

# The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. III.  
No. 154.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 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.)

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Half Year... ..	5/6	7/6
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Mr. R. F. WOOD, Ashanti Road, (W. E. Sam's.)

AT AXIM,

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

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MANAGER.

Aboom, Cape Coast.

## NOTICE.

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Ready made suitings of all sizes and Gents and Ladies underclothings expected shortly.

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**TOWLE'S**  
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Invaluable to Ladies.

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

having benefited the sex to an extent which can only be told by those who have suffered and experienced  
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**Regularly USED and Implicitly TRUSTED.**  
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Of all Chemists and Stores throughout East, West and Central Africa.

Send One Box 7/6, Medium 5/6, Large 6/6.

**TOWLE'S 3X SPECIAL PILLS.**  
Remittances must also include cost of postage or freight.

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## NOTICE.

The following goods will be sold by Auction at the stores of A. Genet Esq., Ashanti Road Cape Coast on Monday next the 5th instant at 2 o'clock p.m. precisely; viz:—

Felt Hats, Caps, and Panama Hats,  
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&c. &c. &c.

Terms Cash!

T. MCKENZIE SKUES

Licensed Auctioneer.

Cape Coast, 1st. June 1905.

## GENERAL NEWS.

The Varrick Christian Endeavour Society in connection with the A. M. E. Z. Church had its anniversary last Tuesday.

The members turned out in the afternoon with the Instrumental Band, and held services in different parts of the Town.

The case Rex. v. Brown and Assam, Proprietors of the "Leader" was brought to a close on Thursday afternoon. A short report appears elsewhere.

The "Fishing Community" in this Town has since the 21st. of February last elected and installed Kojo Yanka a nephew of the late chief, as its chief.

It is said that the Town Councils Ordinance, despite the protest of the People, will be in force next July!

Mr. Kennedy from Accra relieves Mr. Crabbe (who went down by last Sunday's steamer), as the Registrar at the D. C's Court.

A good many of the local Stores are being closed up.

Ankrab Elmina case decided this afternoon Thursday, judgment for Elmina with costs.—*Telegraphic Intelligence*

We understand the Aburas install their elected King (Omanhin) to-day.

## AXIM

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

27 5/05.

Mr. D. C. Philbrick paid us a flying visit last month and since then more street lights have been supplied. The upper Court road needs more than one light as the place looks rather dangerous at night.

By the s.s. *Arca* that arrived here last Wednesday the 24th inst the following were passengers viz.—Mr. Young (as District Commissioner in place of Mr. Fure-

ly who we understand has been invalided home.) R. Aids and Alfred E. Binoy.

The Temperance Societies of this town need the attention of their deputies.

Last week was the "Empire Day" and in commemoration thereof the Cycling Club entertained the town.

## SEKONDI

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

28/5/05.

A minute scrutiny of the accidents that have taken place in this roadstead as far back as from the time when the "Bisra" first dropped her huge anchor in the serene waters of this Bay will present to the reader a conviction of the truth that the disaster to one Atah Quow of the Customs boat crew on Sunday evening the 21st. inst. was the most tragical. The s.s. "Zaria" homeward bound touched this port with overcarried or intermediate freight. Neither the departmental rule prohibiting the use of the Customs boat for conveyance of passengers and other purpose except boarding was ignored when His Honour Judge Percell solicited without success the favour of being taken on board, nor the law forbidding the working of steamers on Sundays or after the hour of 6 p.m. was forgotten when an ambitious officer filled with all the pomp and pride of officialism set the Boarding crew to waddle for the ship. The result of the padded business was that while a bundle of iron was being lowered into the boat, one of the steel runs dropped out of the sling and with the speed of its weight came down with the extremity of its sharp ends in contact with the leg of the unfortunate man which was instantaneously broken through—the sight was horrible! Atah Quow's leg has been amputated. Who directed the execution of this first rate infatuation we cannot name, but the confidence of the public must be won one way or the other by a decision that this life invalid is to rely on the Government for his living in as much as he had suffered while on duty.

The "Victoria Day" was kept up in full swing with athletic and other sports at the Law Town Cricket ground, all hands in the day was enjoyably spent.

## THE POST OFFICE.

There appears to exist some dissatisfaction among the native officials in the above department in reference to the payment of overtime fees. If the District Postmaster would confine himself more strictly to matters of this description affecting the interest of his subordinate officers, we are sure he would not need any practical guide towards the making of justice when recommending the payment of such fees due to or entitled by native Postal and other clerks.

We are surprised that the dismissal of a messenger from the service a few weeks ago was rather baselessly effected, the incident connected with this summary dismissal is really distasteful as far as we can gather. Surely messengers employed at the expense of the Colonial revenue should not be expected to work domestically or otherwise in private houses—a regard to any priority being absolutely abominable. We however hope Mr. Dyett will recognize the benefit of this hint by resorting to the immediate adjustment of the matter so as to avoid the advent of its consequences.

