment of entrance fees and monthly contributions and by a grant of the sum £6 10 the proceeds of the Concert held in April last under the Patronage of Mr. Justice Purcell in aid of the Club. The receipts of the Club during the period amounted to £8 15 10 and the expenditure £3 7 10 this leaving in the hands of the Treasurer, Mr. B. F. Armah, the sum of £5 6 0.

The work done during the term was interesting and much enjoyed. It was stated that four Debates had been held among which was the subject, "Ought the Divisional Court to be removed from Axim"—decided in favour of "No." Five papers had been read and four trial Essays had been given by Candidates prior to their admittance.

The Report closed with an expression of the grateful thanks of the Club to Mr. Justice Purcell for his assistance; and particularly for his regular supply of Newspapers and periodicals; to Mr. Caseley Hayford, for allowing the use of his house and his encouraging addresses whenever he had visited the meetings of the Club, to Mrs. Caseley Hayford for the refreshments she had provided the members from time to time.

Mr. M. F. Ribeiro then addressed the meeting at length and impressed the members the necessity of maintaining unity in the Club, the absence of which was sure to act disastrously on it. Mr. Moses Kinnah who had been the President of a Contemporary Club at Dixcove also delivered a short instructive and interesting address on the utility of a Club of that nature and advised the sturdy application to study, closing with the well-known lines of Longfellow.

"Still achieving, still pursuing
Learn to labour and to wait."

Mr. H. F. Ribeiro, one of the young Barristers in the Country then followed with an envioning speech dilating on the several drawbacks to literary organizations in the Colony and impressed upon the members the necessity of fulfilling their duties to the Club.

At this stage there was an interval of about thirty minutes for refreshments provided by the Club; then followed an address by the President, who after speaking on the usefulness of Literary Clubs as promoting the social religious and political development of a country appealed to the public to render practical aid in a scheme of the Clubs' to establish a decent Library in the town; for, said he, it was in the exploration of Books, for knowledge, that the youths of the Country could discover the characters whose purity of thought would refine theirs; the splendour of whose sacrifices would fire them; the tirelessness of whose devotion would be a spur to theirs; the bitterness of whose failures would warn them; and the splendour of whose triumph would set before them continually a goal of high endeavour, a standard of lofty achievement.

The Ladies present were much benefited by the instructive address of Mrs. Caseley Hayford dwelling on the part that a woman could play in the welfare of the Country by their domestic influences at home; for said she, "The hand that rules the cradle rules the world."

After a vote of thanks to the Ladies had been moved

by Mr. W. R. Phillips and replied to by Mr. J. G. Smith; Mr. Caseley Hayford spoke in his usual brilliant style some encouraging words to the Members of the Club advising them to subdue and overcome all difficulties in their acquisition of knowledge. Mr. R. T. Arthur Jr. next spoke and the proceedings of the much enjoyed meeting terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

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 500 or 400 words in length.

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

A FRIENDLY HINT.

Sekondi, 9th Sept.

Dear Mr. Editor,—I trust you will find space in your valuable paper to insert the following remarks. I cull from your issue of July 8, the following. "The young men and women of West Africa cannot be too grateful to the Rev. Attoh-Ahuma (Principal of the Accra Grammar School) who with his facile pen, and prompted by a desire to create in the young African that patriotism that has as a result devotion to one's country. . . . has given to West Africa and the civilized world a Book entitled "West African Celebrities." A work depicting brilliant lives of Africans &c. &c." This work we are told, is dedicated to our rising generation and the introduction is an everlasting tribute to Africa as a Continent, and the African as a race."

In his Reveille the Sainly Reverend says "To be practical, however, let us ask, how do you employ your spare moments? To what account do you turn the flying minutes of your life? If all we hear represents actual facts, we must grieve over those young men who waste their time and thus transmit to posterity the heritage of broken purposes and aimless lives." Again he says in his business calling, he is under the watchful and discriminating eye of his Employer, and depend upon it, no master could ever think of promoting in any legitimate shape or form, the interests of his servant, or repose confidence in him, if he knew how that servant was continually demeaning himself in the pursuit of wild and senseless courses. For promotion comes neither from the East nor from the West, it comes to stay only with the Deserving, the Honourable, and the Trustworthy. Mr. Attoh-Ahuma could not have preached a better sermon to the sons of Africa. Even if he were occupying the See of Canterbury, I give this quotation or advice of Mr. Attoh Ahuma in full, in order that those readers who have not yet had the chance of seeing the book, could take this friendly hint, for it is quite a high time now, that West Africans realise that all Africans or rather all West Africans are sons of the soil, whether one originates from the Banks of the Gambia or from the wild plains of Sokoto, for it is a regrettable and shameful fact that certain party living in this town who does nothing but finds fault with every body else, for while comrades wind their way to their daily labour, from the mechanic to the labourer, certain parties may be observed serenading every nook every corner, gathering news, and idle tales in order to malign their fellow companion and if this party or parties would only take the friendly hint of Mr. Attoh-Ahuma the young men of West Africa may not have to transmit to posterity the heritage of broken purposes, and aimless lives.

West Africa has produced sages like Sackitte Job Beer Solliman, Philip Quagne, Thomas Jenkins, Paul Cuffe, Ignatius Sancho and many others of nearly 200 Centuries ago, whom we can produce in our own day? True we have our Adjal Crowther, our J. M. Sarbah, Brown and others, but soon these will be passed away and we shall have to look on the long lists of our young men to fill their places, but vainly shall we scan, if our young men only transmit to posterity the heritage of broken purposes and aimless lives, for,

Lives of Great men all remind us
We can make our Lives sublime
And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.

I wish Mr. Attoh-Ahuma every success and sincerely hope his Book will find its way into the hands of every negro, the world over.

Thanking you Mr. Editor, for the space allowed,
Yours faithfully,—WEST AFRICAN NEGRO.

Broomaxie Village, 4th Sept.

Dear Sir,—As a subscriber to your esteemed paper I take the liberty to forward you an account, of an attempt to kill a man and his wife; the nefarious act, was committed about 12, midnight on the 31st. ultimo but fortunately it was frustrated through the ignorance of the perpetrators, who allowed an abnormal length of fuse to the dynamite; the smell of its burning awoke the husband, who immediately woke up his wife, and were both safe outside before the cartridge exploded, damaging the bed and some of the furniture. Some of which however succeeded in reaching the husband, but luckily only left a few scratches. This is the outcome of the laxity of the mining officials who allow such a dangerous and no doubt expensive article to get into the hands of revengeful men.

The Mine Secretary Mr. F. Cogill will do well to take the matter which is of much vital importance into a serious consideration.

I remain, Dear sir,
Yours very truly,—ANTUAM.

SEKONDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Sept. 17.

Rev. H. A. Biggall from England and Rev. S. R. B. Attob-Ahuma from Axim arrived here yesterday by the "Burutu."

During the Koontoom feast a young man in the employ of Messrs. Pickering & Berthoud was stabbed to death on Wednesday night in his sleep. Two relatives of the deceased—the employed watchmen of the house have been accused with being the perpetrators of the crime.

Esie Yarkuah a native of Anamaboe, the wife of Mr. J. A. Noonoo died last Friday. Mr. Noonoo and Yarkuah's families have our sympathies.

TRADE.

This is deplorable at present. The leading firms have been compelled by reason of competition and other adverse circumstances to reduce the prices of their goods to almost 30 per cent their value. The squabble the fraternity commandeered by the *Combined Firms* seems unable to realize the absurdity of having stores in the interior; time and experience have been the only means to bring them round. On the other hand the rush for litigation by the Timber merchants has largely contributed to the precarious slack in the exportation of logs timber on this side. The dormant monopoly claimed by Messrs. McLaren Bros. & Co. formerly, exactly represents the matters of the current disaster as far as they could be traced, that this firm is either plaintiff or defendant in several of the suits pending in the Low and High Courts; if however the tables turn over them, the damages which this firm will sustain will not be easily assessed.

Messrs. J. J. Fischer & Co. are represented in Sekondi by Mr. Russell and the Basel Mission at Kumasi by Mr. Rottman Jr.

JUDICIAL.

The burglars apprehended by Mr. Asserfual and detectives Hammond and Martin have been tried and committed for trial for the coming Assizes.

The Divisional Court Assizes formerly postponed *sine die* have been re-advertised to take place on October 12th at Tarkwa.

The Secretary of the Essuo Timber Co. charged with failing to register his partnership under the Ordinance was last Thursday fined five guineas—5/- being allowed as costs for the prosecution. The excitement shown by of the presiding Magistrate was more than what one could expect to witness in a court of Justice; and when allegations and references were made as to the accused being the *Leader's* correspondent, the sentiments under which the case or the charge was proceeded with, could be taken as evidently prejudicial. The accused however said openly that he was *thankful to learn from the Bench as being the dreaded correspondent eagerly sought for in this country to be persecuted.*

[Any comment on this beats us for the nonce.—Ed.]

THE G. C. O. RAILWAY.

Apropos of our remarks sent leave for native clerks in the above establishment an order has recently been received from the Governor sanctioning the grant of two weeks leave of absence to every clerk doing 12 months service. Mr. Swirk must be as much surprised at this extraordinary event as he claims to be the author of clerk Hammond's dismissal.

A regulation is being passed at the Manager's office which will subject every employee to enlist in the Volunteer Corps. I remember when Governor Hodgson—Major of the Accra Volunteers, passed a similar regulation. What an extraordinary coincidence!

By the way the Railway pays only £5,000 monthly to its credit in the Bank at Sekondi. This money vanishes in the salaries of European staff only. The situation is horrible indeed.

ANAMABOE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Yam Custom of Amonoo V was celebrated on the 29th ultimo and passed off grandly. The Omanhin of Abura, Otu VI was represented by his linguist and a good many men with lots of presents to him. The following Ahinfa were present. Kweku Amonoo, Kwa Inkrooma, Kweku Yaa, Kweku Ampiah of Anamaboe, and Cofi Yammi of Essam, Elmina district, the Omanhin of Kwaman represented by his linguist, the Omanhin of Aesio Yankumasi also by his linguist, and Ohin Kwest Odoom of Small Kormantine in person. The Company from Small Kormantine being Gyasi, attended with their full company dress paraded the town and played before the Omanhin and his people, the whole day. There were numerous presents sent to the Omanhin this time.

Can any of your readers say if the Wesleyan local Preachers are allowed to take part in Ball parties, if so, I shall be much thankful and shall then be able to give out the cause or causes why I am so asking.

Mrs. Ridley has returned to Town after a long visit to Cape Coast.

The s.s. "Bathurst" came in on Sunday the 3rd ult. and I wished the Commissioner had waited to see how packages are forced in to the Warehouse at the Fort, if he had he would have recommended for a warehouse at the beach to be erected for the convenience of the merchants as we have often been asking.

The proceedings of the meeting held at the School room were as follows:—The re-organization of the School Committee and the election of officers and members, when the following officers were elected viz.—Omanhin Amonoo V, Chairman; Rev. J. B. Anaman, Manager; C. G. Coleman, Treasurer; J. Ojoe, Secretary and A. W. Appiah, Auditor. I wish the newly elected officers every success.

Mr. John Acquah (Kwesi Mensah) of Cape Coast was installed as captain of No. 6 Company on the 4th inst. in place of his grand father. The Omanhin received him at his palace on the 12th instant when he swore to him and his Baguafa. The Company has taken him to Cape Coast to swear also to Tufuhin Harrison.

If the Omanhin will cause some detectives to watch at the Chapel street at nights, he may be doing the inhabitants there a good turn, for not a single night, I understand they are not disturbed by a band of young men who often pay them nocturnal visits with songs, and throwing of stones at people's windows and doors and do all sorts of mischief.

The Three Wise Men Society by advice given them by Rev. Father Parker on their approaching him on their being harassed by Rev. Anaman, submitted a report to the Leaders of the Church here to the effect that they would like to have an interview with Rev. Anaman before them. Their request was peremptorily refused. The society is indeed suffering, and I wish the elder people of the town may see to settle matters between them and the Pastor.

Kwesi Gyan the linguist of Ohin Kwa Inkroma committed suicide by shooting himself at Darua, on the 11th inst. The matter was reported to the Omanhin Amonoo V, who ordered the body to be taken to Saltpond for post mortem examination. The body was taken to Saltpond on the 14th inst. in a decomposed state. Your readers will remember that I have often complained against this. Where is the difficulty in having the post mortem examination here?

The present state of affairs in the Wesleyan School is rather discouraging, and I trust the Committee will be able to secure a qualified master for the school.

The distolment of Ohinba Kwesi Sam Amonoo from the stools of Ojoe and Obuasua of Akampadu ought to engage the serious attention of Omanhin Kodwo Imbra to let the family have one put in his place on his late father's stool he being the only surviving son.

The D. C. Mr. Farley passed to Saltpond on the 14th inst. and Lawyer Brown on the 15th.

COMMENDA.

THE PEOPLE AND THE DUTCH FLAG.

(Continued from No. 165 of Aug. 19, 1905.)

The command of the elders was responded to by the five companies with cheerfulness. At the appointed time, every company was equipped and ready for the march. After the usual ceremonies in time of war have been gone through, the order was given and the march to the beach began,—the No. 1 Company leading of course. Previous to this, scouts had been despatched ahead with instructions to report at once if they discovered anything extraordinary in the movements of the troops. The scouts found the Dutch troops on the alert, ready for any emergency. This of course was reported to the companies and the elders who consulted together as to the best course to be adopted in order to meet such a strong force armed with guns of precision. After a hurried deliberation, the companies were disposed of in accordance with the lines of conflict. The Commendas first opened fire. No sooner after the discharge of their volley than the Dutch troops began to reply. This volley was so thick and deafening that it nearly dispersed the Commendas but the captains stimulated and encouraged them and the battle began. It did not last very long when it degenerated into a gorilla warfare, for the Commendas found out that it would be suicidal to withstand such a shower of bullets which gave them no chance to stand. Hunters were at once picked out of the companies and these continued the warfare which the main force began to retire to await results. This course irritated the Dutch troops for they could not see the Commendas in force and all of a sudden they would be fired upon. The battle did not last over an hour and all was over. The Commendas retiring leaving the Dutch in possession of the field. Greatly disappointed at the result of the combat the Dutch pitched their tents in front of late Mr. Cobbah's house facing the bush, posting their field guns in the arched verandah and the officers occupying the

rooms under it. It was after this desultory battle that the Commendas began to realize the actual difficulty into which they had plunged themselves—finding to their cost that to cope with such a united troops of black and white they would be required to utilize all their fighting powers as the enemy was superior to them in every way.

At this stage there was a division in the camp. Some proposed they should accept the Dutch Flag to prevent bloodshed and hardships starting them in the face—others rejected it. No definite conclusion was come to and the matter was left in abeyance. After a time, it was suggested that they should hold on for some time yet and if they found some difficulty to continue the struggle, to send a flag of truce and accept the flag. This suggestion met with the approval of the majority and was unanimously agreed to and the prosecution of operations was continued.

During the discussions on the unfavourable situation, hunters were occupied in watching the movements of the Dutch troops on the beach. Discovering a loop hole in their camping arrangements the hunters took advantage of it and reported the weak point to the Elders for the information of the companies. It appeared, the Dutch instead of clearing away all the thick bush around their camp to prevent the Commendas from hiding in it, neglected this precaution and suffered severely for it. The hunters occasionally came in numbers—ensconced in the bushes—crept stealthily near—took aim—fired on them and bolted away before the Dutch would rouse themselves up the hunters would be some miles away from the scene. This sort of petty warfare continued for sometime until at last finding they were losing men without seeing the enemy preparations were begun for the invasion of Kusi Krome. As the white troops had no idea of the way to the village, the native troops gave all informations while this was going on the Commendas had not the remotest idea the troops would venture to invade Kusi Krome hence they were taken by surprise.

(To be continued.)

REV. ATTOH-AHUMA AT AXIM.

The Rev. Attoh-Ahuma the Principal of the Grammar School, Accra, who arrived here on Tuesday the 12th inst. delivered a most brilliant interesting and instructive Lecture in the School Room on the 14th inst. under the auspices of the Axim Literary Club.

The room was crowded, several ladies and gentlemen and some Europeans attending. The chair was taken by E. C. Elliott Esq. the District Commissioner, supported by Dr. Horn, the Colonial Surgeon. The Lecturer chose for his subject "The Philosophy of Individual Unity" and for nearly an hour captivated the attention of his audience. The object of the Lecture was to define what was Unity and to impress on the people especially the rising generation the advisability of a united action in the development of the country.

Books were delivered to some ladies and gentlemen for collections in aid of Secondary Education.

Mr. Casely Hayford moved the vote of thanks to the chairman, which Mr. M. F. Ribeiro supported. The chairman briefly replied and after a short speech from Mr. S. A. Hughes the meeting was closed.

ADVICE TO THE PUBLIC SHOULD AN OUTBREAK OF YELLOW FEVER OCCUR IN THE COLONY.

1. Yellow Fever is now known to be communicated to human beings by a mosquito, and that mosquito we have in the Gold Coast in large numbers.

There is no other way of propagating the disease.

2. It will be therefore necessary that mosquito-curtains be used more carefully than ever. They should be tucked under the mattress all round, not later than four in the afternoon, and a careful examination made that no mosquitoes are inside.

The smallest holes in them should be sewn up immediately.

If the bed is short, as often happens, a large towel or some such article ought to be hung at each end to protect the hands and feet.

3. Avoid by all means providing any breeding places for mosquitoes in or near your house. For example: bad filters, open or unsecure tanks, open casks, bottles, or any vessels or trunks of trees (pawpaw and bamboo) likely to contain water.

4. Keep your houses scrupulously clean, and have all mosquitoes seen in them killed by your servants. Fumigations with sulphur once a week is recommended.

5. Don't go about in bare feet, wear boots, not shoes, and don't roll up your sleeves. In fact, avoid being bitten by mosquitoes as much as possible, both during the day, and in the evening before going to bed. The mosquito referred to bites at all hours.

6. Should Yellow Fever break out here, the moment a man is noticed to be ill, he should be put in a bed with a properly adjusted mosquito-curtain.

and a Medical man summoned.

7. A person suffering from Yellow Fever can be kept in an ordinary bedroom without danger to others provided he is protected from mosquitoes.

8. It is earnestly impressed on the Public that it is utterly absurd, in our present knowledge of Tropical Disease, to doubt the fact that Malaria and Yellow Fevers are carried from man to man by mosquitoes and by them alone.—*Govt. Gazette.*

IS ANY NATION HONEST

THE POWERS HAVE A CONFIDENTIAL CHAT.

If a visitor should ever come from Mars, he will have an amusing experience in listening to the opinions entertained by the various nations of the earth with regard to one another.

Suppose he were to attend a State ball, for instance, as he passed through the hands of the different ambassadors he would hear something to this effect—that is, if ambassadors speak like the man in the street:

JAPAN: "Do you see that man by the window, with the eye-glass? That's Russia. Rather mild-looking, but a fearful robber! He has nearly 9,000,000 square miles of territory of his own. That doesn't satisfy him. Some time ago he grabbed Bokhara and Khiva—almost as large as Great Britain. Then he seized Manchuria, and was on the point of stealing Korea, when I put an end to his game."

ENGLAND: "He would seize the whole world if he could—a really dangerous criminal."

ROMANIA: "Take my arm. I want to point out to you our most noted pirate—the terror of all nations. There he is with his thumbs in his arm holes. His name is England. For the past two hundred years he has been stealing, right, centre, and left. There is scarcely a spot on the globe that is safe from this villain's depredations. At present his empire amounts to 11,391,000 square miles—all stolen property, except his own little island of 121,000 miles. And even half of that—Scotland and Ireland—is the proceeds of robbery."

FRANCE: "I saw you talking to Japan just now. Do you know what he is—the most youthful of the world's highwaymen? He commenced in 1895 by robbing China of Formosa—viz., 13, 458 square miles. But he has now stolen Korea, 82, 000 square miles, and very likely he will steal Manchuria. There's Germany going up to speak to him—another robber! He stole Alsace and Lorraine from me. He has robbed the native Africans of 931,000 square miles. In Asia and the Pacific he has stolen 96,000 miles of land. They say his next haul will be Holland. He is rather young—35 years old—to be such a robber. By the time he reaches my age he will, if he can, be the greatest thief in the world!"

GERMANY: "Ah, you were talking to France—a very dangerous person; one of our champion highwaymen! France has been stealing land ever since she could crawl. Most of it has been taken from her, no doubt. I myself took Alsace and Lorraine, which she had stolen from me. But she is consoling herself by fresh robberies. She stole Algeria and Tunis, and a further vast extent of African territory—3,722,000 square miles in all. In Asia she has stolen Cochin China, Annam, and other places, to the extent of 256,000 miles. In America, also, she has committed great robberies, but only a small amount remains in her hands. That pirate, England, relieved her of most of her booty. Still, she retains over 4,000,000 square miles of stolen property, and now she is sneaking about Morocco."

AUSTRIA: "Let me warn you. Those people you were speaking with are very undesirable acquaintances—all robbers and desperadoes! And here is another coming towards us—Italy. Italy is union of ancient freebooters, and if she had the power she would outdo them all. As it is, she has been able to steal only about 168,000 square miles in Africa."

ITALY: "What did that hoary old robber say to you? He is now decrepit, but at one time he was the great robber of Southern Europe!"

TURKEY: "May I introduce myself? I'm Turkey. Rather queer folk those others. Robbers every one! That Spain, the pirate of all the seas at one time. She has only 80,000 miles left out of many millions. England stole many of her possessions, and the United States—the latest recruit of the highwaymen—relieved her of the rest. There's Portugal—that dark man—another noted freebooter. He still holds on to 802,952 miles of booty, principally in Africa. Very likely England or Germany will soon knock him on the head. Those three men at the end—Holland, Denmark, and Belgium—look honest enough. They are thieves, every one! Denmark was a merciless pirate and highwayman long ago. He hasn't much left—only 86,634 square miles. Holland stole countless miles of land, and she still holds on to 785,000 of them. That's Greece. He was a famous robber long ago. I alluded to the United States. I think he is the coming pirate. He stole Texas from Mexico, the

Philippines, Cuba, and Porto Rico from Spain, Hawaii, and some other places."

VISITOR FROM MARS: "Those Christians then, are they all robbers?"

TURKEY: "Every one. I am in continual dread among them. Only fear of one another prevents them from waylaying me."

VISITOR: "And yourself?"

TURKEY: "Oh, I never steal."

UNITED STATES: "May I have a word with you, stranger? If you've got anything that can be stolen, you had better hold it tight. This earth of ours is a queer place. Not an honest man in it but myself. The story of this globe is one long series of robberies. And the curious thing [is] that no country will admit that itself is a robber."

VISITOR: "Not even you?"

UNITED STATES: "Well I've taken a little territory in the interests of liberty. But robbery I leave to Europe."

ENGLAND: "Ah, you've made the round of the nations. A nice set of robbers—eh? And if it weren't for the protection of me and my fleet, they'd steal every square foot of the globe. By the way, if Mars would like to come under the British flag as a Crown Colony, or, say, a Protectorate, I should be most happy."

VISITOR: "No thanks!"—*Austrocs.*

THE COLLEGE CORRESPONDENCE OF

SAMUEL

EN ROUTE.

IV.

8th October, 1886.

My Dear Father,—First of all accept my heartfelt thanks for your most welcome favour which duly reached me week before the last; also for the accompanying copy of the "Gold Coast Echo" newspaper the contents of which need not say afforded us much pleasure for it was the happy means of conveying to us a mine of information which only a public journal could give. Prince Brew of Dunquah, the brilliant editor must make up his mind to die in the last ditch: he has as yet a giant task before him. The people may droe their weird as the Scotch say but our rules will only be sowing the dragon's teeth for future destruction: there is no advantage in playing with edged tools still the Prince should not throw up the sponge for:

Beneath the rule of men entirely great
The pen is mightier than the sword.

(Bulwer Lytton.)

It is much to be regretted that our Colony is a sealed book in this country as far as we can gather. The questions with which we are pried daily with reference to its geography and history betray an ignorance which beggars description. It is no wonder that the voice of the Reformer in regard to West African affairs, is that of the charmer to which no one would give ear charming never so wisely. He is but

An infant crying in the night;
An infant crying for the light

And with no language but a cry.—(Tennyson)

It is my intention to make you at home in our domestic economy and keep you abreast of our affairs from time to time by a faithful record of work facts and incidents.