## THE RAILWAY.

Few and simple should be the words that come on self-sacrificing terms for describing the practice of a high rate extortion under successive fabrication by an official travelling at the expense of this Government between Dunkwa and Kumasi at intervals known as one of the Permanent Way Inspectors. By no means should it be compulsory for Timber Merchants to adorn the fingers of this wretched prodigal with gold ornaments of any description in exchange of vehicles for loading logs timber up country, but the supercilious dogmatism swayed in Wassaw and Ashanti Railway stations is something awful that it is hardly reasonable for us to involve such merchants in any blame for their given due obedience to the exacting demands made by that unscrupulous officer. This scandal represents a purely manufactured novel in a nutshell.

The abrupt termination of the appointment of Mr. H. W. Wrenn—the Senior Assistant Accountant of this Railway—originating from whatever source we are not in the know is the next wonder supplementing the existing panic of the public in respect of the incomprehensible policy of this administration. This gentleman began to serve on this Railway from the construction period and was in England during the few months on the usual furlough, he sailed on the 14th April last and arrived in the Colony on the 28th by the "Anversville"—unexpectedly he was acquainted he had no appointment. If there existed no self-conceit, arrogance and prejudice under the name, we would not think Mr. Wrenn will condescend to risk his journey to the Coast for merely earning two days wages having been previously apprised of this identical fact.—More anon!

The manner in which actions are invariably executed with a view to safe guarding the interest of their employers by the officials employed for service on this Coast, strongly manifests a striking difference between the original purpose and the duplicate intent hanging under cover. The hereditary crime of blocking passages with barbed wire for which greeted public oppositions on its introduction in Sekondi sometime back still survives at this age except that the fact of his being the *Figure Head* is admissible, the General Manager could not with ordinary conscience boast to the world of his succession to this crime as will be seen in the following order by him issued and departmentally circulated on the 17th inst. which pointedly defines the position of native employees in respect of the matter at issue:—"I have noticed people entering the station premises through the fencing and walking along the line from the ferry, also from the level crossing by the Public Works yard and the Sand siding. This objectionable and must be restricted to Railway servants. Please put a notice in your office to stop the clerks and others (except messengers) from entering the station except through the gate. Exception may be made in favour of the Europeans whose identity can be proved. Please instruct the police to prevent this in future."

## CHAMA

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

1905/05

At 2 a.m. on Sunday the 21st a fire broke out at Appa Circus burning one dwelling house completely down.

Trade here is amazingly dull, everything is at a standstill. The result of the construction of that anticipated tape-work—the Sekondi Railway is conservative, and merchants taking advantage of the situation have gone as far as to divert the course of the produce trade from the coast to those where than Obuasi according to authentic information. We believe we have the access, and that is if the Frish is rendered navigable for small launches and boats of light draught—our friends in the interior will not bother patronizing an expensive carriage as the Railways. We have suggested this idea and have no doubt that it will be adopted to advantage as far as the Timber Companies are concerned.

## RIVER FRISH

On the 15th ult. the ferryage on the river was proportionately divided between the Government and the Chiefs in a bond signed at the D. C.'s Court by which the Government is entitled to a sum not exceeding £24 a year. Frish was added to the Colonial Fisheries sometime in 1902 as published in the Government Gazette. In my opinion the action of the Government in the matter is questionable in as much as the Chiefs of Chama have been granted an exceptional privilege, as the monthly turn-over of the Ferryage times at an average of £10 even at this time of the trade tide. By the ferryage of the river Chama has been able to accommodate the Wesleyan Society in the present Mission House. Statistics of the expenditure of the building were read at the open gathering by Rev. E. A. Lee on the occasion of the first inauguration of the house.

Mr. James Binney—one of the Leaders of the

Church—died after a few days illness on Thursday the 26th instant. He was buried with both Christian and temperance honours. Our sympathies to Mr. Kayper (his nephew) and other relatives.

## ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

The Civil Assizes presided over by Mr. Justice Purcell commenced sittings on the 15th of May last. The most conspicuous case on the list was the Ankra-Elmina Land case which was concluded last week. Judgment has however been reserved. Barristers Reaner and Bucknor attended. His Honour left for Cape Coast on last Saturday and is expected back to take up other cases.

It is with painful regret we have to record the death of Mr. Alex. Abraham of Messrs. Millers Limited which took place on the afternoon of 19th of last month. Mr. Abraham had been ill for the past four weeks and appeared to be improving when suddenly a change came on and he relapsed into a state of delirium and remained unconscious for nearly forty-eight hours when at last death put an end to his sufferings. Dr. E. J. Hayford, from Cape Coast was in attendance.

The deceased who was a staunch English Good Templar and held the commission of Lodge Deputy was buried on Saturday evening (20th) at Newman's Hill Cemetery with full temperance obsequies, the sister Lodges from Cape Coast joining.

Mr. Abraham was so well known and popular that his untimely death will arouse heartfelt interest and intense sympathy in a wide-spread circle of friends. The bereaved family have our sincerest condolences.

A squadron of the Gold Coast Rifle arrived here from Cape Coast on the morning of 24th last, "Empire Day." On the afternoon they had some skirmishing in two sections to the amusement of spectators. They returned to Cape Coast in the evening.