I must admit that rubbing shoulders with the men here one realises how very sadly his education has been neglected. However much one may be bred and taught he stands confessed as a green horn in the first blush of his career in College. He must of force be taken in hand and helped to unlearn a great many things. The process though sharp is swift for those who keep their weather eye open. One has to give and take in good parts. In an incredibly short time knobs and excrescences are knocked off and the verdant student blossoms out into a new creation. Already there is a noticeable change in us all; but we have had to pay our footing.

To illustrate, here is something that may amuse you:

Music on the Poker. Two or three evenings after our arrival five freshmen including Penny and myself were invited to the Den of a senior student ostensibly for a chat. This was a chance to fraternize of which we hastily availed ourselves. In the course of a somewhat desultory conversation one of the senior men, who had been likewise invited, suddenly said: look here Solomon if you were to play any tune no matter which on the poker I could guess at once the name of it. Now Samuel Rogers has said:

The soul of music slumbers in the shell,
Till waked and kindled by the master's spell
And feeling hearts touched them but rightly pour
A thousand melodies unheard before;

(Human Life.)

Again in a passage in the two Gentlemen of Verona Shakespeare has written of one who:

Makes sweet music with th' enamel'd stones,
Giving a gentle kiss to every edge
He overtaketh in his pilgrimage.

I knew then of music in shells and stones: in childhood's days I recollected Mr. Adam Bissoe teaching the school children at Winesbush a song he had learnt from his school master Mr. Dove Decker of Sierra Leone beginning

Music in the valley
Music on the hill &c. &c.

But music in the poker I had never heard! I expressed my doubts therefore and to convince my persecutor of his ignorance the poker and tongs exchanged hands at once. I started St. Bees on the instrument—of course the hymn was running through my own mind in perfect unison with the tinkling monotonous notes evoked from the soul of the iron rod and large nippers. As if inspired one of the fellows cried, I know what it is old man I am sure it's Falcon! No no, I said with huge merriment utterly convulsed with laughter. Try again I added. The next brother innocently suggested Rockingham. Failed I shouted triumphantly. All unconscious the initiates were laughing in their sleeves all the while. At last our host said Honour, Bright, old chap, I can tell you if you try once more. I repeated the performance with more vigour and eclat than before. Suddenly he quietly asked, do you know what you have been doing all this time? You have been playing the fool! Tableau! We—the freshmen—retreated bodily in perfect order though not

without shame and made for Seven Dials—one of the corridors—where in turn we successfully operated upon two men in our year and whom we left to revel in a fool's paradise. Before the term is over every new comer will have known what's what not only in this but in an infinite variety of ways.

At supper the next evening we heard ominous whisperings of Seats! Seats! Going the round of the dining hall; when it came to my turn, with the dew of the previous evening's performance fresh on me I begged to be enlightened on the subject before committing myself. Just say Seats! There's a good fellow! Accordingly I passed it on to Penny who nothing loth shouted seats to the man on his left. But that was not intended for a joke. It was the signal for the men to keep their seats after the Governor and tutors had retired. The College chairman invariably issues this order when he has something to lay before the students or when there is an occasion for a complaint as to the quality of food supplied &c. to be lodged with the Governor. Each year has its own chairman and secretary besides the College chairman called Joseph H. Bateson that of the freshmen is J. Scholefield Morris. There are other minor officers such as the Moral Curator, the Auctioneer, and the College constable. The chief if not the sole qualification of the last functionary appears to consist in the magnitude of his length and breadth. At the General Election I was unanimously appointed Assistant constable, my chief being Brother William Saywell, a typical Bobby of the London Metropolitan brand. The office is by no means a sinecure. Among other things it is our duty to preserve the peace and harmony of the College and armed with a truncheon we often have to accelerate the flagging steps of certain bookworms to College meetings in the orthodox style.

These by-plays and humours notwithstanding, what a bright manly cheerful thing the christianity of the College is. It is like the religion of the Mohammedan and the pagan in this respect—she does not blush nor veil her sacred fires. YOUNG has it that a christian is the highest style of man. HARE in his *Gueces* at Truth speaks of him as God Almighty's gentleman—and one comes very near to the definition in this place. There is no humbug about the men no long faces, no skyward glances nor gloomy aspects: they do not tolerate platitudes of any sort nor have they any patience with "pomp without force. . . the nodosities of the oak without its strength. . . the contortions of the Sibyl without the inspiration." Religion not religiosity, sanctity but no sanctimonious oiliness—prevails everywhere. Optimism is racy of the soil and enthusiasm is ever at white heat. The College is not a cloister nor a convent; it is to us a dim miniature of the garden city of the King—a kind of a sanctified fiddler's green full of happiness and youthful jollity:

And, oh! If there be an Elysium on earth
It is this, it is this.—(Moore.)

I am seriously of opinion that religion in Africa is far too fearsome a thing to draw the young as with a magnet. There is a holy joy in living and here one readily sets his seal to that doctrine for one cannot help feeling that after all life is worth living.

At one time we are told the College was opened to foreign missionaries only; now, both Home and Foreign men hob and rob together and the former often find it said that they are not immune against the mystic influences that pervade the atmosphere of the College and quite as often they plead to be drafted to the Foreign Mission branch.

A short while ago the Religious Tract Society sent a case of useful books about 400 in number to be presented to the freshmen and 10 of them fell to my share. Richmond receives an influx of visitors mostly pleasure seekers from London and other centres on Sundays. As a rule those of the men who take no appointments hold open-air services on the Terrace close by. I took part in these exercises three Sundays ago and I was partly glad and partly mused to find so many people listening in utter amazement to one of the coloured gentlemen up at the Coll. Sunday before last I preached at Effingham about twenty miles distant. After changing three different trains I had still four miles to do on "Sharka Pony" to get to the village. I was positively nonplussed for it was a dark and careless night and I knew no more of the road than the man in the moon. But as soon as I essayed to move on however—say ten yards off the station I espied in the gloom ahead a gentleman evidently going the same direction. On accosting him I was fortunate to learn that he was going to the same village. He was not quite a stranger to the neighbourhood he explained but on former occasions he had gone by a different route. I resigned myself of course into his hands but much to my mortification he turned out to be a case of the blind leading the blind: for we wandered a mile out of the beating track and by the time I reached my destination I was as dog-tired as I could possibly be. The true British welcome given me more than counterbalanced the mere fatigue of the body. My host was Mr. John West—a grocer an ideal Methodist of the Methodists. After the usual salutations, he bundled me off to the Chapel where Mrs. West, daughter and two sons assisted by a bevy of ladies were busily engaged in decorating the sanctuary with fruits and flowers for the Harvest Thanks-giving services of the morrow. I delivered my maiden sermon from Pa. 34. 3 at 11 o'clock a.m. before an English congregation and I had a very good time. I addressed the children in the afternoon and occupied the pulpit again at 6 p.m. when the Church was crammed to the ceiling. The sea of upturned faces all white and pale did not make the least prey on my nerves.

We went to Great Queen Street Chapel last night in hopes of seeing Mr. Coppin, but he did not turn up. Mr. Halligey as well as Mr. Booth gave splendid speeches which are reported in the "Recorder" I am sending herewith. There are many things to write about but unfortunately I have other fish to fry. This is not our mail day; the Rev. Willington who is about to be "rolled off" presently is anxious that we should send a word through him to our friends and accordingly we have beguiled an hour in compliance with his request. He goes out as Principal of the Lagos High School under the chairmanship of the Rev. Halligey. The other minister—Mr. Sutchiffe we know very well. The bell is just gone and I must close. Kindly ask Mr. Cannell to explain the expression "rolled off."

With warmest greetings to all.

Yours affectionately,—SAMUEL.

The Gold Coast Leader.

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Including postage 4d.

THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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Assisted by Mr. W. Jabes Halm and others.

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At the Junior	2/6 " 3/4 "
At the Senior	5/- " 7/- "

All the above fees are payable in advance. One month's notice is required before the removal of a pupil.

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Arrangements are being made for a Boarding Department. Friends abroad wishing to send their children will communicate with the Secretary of the School (Mr. Halm.)

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NOTICE.

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By the

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(D. Marples & Co. 280 pages. 3/6)

4/- Post Free.

Orders received by Mr. H. Solomon-Ahuma, Jackson Street, Cape Coast Castle.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Acting Attorney-General (the Hon. J. P. Foster) has been in Town since last week.

The action which the Incumbents took against the Government on the building at the Parade Ground, they being the owners thereof, came on for hearing last Tuesday. It has been referred to the Appeal Court.

A deputation from Axim on the Town Councils Ordinance consisting of Casely Hayford Esq. B.L., Mr. Abadoo and the Omanbin's Case Bearer arrived here by the Jeddah last Sunday morning. Welcome.

The Hon. Mr. Sarbah's views on the Ordinance, it is said written for an English contemporary, a copy of which also has been sent to the Acting Governor, was read at the Omanbin's by the Aborigines Society at his request last Saturday.

Some of the English Templars here attended a lodge meeting at Elmina last Saturday.

We understand Mr. Ffoulkes is not going on his leave of absence as appeared in a previous issue till November next.

A Committee on the Annual School Exhibitions met on the Provincial Commissioner's request last Wednesday at the D. C.'s Court.

The Zion Church School Building is progressing splendidly.

The Deputation from Axim met with the Omanbin, the Aborigines Society and the Town Council at Aequal's Hotel last Friday.

The Rev. Attoh-Abuma returned to Town by the Ashanti last and gave his lecture in the vernacular the next day. Mr. Casely Hayford presided.

"Sift the action to the word, the word to the action, with this special observation that you overstep not the modesty of Nature"—Shakespeare.

"Marriage is not only a civil contract, but a pack of mutual love and amity between two sincere friends who, mutually attracted to each other, resolve to live together so long as that friendship continues and that love is felt. After that it is only a mockery and a profligation of the boldest associations. When love is dead, respect quietly expires."—George Meredith.

AXIM

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

By the s.s. "Baruta" last Saturday the 16th inst. Rev. Attoh-Abuma left for Kumasi via Sekondi.

As previously announced the Harvest Festival came off last Sunday the 17th inst. The Church was tastefully decorated, and on the whole the occasion was a perfect success.

The September Assize which was postponed from the 11th inst. began on the 18th inst. His Honour Mr. Justice Percell presided. Anoh pleaded guilty but was returned till Thursday to give him an opportunity of considering how to refund the sum of £15 embezzled. When re-arraigned on Thursday he was sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment hard labour. The case of R. E. Aggrey who was charged with omitting to make certain entries in his Sale Book and making false publication therein with intent to defraud the firm was very exciting. After a trial of 3 days two of the Assessors found him guilty the third dissenting on the ground that although he had omitted to make the entries, there was no criminal intent since an account of the articles in question appeared in a "Debtors Book" as given in credit. The Judge agreed with the two Assessors and sentenced him to 3 years with hard labour. Brown, a newly discharged convict was sentenced to five years penal servitude for stealing the sum of £86 at Beyin.

One of the robbers who recently committed burglary in Lower Town and two others from Hill Assize were sentenced to five years each.

His Honour the Judge before the trial of Cases gave an elaborate and well written Judgment in favour of the Omanbin of Axim in the case instituted by him against the Oman of Ekyandea for trespass. The boundary in question was found to belong to Axim and the Defendant was mulcted in damages to the amount of £20 with costs.

DIKCOVE

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

16 Sept.
Permission having been granted to Chief Dakyie and Agyiman, the Koooom has been celebrated this season with much eclat, we hope the two Firms in town, have, in consequence, been greatly benefited, as was suggested in just issue of 29th July last; this should be a step to making peace between the chiefs.

We understand the Literary Club of Axim has had its first half-yearly anniversary, we congratulate the club for the success it has achieved, we wish to hear something of Dikcove Literary Club too—and we hope all the gentlemen who were asked to become patrons will do so for the good of the town only.

KUMASI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

16 Sept.
The chiefs who were imprisoned on account of Quarantoo Tui were released on the 14th inst. Chief Kofa being one. At 5 p.m. on the same day, the whole of his subjects with all the Kumasi chiefs including Quarantoo Tui himself, met with the Chief Commissioner, Capt. Armitage and Capt. Pampin Greens to decide the case on Quarantoo Tui's disavowment. At the commencement Quarantoo Tui made the following statements:—(1) That all the chiefs in

town hate him because they say he is the eye of the Government. (3) That all the chiefs met sometime in Chief Fympon's house and decided to move against the Government in case of any interference with their internal affairs. (3) That at another meeting at the same place all the chiefs decided to take the oath, that because the Government are forcing on the people of Cape Coast the Town Councils Ordinance something should be done to protect themselves against it. (4) That he therefore strongly protested against such steps being taken at all. But Chief Kofi Sanchira said if they did not see and destool him he would tell their secrets to the Government. By this of course they consorted with his subjects to destool him. (5) All the charges brought against him were cooked up. After these false statements, Chiefs Kofi Sanchira and Fympon got up to explain themselves but the Chief Commissioner was not prepared to listen to them, he simply advised the whole of them to go home until he sent for them again, the stools being still with the Government.

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The case of McLaren Bros. & Co. v. Sam E. Ghan—an action for £50 damages for breach of contract created some commotion in court last Tuesday morning. The bench and bar could not agree on one point of law, and the contention to overrule each other's argument gave way to an inexpressible excitement resulting in the adjournment of the case sine die.

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ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Siester John of the Roman Catholic Mission died on the morning of the 11th inst. after a few days illness. Her remains were interred in the old Dutch Cemetery, in the evening of the same day.

We regret to have to record the death which took place on the 23rd inst. of Mrs. Mary Parnell wife of the late Mr. J. W. Parnell of this place who recently died at Calabar, Southern Nigeria. She was buried in the old Dutch Cemetery.

It would appear that the old Dutch Cemetery which was closed 3 years ago has now been re-opened for burials. When such persons of the brand of Mrs. Anna Bartels, Mrs. Sophia Hutchison and

Mrs. Sapara Williams were even shut out from the place on the ground that there is no more room available, one feels curious to know what influence prevailed upon the responsible authorities to re-establish its use in the instances above reported. Perhaps Dr. Claridge has not cared to find out why the late Dr. James Stalker, and the late District Commissioner Vernon were buried at Newman's Hill and not in the old Dutch Cemetery.

It should be borne in mind that the old Dutch Cemetery will see its centenary next year, having been built in 1806. Common sense even ought to teach one that the place is crowded up. Assuming that on the average 20 burials had taken place there yearly during the past 25 years which would give a total of 1,900, and the ground is only 100 ft. square one could simply arrive at a conclusion that the very act of forcing burials into it is sacrilegious in every sense of the word. And considering that in former times people of means were buried with nearly half of their wealth of gold ornaments &c., certain cases have happened lately when on digging a new grave at a spot where there had been a previous interment, the grave diggers have picked up some trinkets &c. which becomes their "lucky find." Some "standing orders" should be made which would entirely stamp out this nuisance, as the affair has given birth to much comment by the people, who, however do not regard it with any feelings of envy but merely contend that all persons should be treated alike according to the axiom of equality, irrespective of creed or colour.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Town Councils Ordinance it is clear, seeks to raise funds for the purpose of cleaning the Towns and carrying out some works which are considered to be somewhat expensive for the Revenue to undertake. This, according to Governor Rodger is the principle laid down by the Secretary of State for all the "Colonies." No pains however is taken to show how far this Protectorate enjoys the advantages and privileges which those Colonies which are guided by this principle enjoy, as to their control over their Revenue or to what extent they are represented on their Legislature.

It is well known here and at Downing Street, that we cannot be classed in the same category with these Colonies, ours is peculiar; that the country is already greatly overtaxed; that as a West African Colony, we have by far more officials with good, decent salaries, apart from other emoluments which each in his own way is made to enjoy; and that proper care taken with the Revenue there will be sufficient funds on hand to do any work which may be considered necessary to be done. Other Colonies with "slender purse" are far ahead us in sanitary and other improvements. This cannot be denied in even official circles.

The people too are fully acquainted with all these facts, if so, there is nothing surprising then for them to take the stand they have taken on the new taxation that is to be imposed on them by the Ordinance. We repeat, that there is sufficient funds in the Protectorate to do any thing and any work, if proper economy were shown in the expenditure. Instances are not wanting to show up the recklessness and extravagance shown in the management of the Revenue, and as a most recent one, we give you the Railway Department, but who cares? The people have only got to pay and pay, and then to be subjected to all sorts of indignities to boot. Is it not an open secret that some inspections are taken to bring in some T. A's., that some Heads of Departments take fine care to send their favourites out of their stations presumably to do this and that thing, if only to enjoy some duty allowances and T. A's.

These are facts which go to show that even the officials themselves know that they are simply living on the fat of the land, and the poor "nigger" must sweat for it. It may be admitted that these are delicate matters, and those into whose pockets these moneys find their way must view their disclosure in other than the right spirit, but as they know how the British taxpayer may take in all this, though enjoying them, and although this is done to the negro, if all is not lost, surely the true British spirit in them will resent these things, and enlist on the quiet their sympathies for those whom the Crown Colony Policy has saddled with such a burden. Must the goose that lay the golden egg be killed? Remember the fable and its moral. Where is the MAN—Black or white or yellow—on this coast, who seeing the army of officials we have, and the thousands and thousands of pounds squandered every year, with the amount of work all these yield for the country by way of improvements &c. will not consider the complaint of the people, a just one? If he happened to be a true ENGLISHMAN, or one who has imbibed the principles of the English Constitution, he would.

Prince Brew of Dunkwa sends in this week a cor-

respondence on the sale of the Omani of Sekondi's Palace which appears in another column and which may be read with much interest. This is what we are put to, in some parts of Greater Britain where all is serene with the *s. s. Officialism*.

Complaints still come in with the Court Interpretation at Salt Pond which we hope the Chief Registrar with the D. C.'s assistance will see to put right. From investigation we find the present interpreter is a clerk recently transferred from the D. C.'s office here, to that there; the work he is doing therefore is not officially his, and although he gives the best interpretation he can, and to some extent gives satisfaction the "impediment in his speech" gives some trouble. What is the Registrar whose work it is, doing? From his name we gather he is not a native of the Central Province—AZU we believe he is called, and perhaps he is excused from doing his work on that ground. The Chief Registrar may be said to be making these appointments, but it is plain, he must be greatly assisted in choosing men for the different places, by the permanent staff about him, with whom therefore the fault of our having so many bad interpretations must greatly lie. Besides Salt Pond, other places have their complaints. Peoples' cases are being ruined, and so the question must have some attention at the proper quarters.

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-plame 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, SEPT. 30, 1905.

OUR DESTINY—WHAT IS IT TO BE?

UNTIL we who make so much of our being natives of the soil, or of West Africa, take matters in connection with our country in a far more serious, and disinterested way, a peep into the internal affairs of the future thereof, its prospects and destiny, cannot augur good things to him who would view them in the light of present-day affairs. Though one may be charged with holding pessimistic views in so saying, yet we venture to think, that despite our so-called advantages, the strides—the rapid strides we are supposed to have made in the path of civilization (for we must be made to build our Rome in a day), the progress said to be witnessed on all hand, the incalculable good said to have accrued to us of these days from our having come in contact with the foreigner with his different shades of opinion or view in matters moral, social, religious, commercial and political, we as a country, AND AS A RACE, are on the down-grade, going from bad to worse, possibly with the ultimate result of the extinction of the Race. Is this to be taken as putting the matter too strongly? Then look around you with an observant eye. Who can deny the fact, that all that can be done, as it were to kill our national instincts, our racial existence, the manhood so to speak, in us as a People is being systematically, (consciously or unconsciously) done, and in the face of this, what is the native doing?

And what can he do, you say? This much. He must learn all that there is to be learned out of his foreign brother, and turn it to good account for the Race. He must in all his "getting" remain the African, and as an African, no matter how far he may have gone a-Europeanizing, he must respect and give due regard to his native customs and manners, uprooting the weeds in them, if there be any such, improving upon those that need to be improved upon, in a word, never at any time or on any occasion feeling ashamed of his Race, however high he may rise in the scale of Western civilization. Let him learn from the foreigner his notions, his ideas of unity in matters political, his unselfishness and disinterestedness in the cause of his race and country which are fast waning amongst us who have come in contact with him for some centuries now, his self-denial in the cause of, and devotion to, his country. If

those who find themselves on the political and social stages of the country can do this, and thus play their parts not to end with them, but to extend to future generations one may entertain the hopes of a prosperous future for the country. What are our young people doing by way of preparing themselves to play their parts on the country's stage when their turn comes, as sure it must? How are they being prepared? To what extent do they show their interest in the affairs of the country? And our Boys and Girls, the future makers of the country, how are they being trained; it is not too much to say, that if you wish to know what it will be with this country in days to come, see the youths of the day. For this, there are some who are held responsible. If the social, moral and physical training of the youths of to-day be not taken in hand properly, or proceeded with on the proper lines then our prospects as a race must be gloomy or disheartening. To be true and honest to themselves, loyal to the Fatherland and the Throne which protects us now, must form an important part, in their training.

But if one must be so pessimistic in thus viewing things as to the future of the country, looked at in the light of our present day affairs he may yet be optimistic to find in all that has transpired and is transpiring with us, a rude awakening of the people to do their duty to themselves and country. We leave the reader here.

A CONCLAVE OF BIRDS.

(BY A BANKER.)

It is generally supposed that man only possesses the gift of speech; this supposition, however, must apparently be accepted in only limited sense, for there can be no question that some animals and birds have the faculty of communicating intelligibly with each other; though probably in such a rudimentary degree that perhaps the term speech is a misnomer. Amongst the most remarkable evidence of this is the court of justice held by rooks which may occasionally be witnessed. (The writer can bear testimony to the first stage of these extraordinary sessions, which he witnessed from a train, though unfortunately he did not see its strange, and perhaps tragic, termination). A large flock of several hundred rooks forms a great circle two or three deep, almost perfect in shape, and perhaps about three hundred feet in circumference. In the centre of the circle stand a solitary rook, attended by a guard—this latter, however, the writer does not remember seeing—appearing in an abjectly cowed and frightened condition. The whole of the birds encircling the wretched, motionless culprit were in a most excited state, loudly cawing in an infuriate, angry manner, violently flapping their wings as if in a paroxysm of wrath and fury, and from time to time raising their beaks upward, though they all maintained their position in the ring, and made no attempt to interfere with the miserable prisoner.

Probably the accusing bird had recounted the offence committed against it—perhaps the appropriation of the nest occupied by it and its mate for years, perhaps an insult offered to her (for these birds are monogamous, and, it is believed, keep to the same mate for life), or perhaps some more serious offence committed against it or against the community. And then the angry discussion ensues, and the culprit is either condemned to death, in which case delegated executioners peck it to pieces; or it is perhaps punished in a more lenient fashion and then allowed its liberty.

Now all this excited and angry scene must surely indicate that the birds possess some means of communicating their ideas to each other, and that all that violent cawing cannot be mere unintelligible jargon.

The limits of space forbid any reference to other strange evidences that many other members of the animal world—birds, animals, even, strange thought, perhaps also fishes, possess that power. Be that however as it may, this we know—that we are of more value than many sparrows; of such inestimable value in the sight of the Eternal that He gave His Son to die for us, and by so doing, receiving the punishment due to us for our misdeeds. But those who refuse to come to Him will assuredly be shut out from the inheritance of glory so dearly purchased for them.

"GLIMPSES OF THE AGES."

This is a work just published by John Long of London the well known publisher, and the author is Theo. E. Samuel Scholes, M.D. &c. The full title for the book is, "Glimpses of the Ages, or the 'Superior' and 'Inferior' Races so-called, Discussed

in the Light of Science and History." From what we have seen of it, we can only say, that it is a work that is sure to command the attention of the thinking world, and make a mark of its own. In this first volume the author has in a lucid style, and a display of a logical acumen of uncommon order simply exhausted the subject which he intended this first volume to deal upon and that is its "physical and mental aspects." The second volume is to take up the "moral aspects." The object of both volumes is to review the arguments adduced in support of the alleged superiority of the white race, and the alleged inferiority of the coloured races. This review is to show, "the utter baselessness of the conclusions, that the white race is superior to the coloured races, and that the coloured races are inferior to the white race. And since the arguments supporting these groundless conclusions are tenaciously held, and eagerly followed by the majority of Christendom, as if valid, since also in their application they embrace a wide field, as well as represent those arguments by which commerce, religion, politics &c. are in practice largely governed, then the conclusion is surely correct, that of the backward oscillation of the world, and the calamities concomitant therewith, lack of truth is primarily the cause." A most timely work which we hope will have a wide circulation amongst all who truly desire to approach this much vexed question scientifically and historically. No lover of our Race should be without it. It is replete with facts, and even the rankest negrophobist may read it to some advantage.