On the same night the members of the recently organized "Boys Empire League" made their *début* by holding a *conversations* at Bridge House. About 14 members constituting the branch which is now being instituted at Cape Coast also arrived and took part in the conviviality.

The "Boys Empire League" which aims to promote and strengthen a worthy imperial spirit in British Boys all over the world, is destined to spread throughout the country, thereby cementing the national feelings of all British Boys in this part of the Empire, and the other countries in one common sympathy, in the true spirit of noblesse oblige. The League is, however, non-political and unsectarian in character, membership, and work.

It is stated that one of the young ladies Miss Margaret Duncan (belonging to the Wesleyan School), who attended the *conversations* has been expelled from the school on that account. We are surely living in the age of surprises.

Mrs. Fritz Egbert wife of Mr. Egbert of Nigeria, died on the night of 20th. The deceased accompanied her husband to Nigeria only recently (after their marriage) where she took ill and returned home the other day by the *Burata*. The death rate is becoming appalling.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

When the correspondence in the *W. A. Mail* we referred to in this column last week, alleges, "The Gold Coast papers are too prone to forget that they owe their deliverance from Ashanti oppression to British action, and that British action has brought with it wage-earning capacities for the people which did not exist previously," it touches a question, that needs a serious consideration, especially in these Hut or House Tax days.

If we understand the writer aright, this what it means, that sometime ago we were under an Ashanti oppression, "British action" delivered us, and by this—from that time—all the Revenue made in this "Colony"—not a Protectorate then—must be swallowed up in official salaries &c. &c. nothing must go to the Country and People, if anything at all, very little. We have no right—constitutional right we mean—to question the Expenditure of the "Colony." Having delivered us at the risk of their lives, they must eat the fruit of the land!

In other words it all hails—dash to talk of this country not being a conquered or a ceded country. We may not be British subjects by conquest or cession but by—shall we say, "deliverance" or by "right," this right having arisen from the fact, that once we were under Ashanti Tyranny, and "British Action" delivered us, and this "British Action" brought with it wage-earning capacities for the people which did not exist previously, therefore, the Revenue must be spent as the "Governor in Council" sees fit, the people must have no voice in that, whether the laws made for us, suit us or not, ours is simply to obey: the causes for conquest bounding the country must remain, and

things must go on as it pleases the Powers that be, for good or for ill, BECAUSE at one time in our history we were delivered from Ashanti oppression!

If these inferences we make are correct, then a flood of light is thrown upon the administration we are blessed with out here, the want of which has hitherto made us grope in the dark as to the meaning of British Justice, or fairplay, or the liberty of British subjects.

If even the writer were right, can such a policy befit a British Rule, can it be said to be in consonance with what History tells us of Great Britain and Her Dominions over the seas? No! We are a Protectorate—not a Colony, we are the loyal subjects, and shall ever remain the loyal subjects of His Britannic Majesty, in the face of all such writings, calculated to wound our feelings. The statement which the correspondent to our contemporary has made is not wholly true, nor can we say its false, for as the World knows, there has been "British Action" in the country against the Ashantis; it is true also that at one time the Ashantis were troublesome in the Country, which put British Action into play. But if the writer had taken any pains to read about these Ashanti Wars out here, or had known anything of how the British came into the Country, and how Downing Street came into it, until we find matters as they are now, we are perfectly certain, that at least in this "Town Councils Ordinance Trouble" which made him pen down those words, he will be the very party to see us righted, nor will the attitude of the People be anything surprising to him that is, if he were a Britisher.

But this is the very thing some writers have no patience to know for themselves. As this idea seems to be rooted firmly in the official circles, and in the minds of some irresponsible writers, the subject must have a serious consideration in our columns: and not to be one-sided, we invite ALL, who have something to say on this important subject to ventilate them in our columns.

Mr. A. W. Appiah together with his Families beg to return their sincere thanks to all kind friends at home and abroad who by letters and telegrams and personal calls expressed their sympathy with them on their painfully sad bereavement in the demise of their dear mother which took place at Anamaboe on the 29th ult.

## 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, JUNE 3, 1905.

## THE PARTING OF THE WAYS.

III

At the risk of answering a charge of promulgating brand new constitutions, we venture to invite the attention of our readers to-day to the humble Petition of the Kings and Chiefs of Western Province of the Gold Coast Protectorate to Her late Most Gracious Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Council which was presented as far back as the year 1898, that being the year which saw the Country's Deputies in England.

Those who have studied the history of the Fanti Confederation of 1871 need not be reminded that that great national movement was well-nigh frustrated, but for the action of some of our own prominent men, who, consciously or unconsciously, by their attitude made it possible for Mr. Salmon, the then Governor, to frustrate the scheme. We of the present generation wax eloquent over the far seeing statesmanship which so far back in our history produced such a scheme, and call the then backsliders traitors to their country's cause, but hardly do we stay to consider that we would do well first to remove the beam from our own eyes. Do we not even in these days throw cold water upon one another's efforts to promote the public good, and do we stop short of imputing unworthy motives? Backsliders and weak-kneed brethren ruined the Fanti Confederation movement. We wait to see whether it will be possible for history to record the same verdict of those whose plain duty it is to lead the country to the victory that awaits manly honest effort.