The published price is 12/- net.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON AFRICA, (WESTERN COAST,) 1865.

Mr. Andrew Swansy continues.

4669. Were most or all of those protected tribes under the sovereignty of Ashantee originally?—No.

4670. The Fantees were, I believe?—Not altogether; that is a great mistake. The King of Ashantee gradually conquered many of the tribes, and about the year 1820 he had the supreme control of the coast, with the exception of the Fantee Tribes.

4671. What is your opinion with regard to the actual terms of the treaties between the British and the protected territories, with respect to our duties?—My impression is that, we have no right, and I do not think that we are expected, to fight solely for them; the expression used by the natives to me was, "If you hold the flag, we will fight;" that was the idea of the treaty in my time.

4672. What were the causes which led to the King of Ashantee's invasion from 1853 to 1864?—In 1853, one of the great Causes of the invasion was the discontent of the chiefs from the manner in which they were disregarded, as they are now, I believe. Cheboo was the chief of Assin, and he sent a message to the King of Ashantee, inviting him, and promising him that he would take back his tribe to become again tributary if the king would assist him. I believe that was from the manner in which Cheboo had been treated. I believe that the great mistake usually made by the governors has been in ignoring the power and dignity of the native chiefs. I do not know whether that has been from the governors themselves or not, but it has been practically so.

4677. Will you now state to the Committee what is your commercial connection with the Gold Coast?—I have factories along the whole coast, establishments of my own; I have agents there, and I ship goods from England to them, and they dispose of those goods for me.

4702. Is it your opinion that the governor himself might exercise more judicial authority than he does?—He should be the principal judicial authority everywhere, except, perhaps, at Sierra Leone.

4703. But is it not the case that the governors are often men not professionally acquainted with law?—So much the better, I think.

4704. You think that the law should not be strictly according to statute, but the common sense of the judge?—Yes, with a certain knowledge of the native customs and habits.

4706. Are you of opinion that he could be made to assist the Chief in his administration of the law?—Quite so.

4707. What is your opinion with regard to the Queen's Advocate's office?—My opinion is that it is wholly unnecessary and injurious, because I think a native cannot understand that any man should talk against him, who has no interest in the case before the court; it is a very different settlement from Sierra Leone; they do not understand the system of practice at the bar; and as for protecting the Queen's interest, there is no necessity for it.

4722. Lord Stanley.] I think I understood you to say that the British Protectorate was a benefit to the natives on the Gold Coast, but I did not hear you say that it was of any benefit to this

Country?—I am not aware that it is of any particular benefit to this country, except that it secures the commerce of the country.

4731. Will you explain to the committee the plan which you would propose for that purpose?—

Principally by allowing the protected native chiefs to exercise their own rights of jurisdiction in their own districts, and by keeping them united, to secure them against anything like a further attempt on the part of the king of Ashantee to again trouble the peace of the coast: it has been principally his knowledge of the want of unanimity among the protected tribes, that has led him to make those attempts.

4732. You think that too much power has been taken from the chiefs, and that our interference has been carried too far?—I do.

4733. Do you think that if they were left more alone, they would be less likely to quarrel?—Yes; but still they should be to some extent under the advice or control of the British Government.

4734. You mean that a certain amount of protection is good to prevent the chiefs quarrelling, but that if it is carried a little further, it leads to their being disunited?—I mean that interference with their rights has led to discontent on their part, and the king of Ashantee being aware of this fact, has taken the opportunity of attacking them.

4737. And it does not appear to you that the protected people are more contented than the chiefs?—No, I presume they are not more contented.

4741. Do you think it possible for an educated Englishman and a savage African chief to sit as judges with a co-ordinate authority?—Yes, I do, they are certainly illiterate, but not barbarous altogether. I have had an opportunity of sitting with them, and I never had a difficulty; of course the natural influence of the educated European is predominant, and generally decides the cause, but he should recognize their rights.

4761. So far as you know, do they show good sense in judging the cases that come before them?—They have done so; I scarcely ever had to reverse the decision of a native chief.

4763. Are they amenable to our Government; are they inclined to take advice?—Yes, very much so; not only to the Government, but to any Europeans.

4813. Had you ever any interest in the coffee plantation on the Gold Coast?—No; my brother James had.

4814. Did it succeed?—Up to a certain point it did.

4815. What was the cause of the failure?—The pawn system existed some years ago, and still exists. When my brother was there, from 1837 to 1840, they prepared pawning themselves or members of their family to him, and the consequence was that he was able to ensure a certain amount of steady labour. The labourers were well treated and very happy. A Commissioner was sent out in 1841 (Dr. Madden), and he reported on that system as being too near to the slave trade to be allowed to remain. Notice was given on the coast, and then many of those pawns would not work steadily, and left my brother, although they were to receive daily wages. The consequence was that the coffee plantation got out of cultivation, and is now totally abandoned.

4832. So that physically and morally your knowledge of the negro would not induce you to say, that he was an inferior animal altogether to the white man?—I do not like to answer that question; I have found negroes who have certainly shown intelligence equal to that of Europeans, if not superior.

4853. So that if efforts are made to educate them, you do not think that it is useless?—No, certainly not; I do not think it can be injurious.

4857. Chichester Fortescue.] Did I understand you to say that practically we had destroyed the authority of the various chiefs, within the protected territory?—That was my impression.

SCRUTINEER.

IS THE EDUCATED NATIVE DISLOYAL?

There are fewer distressing incidents in the vicissitudes of life than to be under the suspense of a wrong charge, which seemingly is the experience of the educated community in West Africa. From some source unfathomable to us the feeling spreads out in administrative circles that the influence of many of the educated natives in British West Africa is being used in a sense politically hostile to the British connection, and unfortunately some English friends of ours who have manifested an appreciable interest in us appear to be drifted away with that tide of opinion. Words truly fail us to contradict this new-fangled charge. Our connection with Great Britain extends to nearly three centuries and although we cannot help repeating ourselves that our position has been only a little less in temper than of the Israelites in bondage yet all along we have betrayed no inclination, nor could there be any sensible reason on our part to

town hate him because they say he is the eye of the Government. (3) That all the chiefs met sometime in Chief Fympon's house and decided to move against the Government in case of any interference with their internal affairs. (3) That at another meeting at the same place all the chiefs decided to take the oath, that because the Government are forcing on the people of Cape Coast the Town Councils Ordinance something should be done to protect themselves against it. (4) That he therefore strongly protested against such steps being taken at all. But Chief Kofi Sanchira said if they did not see and destool him he would tell their secrets to the Government. By this of course they concocted with his subjects to destool him. (5) All the charges brought against him were cooked up. After these false statements, Chiefs Kofi Sanchira and Fympon got up to explain themselves but the Chief Commissioner was not prepared to listen to them, he simply advised the whole of them to go home until he sent for them again, the stools being still with the Government.

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(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Sister John of the Roman Catholic Mission died on the morning of the 11th inst. after a few days illness. Her remains were interred in the old Dutch Cemetery, in the evening of the same day.

We regret to have to record the death which took place on the 23rd inst. of Mrs. Mary Parnell wife of the late Mr. J. W. Parnell of this place who recently died at Calabar, Southern Nigeria. She was buried in the old Dutch Cemetery.

It would appear that the old Dutch Cemetery which was closed 3 years ago has now been re-opened for burials. When such persons of the brand of Mrs. Anne Bartels, Mrs. Sophia Hutchison and

Mrs. Sapara Williams were even shut out from the place on the ground that there is no more room available, one feels curious to know what influence prevailed upon the responsible authorities to re-establish its use in the instances above reported. Perhaps Dr. Claridge has not cared to find out why the late Dr. James Stalker, and the late District Commissioner Vernon were buried at Newman's Hill and not in the old Dutch Cemetery.

It should be borne in mind that the old Dutch Cemetery will see its century next year, having been built in 1806. Common sense even ought to teach one that the place is crowded up. Assuming that on the average 20 burials had taken place there yearly during the past 95 years which would give a total of 1,900, and the ground is only 100 ft. square one could simply arrive at a conclusion that the very act of forcing burials into it is sacrilegious in every sense of the word. And considering that in former times people of means were buried with nearly half of their wealth of gold ornaments &c., certain cases have happened lately when on digging a new grave at a spot where there had been a previous interment, the grave diggers have picked up some trinkets &c. which becomes their "lucky find." Some "standing orders" should be made which would entirely stamp out this nuisance, as the affair has given birth to much comment by the people, who, however do not regard it with any feelings of envy but merely contend that all persons should be treated alike according to the axiom of equality, irrespective of creed or colour.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Town Councils Ordinance it is clear, seeks to raise funds for the purpose of cleaning the Towns and carrying out some works which are considered to be somewhat expensive for the Revenue to undertake. This, according to Governor Rodger is the principle laid down by the Secretary of State for all the "Colonies." No pains however is taken to show how far this Protectorate enjoys the advantages and privileges which those Colonies which are guided by this principle enjoy, as to their control over their Revenue or to what extent they are represented on their Legislature.

It is well known here and at Downing Street, that we cannot be classed in the same category with these Colonies, ours is peculiar; that the country is already greatly overtaxed; that as a West African Colony, we have by far more officials with good, decent salaries, apart from other emoluments which each in his own way is made to enjoy; and that proper care taken with the Revenue *there will be sufficient funds on hand to do any work which may be considered necessary to be done.* Other Colonies with "slender purse" are far ahead us in sanitary and other improvements. This cannot be denied in even official circles.

The people too are fully acquainted with all these facts, if so, there is nothing surprising then for them to take the stand they have taken on the new taxation that is to be imposed on them by the Ordinance. We repeat, that there is sufficient funds in the Protectorate to do any thing and any work, if proper economy were shown in the expenditure. Instances are not wanting to show up the recklessness and extravagance shown in the management of the Revenue, and as a most recent one, we give you the Railway Department, but who cares? The people have only got to pay and pay, and then to be subjected to all sorts of indignities to boot. Is it not an open secret that some inspections are taken to bring in some T. A.'s, that some Heads of Departments take fine care to send their favourites out of their stations presumably to do this and that thing, if only to enjoy some duty allowances and T. A.'s.

These are facts which go to show that even the officials themselves know that they are simply living on the fat of the land, and the poor "nigger" must sweat for it. It may be admitted that these are delicate matters, and those into whose pockets these moneys find their way must view their disclosure in other than the right spirit, but as they know how the British taxpayer may take in all this, though enjoying them, and although this is done to the negro, if all is not lost, surely the true British spirit in them will resent these things, and enlist on the quiet their sympathies for those on whom the Crown Colony Policy has saddled with such a burden. Must the goose that lay the golden egg be killed? Remember the fable and its moral. Where is the MAN—Black or white or yellow—on the coast, who seeing the army of officials we have, and the thousands and thousands of pounds squandered every year, with the amount of work all these yield for the country by way of improvements &c. will not consider the complaint of the people, a just one? If he happened to be a true ENGLISHMAN, or one who has imbibed the principles of the English Constitution, he would.

Prince Brew of Dunkwa sends in this week a cor-

respondence on the sale of the Omaphin of Sekundi's Palace which appears in another column and which may be read with much interest. This is what we are put to, in some parts of Greater Britain where all is serene with the *s. s. Officialism.*

Complaints still come in with the Court Interpretation at Salt Pond which we hope the Chief Registrar with the D. C.'s assistance will see to put right. From investigation we find the present interpreter is a clerk recently transferred from the D. C.'s office here, to that there; the work he is doing therefore is not officially his, and although he gives the best interpretation he can, and to some extent gives satisfaction the "impediment in his speech" gives some trouble. What is the Registrar whose work it is, doing? From his name we gather he is not a native of the Central Province—AZU we believe he is called, and perhaps he is excused from doing his work on that ground. The Chief Registrar may be said to be making these appointments, but it is plain, he must be greatly assisted in choosing men for the different places, by the permanent staff about him, with whom therefore the fault of our having so many bad interpretations must greatly lie. Besides Salt Pond, other places have their complaints. Peoples' cases are being ruined, and so the question must have some attention at the proper quarters.

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, SEPT. 30, 1905.

OUR DESTINY—WHAT IS IT TO BE?

UNTIL we who make so much of our being natives of the soil, or of West Africa, take matters in connection with our country in a far more serious, and disinterested way, a peep into the internal affairs of the future thereof, its prospects and destiny, cannot augur good things to him who would view them in the light of present-day affairs. Though one may be charged with holding pessimistic views in so saying, yet we venture to think, that despite our so-called advantages, the strides—the rapid strides we are supposed to have made in the path of civilization (for we must be made to build our Rome in a day), the progress said to be witnessed on all hand, the incalculable good said to have accrued to us of these days from our having come in contact with the foreigner with his different shades of opinion or view in matters moral, social, religious, commercial and political, we as a country, AND AS A RACE, are on the down-grade, going from bad to worse, possibly with the ultimate result of the extinction of the Race. Is this to be taken as putting the matter too strongly? Then look around you with an observant eye. Who can deny the fact, that all that can be done, as it were to kill our national instincts, our racial existence, the manhood so to speak, in us as a People is being systematically, (consciously or unconsciously) done, and in the face of this, what is the native doing?

And what can he do, you say? This much. He must learn all that there is to be learned out of his foreign brother, and turn it to good account for the Race. He must in all his "getting" remain the African, and as an African, no matter how far he may have gone a-Europeanizing, he must respect and give due regard to his native customs and manners, uprooting the weeds in them, if there be any such, improving upon those that need to be improved upon, in a word, never at any time or on any occasion feeling ashamed of his Race, however high he may rise in the scale of Western civilization. Let him learn from the foreigner his notions, his ideas of unity in matters political, his unselfishness and disinterestedness in the cause of his race and country which are fast waning amongst us who have come in contact with him for some centuries now, his self-denial in the cause of, and devotion to, his country. If

those who find themselves on the political and social stages of the country can do this, and thus play their parts not to end with them, but to extend to future generations one may entertain the hopes of a prosperous future for the country. What are our young people doing by way of preparing themselves to play their parts on the country's stage when their turn comes, as sure it must? How are they being prepared? To what extent do they show their interest in the affairs of the country? And our Boys and Girls, the future-makers of the country, how are they being trained; it is not too much to say, that if you wish to know what it will be with this country in days to come, see the youths of the day. For this, there are some who are held responsible. If the social, moral and physical training of the youths of to-day be not taken in hand properly, or proceeded with on the proper lines then our prospects as a race must be gloomy or disheartening. To be true and honest to themselves, loyal to the Fatherland and the Throne which protects us now, must form an important part, in their training.

But if one must be so pessimistic in thus viewing things as to the future of the country, looked at in the light of our present day affairs he may yet be optimistic to find in all that has transpired and is transpiring with us, a rude awakening of the people to do their duty to themselves and country. We leave the reader here.

A CONCLAVE OF BIRDS.

(BY A BANKER.)

It is generally supposed that man only possesses the gift of speech; this supposition, however, must apparently be accepted in only limited sense, for there can be no question that some animals and birds have the faculty of communicating intelligibly with each other; though probably in such a rudimentary degree that perhaps the term speech is a misnomer. Amongst the most remarkable evidence of this is the court of justice held by rooks which may occasionally be witnessed. (The writer can bear testimony to the first stage of these extraordinary sessions, which he witnessed from a train, though unfortunately he did not see its strange, and perhaps tragic, termination). A large flock of several hundred rooks forms a great circle two or three deep, almost perfect in shape, and perhaps about three hundred feet in circumference. In the centre of the circle stand a solitary rook, attended by a guard—this latter, however, the writer does not remember seeing—appearing in an abjectly cowed and frightened condition. The whole of the birds encircling the wretched, motionless culprit were in a most excited state, loudly cawing in an infuriate, angry manner, violently flapping, their wings as if in a paroxysm of wrath and fury, and from time to time raising their beaks upward, though they all maintained their position in the ring, and made no attempt to interfere with the miserable prisoner.

Probably the accusing bird had recounted the offence committed against it—perhaps the appropriation of the nest occupied by it and its mate for years, perhaps an insult offered to her (for these birds are monogamous, and, it is believed, keep to the same mate for life), or perhaps some more serious offence committed against it or against the community. And then the angry discussion ensues, and the culprit is either condemned to death, in which case delegated executioners peck it to pieces; or it is perhaps punished in a more lenient fashion and then allowed its liberty.

Now all this excited and angry scene must surely indicate that the birds possess some means of communicating their ideas to each other, and that all that violent cawing cannot be mere unintelligible jargon.

The limits of space forbid any reference to other strange evidences that many other members of the animal world—birds, animals, even, strange thought, perhaps also fishes, possess that power. Be that however as it may, this we know—that we are of more value than many sparrows; of such inestimable value in the sight of the Eternal that He gave His Son to die for us, and by so doing, receiving the punishment due to us for our misdeeds. But those who refuse to come to Him will assuredly be shut out from the inheritance of glory so dearly purchased for them.

"GLIMPSES OF THE AGES."

This is a work just published by John Long of London the well known publisher, and the author is Theo. E. Samuel Scholes, M.D. &c. The full title for the book is, "Glimpses of the Ages, or the 'Superior' and 'Inferior' Races so-called, Discussed

in the Light of Science and History." From what we have seen of it, we can only say, that it is a work that is sure to command the attention of the thinking world, and make a mark of its own. In this first volume the author has in a lucid style, and a display of a logical acumen of uncommon order simply exhausted the subject which he intended this first volume to deal upon and that is its "physical and mental aspects." The second volume is to take up the "moral aspects." The object of both volumes is to review the arguments adduced in support of the alleged superiority of the white race, and the alleged inferiority of the coloured races. This review is to show, "the utter baselessness of the conclusions, that the white race is superior to the coloured races, and that the coloured races are inferior to the white race. And since the arguments supporting these groundless conclusions are tenaciously held, and eagerly followed by the majority of Christendom, as if valid, since also in their application they embrace a wide field, as well as represent those arguments by which commerce religion, politics &c. are in practice largely governed, then the conclusion is surely correct, that of the backward oscillation of the world, and the calamities concomitant therewith, lack of truth is primarily the cause." A most timely work which we hope will have a wide circulation amongst all who truly desire to approach this much vexed question scientifically and historically. No lover of our Race should be without it. It is replete with facts, and even the rankest negrophobist may read it to some advantage.

The published price is 12/- net.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON AFRICA, (WESTERN COAST,) 1865.

Mr. Andrew Swanzy continues.

4669. Were most or all of those protected tribes under the sovereignty of Ashantee originally?—No.

4670. The Fantees were, I believe?—Not altogether; that is a great mistake. The King of Ashantee gradually conquered many of the tribes, and about the year 1820 he had the supreme control of the coast, with the exception of the Fantee Tribes.

4671. What is your opinion with regard to the actual terms of the treaties between the British and the protected territories, with respect to our duties?—My impression is that, we have no right, and I do not think that we are expected, to fight solely for them; the expression used by the natives to me was, "If you hold the flag, we will fight;" that was the idea of the treaty in my time.

4672. What were the causes which led to the King of Ashantee's invasion from 1853 to 1864?—In 1853, one of the great Causes of the invasion was the discontent of the chiefs from the manner in which they were disregarded, as they are now, I believe. Cheboo was the chief of Assin, and he sent a message to the King of Ashantee, inviting him, and promising him that he would take back his tribe to become again tributary if the king would assist him. I believe that was from the manner in which Cheboo had been treated. I believe that the great mistake usually made by the governors has been in ignoring the power and dignity of the native chiefs. I do not know whether that has been from the governors themselves or not, but it has been practically so.

4677. Will you now state to the Committee what is your commercial connection with the Gold Coast?—I have factories along the whole coast, establishments of my own; I have agents there, and I ship goods from England to them, and they dispose of those goods for me.

4702. Is it your opinion that the governor himself might exercise more judicial authority than he does?—He should be the principal judicial authority everywhere, except, perhaps, at Sierra Leone.

4703. But is it not the case that the governors are often men not professionally acquainted with law?—So much the better, I think.

4704. You think that the law should not be strictly according to statute, but the common sense of the judge?—Yes, with a certain knowledge of the native customs and habits.

4706. Are you of opinion that he could be made to assist the Chief in his administration of the law?—Quite so.

4707. What is your opinion with regard to the Queen's Advocate's office?—My opinion is that it is wholly unnecessary and injurious, because I think a native cannot understand that any man should talk against him who has no interest in the case before the court; it is a very different settlement from Sierra Leone; they do not understand the system of practice at the bar; and as for protecting the Queen's interest, there is no necessity for it.

4722. Lord Stanley.] I think I understood you to say that the British Protectorate was a benefit to the natives on the Gold Coast, but I did not hear you say that it was of any benefit to this

Country?—I am not aware that it is of any particular benefit to this country, except that it secures the commerce of the country.

4731. Will you explain to the committee the plan which you would propose for that purpose?—

Principally by allowing the protected native chiefs to exercise their own rights of jurisdiction in their own districts, and by keeping them united, to secure them against anything like a further attempt on the part of the king of Ashantee to again trouble the peace of the coast: it has been principally his knowledge of the want of unanimity among the protected tribes, that has led him to make those attempts.

4732. You think that too much power has been taken from the chiefs, and that our interference has been carried too far?—I do.

4733. Do you think that if they were left more alone, they would be less likely to quarrel?—Yes; but still they should be to some extent under the advice or control of the British Government.

4734. You mean that a certain amount of protection is good to prevent the chiefs quarrelling, but that if it is carried a little further, it leads to their being disunited?—I mean that interference with their rights has led to discontent on their part, and the king of Ashantee being aware of this fact, has taken the opportunity of attacking them.

4737. And it does not appear to you that the protected people are more contented than the chiefs?—No, I presume they are not more contented.

4741. Do you think it possible for an educated Englishman and a savage African chief to sit as judges with a co-ordinate authority?—Yes, I do, they are certainly illiterate, but not barbarous altogether. I have had an opportunity of sitting with them, and I never had a difficulty; of course the natural influence of the educated European is predominant, and generally decides the cause, but he should recognize their rights.

4761. So far as you know, do they show good sense in judging the cases that come before them?—They have done so; I scarcely ever had to reverse the decision of a native chief.

4763. Are they amenable to our Government; are they inclined to take advice?—Yes, very much so; not only to the Government, but to any Europeans.

4813. Had you ever any interest in the coffee plantation on the Gold Coast?—No; my brother James had.

4814. Did it succeed?—Up to a certain point it did.

4815. What was the cause of the failure?—The pawn system existed some years ago, and still exists. When my brother was there, from 1837 to 1840, they prepared pawning themselves or members of their family to him, and the consequence was that he was able to ensure a certain amount of steady labour. The labourers were well treated and very happy. A Commissioner was sent out in 1841 (Dr. Madden), and he reported on that system as being too near to the slave trade to be allowed to remain. Notice was given on the coast, and then many of those pawns would not work steadily, and left my brother, although they were to receive daily wages. The consequence was that the coffee plantation got out of cultivation, and is now totally abandoned.

4832. So that physically and morally your knowledge of the negro would not induce you to say, that he was an inferior animal altogether to the white man?—I do not like to answer that question; I have found negroes who have certainly shown intelligence equal to that of Europeans, if not superior.

4833. So that if efforts are made to educate them, you do not think that it is useless?—No, certainly not; I do not think it can be injurious.

4867. Chichester Fortescue.] Did I understand you to say that practically we had destroyed the authority of the various chiefs, within the protected territory?—That was my impression.

SCRUTINEER.

IS THE EDUCATED NATIVE DISLOYAL?