Why do we speak of victory while the battle is scarce begun? For answer, we refer our readers to the Preface of the Report of the Proceedings of the Deputation of 1898 at page II, where we read as follows: "So far as relates to the Petition for alteration in the representation on the Legislative Council no discussion took place, and the Colonial Secretary requested that it should be represented through the British Governor at Accra, where the matter will have, in the first instance, to be discussed. If the Kings and Chiefs are not satisfied with the decision given at Accra they can appeal to the Queen in Council." That was in 1898, in the days when the principles of true and healthy imperialism had not captured the strongholds of high statesmanship. Those were the days when it was yet thought the proper thing to ram down the throat of an unwilling people the doctrines of a dangerous imperialism by the maxim and by the sword. Since then all right-thinking statesmen have subscribed to the principle that the different links of the Empire must be cemented other than with the blood of innocent men; and that, in thus acting, they save the soul of the British nation, and work hand in hand with Him who asked: "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" These things being so, we ask, with all earnestness, since the authorities at Downing Street have not thought it amiss to direct the promulgation of the Sierra Leone Ordinance, which enlightened opinion in England has described as a sound Legislative Act—an act which practically grants to the Aborigines of the Protectorate of Sierra Leone a Miniature Parliament, the Governor representing the Crown, and the Legislative Council, if you so please, the Lords—what further stimulus do we require to put forth our case?

Therefore when it is remembered that, as far back as 1871, Gold Coast statesmen foreshadowed a similar scheme in the constitution of the Fanti Confederation, which again came to the front in 1898, we willingly take the responsibility to-day of strongly urging our people to leave no stone unturned until they have secured a fully representative Government.

We want leaders very badly, men of talent and of manly courage, men who will be prepared to speak for the people with no uncertain sound; and, pray, if ever we find such men in any walk of life, whether among the prophets, or among the physicians, or men of the Law, or even among men not unacquainted with the wiles of the Kroo labourer, let us have the honesty and the courage to recognise and follow them, lest the saying should become true in our case, namely "the stone which the builders rejected the same is become the head of the corner." We call upon the true sons of the soil, in the words of Thomas Carlyle, to produce! Produce! Were it but the pitifullest infinitesimal fraction of a product to produce it in God's name; and may we not add, and for the good of the Fatherland!

THE GREAT LIBEL TRIAL.

After twelve days trial, the charge for libel which the Crown instituted against the Proprietors of this paper for what appeared in our issue of the 21st January last concerning Supt. Quist of Kumasi has ended in the acquittal of the accused. It has been in every way a memorable case. The "Leader" was acquitted. "Veritas" the writer of the article about the goings on at Kumasi has been vindicated, and Quist has been reminded, subject to being haled, to take his trial at the next August Assizes. One hardly knows what to wonder at most, the facts given in evidence by the then Acting Chief Commissioner of Ashanti and by the Cantonment Magistrate, or the keen unflinching interest of the public in general from day to day, the numbers of persons attending court increasing to such an extent on last Wednesday and Thursday that it is not too much to say that those who stood outside exceeded in number those who were inside the court; or the heartiness with which counsel addressed themselves to their work, the forensic skill displayed; or the great pains and patience displayed by the presiding judge whose great ability and unrivalled experience are known to all men; or the calm and dispassionate manner of the trial which was most impressive at all times especially in its closing stages.

We have always known the Public to have some interest in the Press, but we must confess, never did we suspect it to be of such extent, and that every well-wisher of his race, as well as every lover of the "Truth" was there at one time or another in a most significant and encouraging fact.

The Assessors to His Honour the Judge were Messrs. W. E. Davis, J. Addison, J. Beecham, J. J. Kwofi, and J. E. Arthur. The Attorney-General led the prosecution, and for the defence appeared Barristers P. A. Renner, Hon. J. M. Sarbah, G. H. Savage and C. J. Bannerman. We hope to report the Judge's summing up in the next issue. It has been suggested that the whole proceedings be published in a pamphlet form, this will have

some attention.

The lawyers engaged in this case both for the prosecution and defence are to be congratulated on the way they handled the case. The scene after the verdict was given both at the precincts of the court and through the town was indescribable. The allegations made by "Veritas" were true and nothing but the truth. As the Judge properly said if they were false, it was right that the Proprietors should be punished, but if true, the publication thereof should be commended by all right thinking men.

This paper does not exist to disseminate falsehoods but to expose wrong doing, to correct error and to vindicate Truth and a great blessing will have been conferred on our country if among the direct results of the recent trial arises the resolution of every African to support the Press and to communicate to the Editor nothing but what is true and can be proved to be such at any time. To each and all who wish well to the Gold Coast we say: For your patient courtesy we thank you heartily.

FAIR-GROVES OF THE SEA.