There are fewer distressing incidents in the vicinities of live than to be under the suspicion of a wrong charge, which seemingly is the experience of the educated community in West Africa. From some source unfathomable to us the feeling spreads out in administrative circles that the influence of many of the educated natives in British West Africa is being used in a sense politically hostile to the British connection, and unfortunately some English friends of ours who have manifested an appreciable interest in us appear to be drifted away with that tide of opinion. Words truly fail us to contradict this new-fangled charge. Our connection with Great Britain extends to nearly three centuries and although we cannot help repeating ourselves that our position has been only a little less in temper than of the Israelites in bondage yet all along we have betrayed no inclination, nor could there be any sensible reason on our part to

sever the connection, for in any view the intention would not only be absolutely suicidal but it must be as insane as jumping from a rolling and restless ship to the deep blue sea. There are certain rights and privileges due to us as a people which are denied on some flimsy pretensions and untenable and deceptive grounds. We know, or at least are taught by pleasant experience, the best ways and means to go about to get these rights and privileges conceded out. We still have faith in the fact that under British protection we, through the liberty of free speech, have only to put our genuine grievances before the proper and responsible authorities to get them remedied.

Respecting this charge it has been a futile attempt on our part to see ourselves as others see us—to be in the light through which "British administrative circles" entertain the feeling that our attitude is hostile to the British connection. We have ransacked history and failed to note anything showing or tending to point out any educated native of West Africa taking the initiative, aiding and abetting or associating himself in any movement or agitation whether active or passive, openly or secretly, which has for its object the breach of the British connection or the alienation of the fidelity of the native to British Suzerainty established and cemented by ancient mutuality. But there has been no such spirit in us, and this has yet to be proved to us if it is so.

What then must have caused this feeling within administrative circles? We have arrived at one conclusion, and one only; and surely the cause of this namby-pamby official untenable deductions lies in our wonted propensity to ventilate our grievances, in our readiness to call a spade a spade, in our too often stamping our little foot when we witness a foreigner duping, or mistreating an illiterate brother, in our assiduity in proving to the whites that the blacks were not created to be subjected to their whims, caprices, hypocrisy, cruelty, nor were they destined to be led like dumb-driven cattle to the World's Fair; in our attempt to illustrate to the whites that it is necessary to the propagation of the civilization they themselves have initiated in West Africa that they conduct themselves as civilized men and live moral lives in Africa; in our constancy in exploding the grossly unbusiness-like ways of the Government, its scandalous extravagance, its unpeaceful attitude, its unreasonable assertion of absolute powers; in exposing the abuse of taxation without adequate and fair representation; and in opposing the tendency to ignore and trample under foot the native rulers and to break up and disregard our time honoured institutions of government and all things native. It is upon these grounds only that we stand charged with disloyalty.

Besides this, we do not deny that we stand in the way of the Government doing as they please (and for the matter of that some irresponsible Europeans also.) But if these are the only crimes upon which we stand arraigned before "British administration circles" and others for 'disloyalty,' we gently smile and ask them to go on vilifying the educated native as much as they can, and strengthening their endeavours with humbugging despatches and reports—for the educated native might have been an ass before whose back devils must have driven, but he is a fool no longer, and knowing the responsibility that rests on him, he is not going to be frightened nor moved by any of these things. He will ever live to sound the alarm (not false ones) to his less cultured brother and with him stand to avert the tide of oppression and humbug. We are all British subjects under the same King-Emperor. Render unto us therefore all rights and privileges British, for which we have claimed, for which we claim, and shall evermore claim.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

BRIEF TOPICS.

BY AGYEMAN.

It's the old story of the unfaithful servant told over again:—

"But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, my lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to unite his fellow-servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken;

"The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

One of these days when the true History of the Gold Coast comes to be written, there will be a Novel as a by-issue entitled "It is never too late to mend." It will resemble the old book of the same title, only instead of a small prison there will be the Gold Coast for the stage with its Governors, Petty Governors, Turnkeys, Drivers &c. &c. and we know where the Crank is to be found.

Already some people have begun to take in the situation, and are looking out for suitable Hymns. Here is one I came across the other day. I am informed it was the Vicar of Bray that first sang it.

"When gracious Anne became our Queen,
The church of England's glory,
'Another phase of things was seen
'And I became a Tory"—
Good luck to you my dears,

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.

"IRREGULARITIES OF THE WESLEYANS."

Dear Mr. Editor,—Kindly permit me a space for the information of the Superintendent.

It is a great pity that the Gold Mines, Broomassie and Prestea are visited once a year only for the purpose of distributing annual collecting sheets, and not at any other time for christian work: this is a pity indeed. I have no wish to speak against any Church but sometimes I feel this is not wrong to speak about. The villages could support an agent.

Thanking you for space allowed.

Yours truly,—A CHRISTIAN BORN.
Prestea, 4th September, 1905.

FAULTY INTERPRETATIONS.

Dear Sir,—I have read Amicus's letter on the above subject with great interest. I thoroughly approve his views and endorse his suggestion. The Court that carries justice amiss is a horrible one, as much as the attitude it assumes when such miscarriage is brought about by faulty interpretation of its officer. In support of this fact, I could cite several instances such as I have witnessed in the Courts, but as I am not entitled to write more than 400 words, I only send the following Tit Bits of interpretation:—

SALT POND COURT.

Witness.—Obam Nkuasan.
Interpreter.—He broke my pot.
Byestander.—Your worship, the interpretation is wrong.
D. C.—I shall thank you if you can assist the Court.
Byestander.—The witness said—"He charged me with slavery," but what the Court Interpreter said was "O be mikwan em" in Fanti.
D. C.—Mr.—Are you not a Fanti?
Interpreter.—No, Your Worship, I am from the Mountains.
D. C.—Thanks.

SEKONDI COURT.

D. C.—What did you bring this man here for?
Police.—O kori duasu na mkyiri n'.
Interpreter.—He went on a tree and I arrested him.
D. C.—What tree?
Interpreter.—Broni se eben dua?
Police.—Mina se dua oti ho mise okanyi na mkyiri.
Interpreter.—I arrested him because he eased himself.
D. C.—On a tree?
Interpreter.—Broni se ldi fo.
Witness.—Mise muwura.
Interpreter.—I beg your worship.
D. C.—Fined 2/6

Yours truly,—WILKU.

Sekondi, 10th September, 1905.

"MERCY FOR CRIMINALS."

BY MR. HOPWOOD, Q. C., M. P.

Sir,—Although Mr. Attoo wrote some time ago to the point in reply to the gentleman who bore the unusual and curious quinquedartite pseudonym "Why is your name English?" I wish to quote an authority to support Mr. Attoo and to convince the other gentleman that not only Mr. Attoo has no belief in long terms of imprisonment.

Ten years ago Mr. Hopwood Q. C., M. P., recorder of Liverpool at the annual meeting of the Humanitarian League at the Ideal Club, Tottenham court-road read a paper entitled "A plea for Mercy to Criminal Offenders." He said that after the noble effort of Howard, Romilly, and Mackintosh, and the amending Acts passed by Lord John Russell self-satisfaction came over the nation. It was believed that the limits of moderation and mercy had been reached. Long imprisonment was common, and justice was blind and death to all but a shallow and imperfect consideration for law and order. The idea was that it was possible to stamp out crimes by crushing sentences. Similar arguments long supported the capital punishment which once attended nearly every felony down to the picking of a pocket, and yet at every softening of the criminal law there had been an absence of the dreaded increase of crime. It had been happily expressed that imprisonment began to harden a man the moment it had ceased to punish him. He had found instances of men who for trifling offences had spent 30 or more years in gaol. There could be no more effective maturing of an offender into a ruffian. He had had over 40 years' experience of the administration of the criminal law. It had been his lot to deal with over 3,747 prisoners up to the end of 1893, and upon them he had inflicted 3,000 years of punishments less than his predecessor, according to his scale would have felt himself compelled to give. Yet the head constable had reported for the second time

that Liverpool had never been so free from crime.

He had often seen the punishment more brutal, than the crime. The commonplace idea that savage repression and stamping out were the fitting means of treating crime belonging to past ages of ignorance. A resolution was passed urging on the Home Secretary, the need of a thorough revision of the criminal law and a full inquiry into the present system of prison government.

C. F.

NEW ELECTIONS IN THE AXIM BRANCH OF THE G. C. A. R. PROTECTING SOCIETY.

Dear Sir,—In reading your issue of the 9th inst. I came across the above which greatly interested me; I do really appreciate the tact of the Society and a tribute of praise is indeed due them for their efforts in all movements which have had for their object the welfare of the country. And the members of the election are all that could be desired; I would only beg to insinuate that such youngsters as J. Andoh Wilson, J. A. Andorson and D. K. Bhome who are true natives should be added to the list if they are not already elected; and if I would be excused further still, I would beg to suggest the sending of two representatives each of Upper Town and Lower Town respectively to every meeting, so that nothing that transpires at these meetings become new to the Omanihi and Ohin of this town.

Another subject also which I would beg leave to mention is the educating of the various heirs to the kingly stool. A great man in the shape of Prince Brew of Dunkwa has written on this all-important subject. What the Aborigines Societies want to do is to force not to merely ask our kings to educate their heirs. It will be a pity indeed if, in the next two or three generations, we should be compelled to accept illiterate men for our kings. Trusting this will engross the attention of the Society.

Yours faithfully,—KWAMI ATU.

Axim, 20th Sept 1905.

AN "ABSURDITY" PUZZLE SOLVED AD ABSURDUM TOTUM.

Dear Sir,—As I am deeply interested in the perusal of your valuable journal and its contemporary, the Gold Coast Aborigine, I was privileged to come across in the latter's issue of September 9, the Whisper and a Fred, attempting to break lances with Mr. Abash, as a result that A's letter in yours of September 2, had involved the poor little Birdie and Fred. in hot waters.

Taking the puzzle in question in its entirety to be the outburst of babyish intuitive perception, I did not think it worth while to express any opinion thereon; but entertaining some fears that the conduct of the Whisper Birdie, Fred, and their accomplices might lead to a fatal paper war, I feel an irresistible impulse to confirm the views of Abash and at the same time beg to dissuade him from coming to close quarters with the poor ignorant Birdie and her friends.

Abash sets down and proves the puzzle and its solutions, by using their own method of solution, to be nothing but an absurdity reduced to its entire absurdity. This I venture to confirm in a word or two.

Assuming the amalgamation of the two schools to be the crux of the question, any unbiased mind cannot but be forced to the conclusion that the destructive hypothetical syllogism of Whisper's problem is rightly absurd. To say nothing of the addition deliberately neglected by Bover, Kaykay and Fred., the solutions indulged in to find the nothings were based on a very fallacious argument. Abash proved this falsity by a *reductio ad absurdum* method of proof. When Fred. is asked to show how he deduced "A" from the puzzle, he very queerly answers but "is it not a fact that 'A' breeds in the four schools," thereby proving himself to be the *inductivum genus indoctorum hominum*.

Upon these considerations I am under the impression to say that if the two schools had not been amalgamated, (which I think is the best method of giving the Colony a sure and fitting basis of education) the question of such an absurd puzzle would never have cropped up. As it is Collegiate School with Mr. Wright only as headmaster was thought fit to be a school secondary, and the Mfanteipim school with Messrs. Graves and Conton fit to start teaching the rudiments of a secondary education; but the amalgamation of these two is considered by some as nothing, that is, unfit to be a secondary school. A very poor and untenable argument. Pity. And Abash could not have expected any more outrageous *non sequitur* than is contained in the solutions of the Whisper Nothings.

I sincerely believe Abash is not the man to write with a jaundiced eye as every one might see, but that Whisper and her accomplices were simply prejudiced when writing and solving the problem *reductio ad absurdum totum*, there is not the slightest shadow of doubt.

Very many thanks for space graciously allowed.

Yours very truly,—INTERESTED READER ABROAD.
Chama, 18th September, 1905.

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AXIM HARVEST FESTIVAL.

According to previous announcements the celebration of the Feast of Harvest took place on Sunday the 17th September and passed off most successfully. Punctually at 9 o'clock in the morning the doors of St. James Church which had already been over crowded were thrown open and a great rush and scramble for seats ensued.

The interior of the Church which had been tastefully decorated for the occasion presented a most picturesque lovely and graceful appearance. It would be quite a tedious and almost an unsuccessful attempt to describe minutely how exquisitely natural the room appeared. The windows and the magnificent pillars in the aisles were decorated with palm leaves skillfully arranged and festooned with ivies which extended round the room along the girders from one end to the other. The Pulpit was decorated with a chain of Ivy and all kinds of flowers. On either side of the Brass Altar Rails stood young palm trees with fresh green leaves and also a pawpaw tree bowing down with the weight of its fruits. In the Communion Rail stood three steps of benches and on these were piled all the fruits and vegetables presented for the occasion; including yams, plantains, cassadas, palm nuts, sugar cane, eggs, large loaves of bread, and every imaginable product of the earth; but the beauty of these was crowned with the standing ears of corn which transformed the sacred edifice into a veritable corn-field.

At 9-30 precisely the choir in their snowy white surplices and the Minister, passed into their stalls, under the accompaniment of a beautiful procession-March played by Mr. Hutchful who performed on the occasion. Immediately afterwards the Service began with the Hymn "Come ye thankful People come." Instead of the Anthem during the prayers Mrs. Casely Hayford sang a solo entitled—"Bringing in the sheaves," the choir joining in the chorus and so well was it rendered that words fail us in describing same: but it could be conceived how impressive it was, from the fact that most of the congregation who had not the opportunity of seeing the singer concluded that it was the voice of a prima donna singing through a Gramophone placed in the centre of the Church. Hymn 941, "We plough the fields and scatter" was sung after the prayers and then the Rev. E. A. Sackey followed with a brilliant and instructive sermon bearing on the occasion. The words of his text, chosen from Deuteronomy 16 verse 13 were "Thou shalt observe the Feast of Tabernacles seven days after that thou hast gathered in thy corn and thy wine." The preacher explained the circumstances under which that feast was instituted and after arguing that the feast was an ordination of God supported by the Saviour while on earth and that it was therefore within the pale of the modern Church to commemorate the festival; he expostulated on the lessons taught by the feast under three divisions, first, as a remembrance of the deliverance of Israel from the bondage of Egypt; second, as an annual thanksgiving to God for the products of the earth; and, as an institution for the recognition of common brotherhood among all tribes classes and nations on the earth. Perhaps the most interesting and instructive part of the sermon was the strenuous appeal made by the Preacher in fine choice and selected language on behalf of agriculture in the country. He said whereas kingdoms and nations could do without statesmen, philosophers, poets, scientists, and professional men they could not under any circumstances do without farmers and that the material prosperity of any such kingdoms and nations was not caused by the deliberations, the wisdom, knowledge and aspirations of these eminent men, but, lay in the prosperity welfare and success of the agricultural districts which formed the backbone.

After the silver collection and the Hymn 938, the Morning Service came to a close.

At 4-30 in the afternoon a short service was held, when, as in the morning, Mr. Casely Hayford B.L. read the Lessons, Mr. H. F. Ribeiro B.L., sang the solo—"Sowing the Seed" and Rev. Sackey again preached, from James 1, 17. The Collections at both services amounted to £8 5 0.

On the next day, Monday the 18th at 5 o'clock in the evening a sale of the gifts was held in the School Room under the hammer of Mr. J. Le Grand Sawyer, Licensed Auctioneer. The room was filled with crowds of people including several ladies and gentlemen. So keen and exciting were the competitions that among many others 3 pieces of yams realized 20/-; 6 oranges were sold for 5/-; a bunch of bananas, for 5/-; a handful of fresh eggs worth about 6/-, fetched 20/-; a single cocoanut brought in the sum of 1/-; a loaf of bread yielded 5/-; and a small quantity of cassada for 30/- was bought. The proceeds of the sale amounted to £16 15 0 which in addition to the Collections yielded to the Church the handsome sum of £25.

Mr. T. G. Smith who suggested the idea of celebrating the festival and who with the kind assistance of Mr. Joseph Hughes, undertook the decoration of the Church, has the grateful thanks

of the community, and particularly of the Church; and also, Mrs. Casely Hayford, for successfully preparing the choir for the occasion.

OUR YOUTHS' COLUMN.

CHARACTER NOT SYNONYMOUS WITH REPUTATION.

My Dear Frank,—Since my last letter to you I have been engaged in conversation with some one who evidently confounds character and reputation. Lest you might fall into the same error I shall proceed to draw, as rigidly as I can, the line of demarcation between them.

In their ideal conception, character and reputation denote the self-same quality in the relation of essence and form and may be interchanged. In the quotation I gave you from Shakespeare you would see that reputation is used as the synonym of character. The danger comes when in practical life we seek reputation at the expense of the cultivation of character. There is no vitality in forms.

The letter killeth: it is the spirit that giveth life. Reputation is not character and in practical life cannot be its substitute. Character lies in a man and depends on himself. Reputation lies outside a man and depends on others. Character is what a man really is. Reputation is what a man seemingly is. It is what people think of him. It is character by report. Thus it may be false. A man's action may belie his character or circumstances may so prejudice people against him that his good may be evil spoken of. The history of the human race is one continuous illustration of the truth that a man of noble character may have an unfair reputation while a man of ignoble character succeed in securing a fair reputation.

Character is not liable to lasting injury from foes without and as such we need not dread too much the slander of men.—With kindest regards, &c.

R. T.

—Sierra Leone Weekly News.

EVILS OF THE HIGH COLLAR.

We have a strong impression (says the "British Medical Journal") that the average height of the masculine neck is greater now than it used to be. Has the long neck produced the high collar, or has the neck adapted itself to new environment of the high collar? It is not within our province to discuss the high collar in its æsthetic aspects. From the sanitary point of view it may perhaps be allowed the merit of serving as a protection to the throat.

If we are to believe Dr. F. D. Brubaker, of St. Louis, however, the high collar may be a source of unpleasant symptoms—such as a choking sensation, increased rapidity of the heart's action, followed by retardation, a sinking feeling over the precordial region, nausea, vomiting, listlessness, and depression—from pressure on the pneumogastric nerve. Dr. Brubaker has seen such symptoms in book-keepers, writers, professional men, and others whose callings require constant stooping and bending of the neck.

The "Journal" thinks that he warcely makes out his case, but the evidence which he brings forward may perhaps be considered sufficient in certain aggravated cases of high collar to warrant some prima facie suspicion that it is an agent of mischief. —"Liverpool Weekly Post."

"MEMOIRS OF WEST AFRICAN CELEBRITIES."

Sir,—I have read through a copy of the above book, which has been published quite recently, and I cannot but express my heartfelt congratulations to its author the Rev. S. R. B. Attoh-Ahuma, who has so successfully brought to light certain things which indeed would have taken us—especially the rising generation, to whose careful study the book was commended and dedicated—some years yet to become acquainted with.

Everybody, particularly myself, is indebted to the Reverend gentleman for his production, which will unquestionably and undoubtedly claim for him a place among the other West African writers who have devoted their attention to clearly show to the world the facts, nothing but the facts, of our history, laws, traditions, customs, manners and institutions, etc.

This pleasant addition, with such a reasonable price, has come in at the right time and it will not fail to make an interesting and profitable reading.

The Gold Coast has within the last three or four years produced four writers, but are these sufficient to undertake the heavy task which hitherto has been a stumbling block to us.

Every attempt has been made by certain European writers to degrade us. These writers have seldom stayed on the Coast for even six years at one time, and yet they write about the negro, his manners and institutions! Where are the men to oppose these miscreants who must do something of course to make a living or satisfy their morbid ends.

More books! More books! More books! and as such we appeal to those who have attained to a higher knowledge to give this the attention it deserves.

Now to the author of this invaluable book, the Rev. S. R. B. Attoh-Ahuma, I would say "Well done."

Thanking you for space allowed.

I remain, your obedient servant,—OHUANI.

Dear Sir,—Will you permit me to correct an inexcusable error which an ignorant interpreter has brought into common use amongst the community at large, and

even in the Legislature which framed the Ordinance No. 11 of 1892. Nowhere in the Holy Scriptures nor in any other book do we find recorded "Black Christ," if that is so how came the term "Black Christians" to be in use? The name is a misnomer to be given to "Haw-wa" (Accra), "Ahoia" (Fanti), "Akumasi" (Effutu), and "Kintum" (Ahafo) which are purely the "Feast of the Harvest" or the gathering in of "crops." All these feasts happen on or about August and in Jewish calendar "Sivan."

The day of the Saviour's birth is "Christmas Day" and is celebrated by all Christians of all races "Black Christmas," and such words as Head Room, Knocking Door, Linguist and the like, should be done away with and the right words be used. Head Room—according to Sarbah should be "nuptial wine." Marriage was in existence before the introduction of Room by the Portuguese Linguist—should be Cape Deceit. A Linguist is one versed in language other than one in use in the district where he resides. Those who ignorantly call linguists know no language than what is used in the king's court.

Thanks for space allowed.

Yours sincerely,—J. E. DANSON.

Sekondi, Sept. 13.

Sir,—In order to check the unpleasant task of inquisitiveness into which some of my neighbours have plunged themselves, I would beg to call the following from Nicholson's "How to be a man" which I presume will be beneficial to your readers.

"When inquisitiveness goes no further than a strong desire to obtain useful information, and to acquire into the reason of things, or when it desires information concerning the affairs of others from benevolent sympathy, then it is a valuable trait of character. But when the object is to gratify an idle curiosity, it is annoying to others, and often leads the person who indulges it into serious difficulty. If you gratify this disposition till it grows into a habit, you will find it very difficult to control, you will want to look into every drawer in the house, to open every bundle that you see, and never be satisfied till you have seen the inside of everything. This may lead you into temptation. It may create a desire to possess the things that are seen. Thus what began in curiosity may end in coveting. This disposition, too, will lead you to inquire into the secrets of your friends, and this may lead to tattling. What you have been at such pains to obtain you will find it difficult to keep to yourself. You will want to share the rare enjoyment with others. And when the story comes round to your friend or companion, whose confidence you have betrayed, you will, to your great chagrin and mortification, be discarded."

Thanking you for space allowed.

Yours faithfully,—KOFI YAMIEVA.

Dixcove, Sept. 23.

Sir,—I perceive by the last issue of your paper which has reached me that the house of the King of Sekondi has been sold for £50 for non-payment of the tax imposed on him for that house by the Sekondi Town Council. So far as I know, no house here is sold for rates and taxes due to any municipality, goods and chattels are distrained for them and in event of insolvency imprisonment for a term follows. On the Gold Coast, I gather, the house alone is attachable and saleable for rates and taxes—a measure so harsh in its operation that I am surprised the enactment (The Town Councils Ordinance) with such an iniquitous provision in it passed the Legislative Council and obtained the sanction of the Authorities here. Under it our family houses and lands can be sold; the only option the owner or occupier has to prevent such an occurrence is to pay the amount at which the house has been assessed, for if he has not the money, but has goods and chattels, they are not to be sold but the house. This is what the Ordinance as it stands says, and this is from what information I have the course pursued.

The King of Sekondi cannot surely have had his house assessed at £50 per annum, for that would be to say that the annual rental is £1000 a year at five per cent. What house on the Gold Coast can yield such rental? None. Further could the King's house be sold for non-payment of such dues? The question is worth posing in the Law Courts; and I would suggest the advisability of his people raising funds to try the question with a view to carrying an appeal, if necessary, to the Privy Council. The Gold Coast Aborigines Protection Society might seek out a case where a family house and land has been sold under similar circumstances, and fight the case out in the Courts there, with the purpose of obtaining a decision of the Privy Council on the point. There should be no difficulty in them either and with the number of able barristers there are in the Country a very good case for the Privy Council could be made out in the case of the King of Sekondi, and in the latter instance.

Whether the Council at Sekondi has been duly and properly constituted under the enactment I know not, and whether its action has been legal, I cannot, not having the facts before me on which legal opinion might be obtained here say. Counsel on the spot with all the facts before them will best be able to advise as to procedure. But no time should be lost in adopting some measures to test all the legal questions covered by the Ordinance, and there are many, and even as to whether the whole enactment itself is not ultra vires. This of course has nothing to do with the constitutional method now being adopted for the repeal or the amendment of the objectionable law. I suggest this as another way whereby the harshness of some of its provisions may be mitigated if not absolutely removed.

The local Authorities state that the Town Council Ordinance is working smoothly at Cape Coast and Sekondi; that there have been no disturbances, and take credit to themselves for the quietness of the People under their irritating action, instead of stating the truth—that the leaders of the People have advised them to remain tranquil as they hope to obtain relief for them at the hands of our Sovereign. Officials who talk like that, evidently want the People to rise before they are satisfied that the People are in earnest in their opposition to their action. Let the People remain calm, cool and determined, refusing to be stirred into rebellion, and all the sinister designs underlying their efforts will be defeated.

Yours truly,—BREW OF DEXQUAN.

London, 8th Sept. 1905.