(BY A BANKER)

The bottom of the sea, in places, is a scene of picturesque beauty and adornment almost equalling the loveliest terrestrial displays of nature's lavish richness. Perhaps the best idea of all this elegance and ornate beauty can be gained at the aquarium at Naples, which is reputed to be the finest—though not the largest—in the world.

Here are a number of large, artistically arranged tanks tenanted by varied denizens of the deep; enormous conger eels almost as large as cobras, some half concealed behind rocks, their cunning eyes watching for prey, others contorted like a snake about to strike; shoals of beautiful Mediterranean fish glittering in the cleverly arranged light rays as though formed of sparkling gems; while in other tanks are large specimens of that most repulsive of all marine animals, the octopus, their great bleary eyes leering with an expression of positive malignity and wickedness, which, as a good sized crab is dopped near them, changes to a look of gloating rapacity, as, moving out of its den, the hideous, ungainly creature descends like a shoul upon the poor crustacean, which is soon crushed and transferred to its insatiable maw.

But far more beautiful are the tanks arranged as gardens of the sea. Here is one, a very fair-grove, laid out like a brilliant floral parterre; in the foreground a number of manyhued sea-anemones, some resembling Japanese chrysanthemums with long drooping petals, and some more like their terrestrial namesake, the scarlet anemone; though the resemblance immediately ceases if a shrimp or other small creature approaches too near those waving tentacles, which immediately close over it, and giving it a deadly hug which probably crushes it to death, lodge it in the tube-like body of the animal, where it is devoured at leisure. On a rock at the side are a large number of organisms—Presumably also of the same genus—of a beautiful deep orange hue, somewhat resembling the flowers of one of the orchids; while on the naturally arranged rocks around depend either graceful drooping algae with long feathery fronds, or other and varied forms of these beautiful flowers of the sea.

And, more striking than all, is a tank, the back portion of which is arranged as a gloomy, dark cavern, perhaps to bring into greater contrast the extraordinarily vivid hues of the organisms in the foreground, one of which is surely the most graceful and most fascinating and handsome marine object which can exist. It is an exact representation of a luxuriant palm tree, its erect trunk almost black, but the pendent, translucent fronds, symmetrically arranged around the crown, the most perfect and most lovely sea-green which, it can be imagined, nature could possibly produce.

And if even the depths of the sea are adorned and enriched with all this lavish ornature, how sublime and transcendent must be those supernal realms on high where is the Throne of the Majestic Creator of all, and where those—and those alone—who love and serve Him and who are redeemed through the Saviour's atonement for them will, in company with angels and with those whom they love on earth, revel in the enjoyment of pleasures and felicities which the mind of man cannot conceive, throughout the never ending ages of eternity.

PUBLIC FUNDS.

(BY LIERL.)

What threatens to be a growing evil in Cape Coast is the misappropriation of Public Funds.

Photographs (3 negatives, viz.—1 exterior and 2 interior of the Court) taken during the trial of the "Leader" libel case can be had at Mr. George Hughes's at 1/6 each unmounted and 2/6 mounted.

No "sooner have funds been raised for some purpose or other object useful and beneficial to the Country and for the public good that some saintly looking rascal in position into whose custody it has unfortunately fallen has made short work of it.

This disgraceful proceeding has become so systematic that I doubt very much if the town can raise fifty sovereigns if called upon without having recourse to the collecting card. Certainly, to-day, one of the most difficult feats is an endeavour to collect money in support of any public movement and it is by no means surprising.

Often organizers of public movements and custodians of public funds consider it the height of impudence on the part of the public to call them to account and somehow the public have not pressed for accounts, with the result that hundreds of pounds have been misappropriated and many impudent rascals posing as philanthropists, patriots, and good men, (full of love and charity for the less fortunate portion of mankind) have through these easy channels made snug incomes for themselves.

The following from Lagos which appeared in West Africa 18/2/05 is a good example of above remarks:—

"A case of considerable importance. . . . . by the plaintiffs."

Mr. Jabez B. was as could be judged of a man by his actions and life to all his fellow townsmen a religious patriotic, and upright man: one that feared the Lord and eschewed evil.

He was not only a Church-goer, but a member and a pillar of the same.

He was the back-bone of the Sunday School and all the charitable institutions connected with the town and Church. He was, in a word, a philanthropist of the highest order and was revered by all until his famous pleasure trip without notice to his admirers brought home to all what a mean blaggard he really was.

If Cape Coast did right, her duty would be to put a few of these gentry through, in the same manner as Lagos has boldly and praiseworthy done with her collecting pastor. There is no doubt that if all the moneys collected from the Cape Coast town People and neighbouring villages ostensibly for public purposes from the time of the Lands' Bill agitation were accounted for, there would be such a surplus as would if forthcoming make the inhabitant of this town breathe more freely, and stop, at least, for a time the public collector's rude and unpleasant inroads into his humble abode.

ARE WE UNGRATEFUL?

We believe and do firmly hold, we are as loyal to Her Majesty the Queen, Her crown and dignity as any British subjects in any of Her Majesty's imperial and Colonial World, and for very good reasons. The British Constitution so far as a comparative study of the different constitutions of various governments teaches and exemplifies, is the most advanced, the most adaptive for purposes of localization, the most liberal and impartial, the most appreciative of foreign excellencies, the highest exponent of political evolution, the justest and fairest, the most christianly. It has notes of inspiration. It is formative and is destined to live. We could, without detracting an iota from the Christian Religion, base the great thesis of the brotherhood-of-man upon the British Constitution. Such an attempt would rather shed a light upon Religion for the Doctrine is essentially her offspring. We believe in the constitution. We would never father the wish to desert the Union Jack, there is none other so unbrave, so secure, so free.

But loyalty is not slavery, and the lustre and perfume of the British Constitution is the Liberty of Speech, which is at once the *bona fide* property of the rich and the poor, the learned and the ignorant. It is shorn of those elements which compose its essential and distinctive glory when justice and impartiality no longer meet together therein, nor respect and judgment kiss each other. We take it that the great end of this world-making constitution is to enforce the conservation of individual rights and the sacredness of man as man, besides the introduction of those principles and ideas which have made for the righteousness, joy, and peace of other highly favoured countries in the great Empire, and thus make its distributive force universal. Wherever the Union Jack floats, it should wave the motto far and wide *Salus populi suprema lex*. The foremost law of the British Constitution is the safety, the well-being of the people. When therefore the responsible head of the Gold Coast Government charges the people of the Colony as being ungrateful, and therefore undeserving of those characteristic qualities and immunities of the British Constitution which he is commissioned to carry out and when it is remembered that the head and front of our so offending lies in the fact of our intelligent and constitutional criticisms with regard to the administration of the Government,

we are forced to question the accuracy of the charge and to doubt the actuality of the words alleged to have been used. Are we ungrateful? Does our loyalty to the Queen involve the supposition of our having been decoyed and sold as bondmen in the face of the British Constitution? Are we as subjects disfranchised by any inherent or local disability from enjoying those essential rights which make the Constitution lovable and of good report—those rights which carried out redounds to the political glory of the greatest Empire in the world?

"The people are so ungrateful—said Sir Brandford. Do these words correspond to actual facts? Are we ungrateful "so ungrateful"? Ingratitude is the unpardonable sin of the Gold Coast Moral Code. There is no moral deflection so dishonouring and dishonourable, so heinous and aggravating and this is the charge that the Government after so long a time, prefers against the people of this Crown Colony. If criticising the movements of the Powers that be with a view to ensure the salvation of the people is synonymous with ingratitude, then the Government have the British Constitution to reckon with and not the people of the Gold Coast. Ingratitude should be made of sterner stuff. Ingratitude is "abridgement of all baseness" the sum total of all viciousness. Are we truly and really base and vicious; so base and so vicious as not to expect any good thing from the Government? Why should we not complain when the sinews of war come from the people? Why should not the public by the sweat of whose brow public servants eat their daily bread exercise their constitutional right of speaking out when occasion serves—when the fortune they amass lies dormant and buried misapplied or misappropriated; when the treasury is a financial cemetery instead of the bounding heart of the Colony. Have we no cause to complain? Are not those who rule the Architects of the state? Are they not the guardians of the rights, privileges and aspirations of the constituency they represent? And when instead of Corinthian braw for pillars we have columns of mud for support may we not speak like men? When our rights are not respected must we sit mute; when desolation stare us rudely in the face and we are moving on, on to Nottingham must we sit and see our shrouds sewn for our premature interment? We looked for consolidation but behold disintegration; for our inalienable and indefensible rights but behold humiliating proscription; even common water is denied the thirsty, parcelled land; should our loyalty blind us to our own interests? No, a thousand times no, we must speak out and in no muffled tones though the heavens might fall. We shall never cease to remind public men of trust that they should strive ever to enjoy the entire possession of the confidence and benediction of the people—those they are and whom they serve. This we have conscientiously striven to do as a people, though quietly and unobtrusively. Does this in us seem ungrateful, and yet Sir Brandford says we are ungrateful, and Sir Brandford is the Governor of the Colony. The fact that we are not sensible to favour is so apparent that we leave it unillustrated.

It is enough to say however that if the Gold Coast Colony had been four or five hundred miles nearer the North Pole or an equal measure of distance nearer the South the amount of to-do the successive gubernatorial failures such as we have passed through would have evoked would be matter enough to fill volumes upon volumes. Our memories are not so short as to be branded ingratitude. We are naturally for peace and our rulers should note that notable fact. Let us understand one another. The old days of Cimberian darkness are chapters of ancient history and happily so; Political Philosophy is no longer a book sealed with seven seals; and the times demand in strident tones that the Gold Coast as a Crown Colony should commend itself to the full constitutional sympathies of the Government. The dawn impresses as with its life-giving impact, the day is at hand; let us not use words likely to create ill-feeling or cause misunderstanding. When the Government considers itself aggrieved by the people, let it seek redress in any way, other than charging us in broad day-light with being ungrateful to the head of our nursing fathers carelessly. We demand by all the rights legitimately endowed us by the British Constitution that monies collected in the Country should be used for the Country before impetuous Colonies are subsidized from our revenues; and since this has not been attended to with anything like judicious and proportionate consideration we exercise our vested rights to strongly protest against the unholy appropriation or application of our funds and this is why we complain.—*The Gold Coast People, 2/11/02.*

#### MARRIAGE QUESTION

#### AN ENQUIRY ORDERED.

The Gold Coast Gazette of the 15th May last contains a proclamation signed by Sir John Rodger wherein Sir Brandford Griffith the Chief Justice,

A. W. Osborne Esq. The Attorney General, Hon. J. M. Sarbah, Hon. J. P. Brown, and H. M. Hull Esq. C. M. G. Secretary for Native Affairs have been appointed and authorized to enquire into the following matters viz:—

(1.) Whether the provisions of "The Marriage Ordinance, 1884," as to the succession to property of persons married under that Ordinance and dying intestate, or any other provisions of that Ordinance, tend to prevent natives from being married thereunder;

(2.) Whether the said provisions of the said Ordinance as to succession tend to cause disputes in the family of a deceased intestate;

(3.) Whether the said provisions of the said Ordinance as to succession work any practical hardship by depriving any person of any share of the estate of an intestate to which he or she would be entitled by native customary law;

(4.) Whether a general law of succession to the moveable or immoveable property of an intestate, or to both, to take effect throughout the Colony, is desirable, and if desirable, whether it is feasible;

(5.) Whether it is desirable to introduce legislation to legitimate children born before marriage, and if desirable whether it is feasible;

(6.) Whether any, and, if any, what amendments of "The Marriage Ordinance, 1884," are desirable.

After all this is a matter that concerns primarily the Christian Converts and Missionary Societies, but we trust that every African will take a special interest in the enquiries and place before the Commission what is known of the hardships which several have suffered thereunder and especially the mischief which has been done in several cases.

We trust that timely notice of the sittings of the Commission wherever held will be given to the public, and as this is a matter that concerns us the members of the Gold Coast Aborigines Society will pay some attention to this matter.

#### ENGLAND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

London, May 12th, 1905.

In a recent despatch from Northern Nigeria Sir Frederick Lugard, the High Commissioner, says—"A severe famine has been raging along the upper Benue region, and resulted in the much mortality. Nearly all the young children were sold for food. Some 200 of these have been seized by the Government, and every endeavour will be made to return them to their homes. The expedition which has been operating in the hinterland of Onitsha in Southern Nigeria has accomplished the pacification of the left bank of the Niger, from Anambara Creek to Oguta. A new district will be formed in the hinterland of Onitsha, which will form an important link in the opening up of the tract of country between the Niger and Cross Rivers. They are one or two small patriots still operating in the neighbourhood of the right bank of Cross River. With the commencement of the rains active military field work, will cease till October. Sir Frederick is returning home.

Captain Cronin, H. M. Consul at Dakar, has been deputed by the Foreign Office to acquire into the restrictions which are alleged to hamper the sale of arms and ammunition on the Ivory Coast, with the view presumably of relaxing them if permissible. It is said that the very stringent regulations are a serious drawback on the trade of the legitimate traders.

A Board of trade returns, covering the first three months of the present year, shows that in that period that 2,270 bales of cotton were received from our new cotton growing countries in the West Indies and West Africa as compared with 5,046 in the previous quarter—a total of 7,917 for the six months. In the late quarter the bales received from West Africa and British Central Africa numbered 1851, the proportion of the West Africans being 347. Despite the pessimists and prophets of evil the time is coming, slowly to be sure, when the British markets will be largely independent of Yankee rings.

The rumour that the Elder-Dempster Line was to be subsidized to the tune of £80,000 per annum for the conveyance of the West African mails turn out to be without foundation. It is true that the present arrangements could be improved upon and that with a substantial benefit to British trade, in some ways, but it is not considered likely that the Government will make any radical changes at the present juncture. The Elder-Dempster Line is at present in receipt of £40,000 per annum in connection with the encouragement of the banana industry in Jamaica, and it has also just secured the contract for the West Indian mails.

A bit of a sensation was caused last week by the announcement that the gunboat, *Thistle*, lately employed West African Coast, had been seriously injured on the voyage home. The *Thistle* arrived safely home on Saturday last and her crew was surprised to hear of the reported aster. She will be paid off at once and sold out of service in

July at another great sale of obsolete ships, gunboat *Dwarf* and the survey ship *Goldfinch* are now the representatives of the premier naval power on the West Coast one of the Cruiser Squadrons will visit it at an early date as already intimated in the notes.

The first class battle-ship *Africa*, building at Chatham, will be launched there on the 20th inst. The *Africa*, when completed will have a displacement of 16,300 tons, a speed of 18.5 knots, and an armament of four 12 inch 50 ton Guns in hooded barbette, four 9.2 guns in turrets, ten 6 inch guns in the maindeck battery and twenty eight smaller quick firing guns. She will carry a crew of 777 all told when in commission as a private ship.

It is officially intimated that the King's birthday will be celebrated at all home naval and military stations on Friday, the 30th of June, and at all stations abroad on Thursday, the 9th of November, which is his proper natal day.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

#### To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

Sir,—In a recent issue of the G. C. A. I read with much regret the letter from our Provincial Commissioner to Omanhin Kudjo Imbra in which he writes *inter alia* "I am instructed to call upon you to ask Tufuhin Coker for a special explanation in connection with the disgraceful proceedings which took place when His Excellency last left Cape Coast. As I pointed out to you these proceedings are disgraceful to Cape Coast and especially discreditable to you personally" &c. &c.

Now it is not my intention to offer any explanations (which I am sure would be uncalculated) but to bring certain things to Mr. Murphy's notice which would show him that the adjectives used were rather strong.

In the Royal Windsor History Reader Book V the Author under caption "The Reform Bill" of 1832 writes *inter alia* "In London crowds filled the streets leading from the House of Parliament, and the reform Leaders were cheered as they passed, while those of the opposite party were booed and hissed. Several members of the House of Lords were attacked by the mob &c.; again he writes, "The King was advised to raise to the peerage a number of men who were in favour of the Bill, so that they might take their seats in the House of Lords, and outvote the members opposed to the Bill. William was at first unwilling to do this, and his refusal roused against him the bitter anger of the reform party throughout the country.

When he drove about in London, his carriage was followed by hooting and yelling mobs."

Now if such a thing took place in London at a time (1832) when the British Nation boasted of the highest rank of civilization and the person concerned was His Royal Highness the King himself how can Mr. Murphy say all he has been privileged to say of a people who at best are but semi-civilized and when the person concerned is not a Viceroy or a Regent but a Governor under the Crown Colony system.

Yours faithfully, —KOJO TROWEE.

3/5/05.

Sir,—I presume your Sekondi correspondent will be giving you a full report of the very successful day we had here on Victoria Day. I beg to enclose, however, a list of Winners of Events and should be obliged if you could find room for same in your widely-read paper.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours very truly,—J. ENON,  
Hon. Sec.

P. E. I enclose also a programme, not necessarily for publication, but for your information.

J. E.

Wesleyan Mission House,  
Sekondi May 24th, 1905.

#### PROGRAMME OF EVENTS AND WINNERS.

1. Throwing the cricket ball, limited to 12 competitors.  
1 R. B. Smith, 2 Edward Bruce, 3 J. E. Squire.
2. 100 Yards Flat Race: for boys under 15 years of age.  
1 Henry Mills, 2 George, 3 J. Q. Mills.
3. Quarter Mile, Open.  
1 J. E. Squire, 2 Dadson, 3 Stephens.
4. 100 Yards Flat Race: boys under 12 years of age,  
1 Halon, 2 Bohsun, 3 Abban.
5. Girls' Egg and Spoon Race:  
1 Mary Ann Clarke, 2 Abbah Kessuah, 3 Angona Gottfreds.
6. 100 Yards Flat Race, Open:  
1 J. E. Squire, 2 Quaye, 3 Kudjoe.
7. Tug of war, Teams, Police, Warders, Customs, Volunteers, Transport, G. C. M. T., Winners, Volunteers, captained by F. G. Main Esq.
8. Half Mile, Open.  
1 J. K. Squire, 2 J. E. Mills, 3 Quassio.
9. Three-legged Race: School Boys,  
1 Charles Agebu and Thos. Sarbah, 2 H. Mills and J. E. Mills.
10. Horse and Jockey Race "horse" blindfolded,  
1 Kudjoe Lewis, 2 Nortey.
11. Warders, Police and Volunteers Flat Race: two from each,  
1 Lance-Corpl. Mensah, 2 Private Botchey.
12. Climbing the Greasy Pole: Prize, a cheese,  
Won by Quamie Allotey, aged eight.

# The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. III  
No. 155.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1905.

Price 3d.  
Including postage 4d.

## THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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MANAGER

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

INVALUABLE TO LADIES.

## NOTICE.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Until further orders Mr. Matthew Sagoe Crensil of Salt Pond will from this date and henceforth act on my behalf as my authorized agent Auctioneer to dispose of or sell goods, lands, houses &c. by public auction and to carry on such business at Salt Pond or elsewhere in the Central Province.

J. W. ENCHILL.

Saltpond, June 1905.

### GENERAL NEWS.

The Clerical Headmaster of the Government School, the Rev. Bruce Austin is gone home on leave.

Ambah Amuasiwa a young girl residing at Dawson's Hill died last week. Being a member of the Varrick Christian Endeavour, the Society turned out for the funeral, their first funeral, we believe. The Templars also attended.

The Attorney General left for Accra last Saturday. The members for the Council (Messrs. Sarbah and Brown) also left for Headquarters by the Fantee.

By the Fantee Mr. Batty (Millers) passed down from Sekundi to Accra, Mr. Nicol (The African Association) joining him from this port.

We understand they are to meet the Chief Agents there, and then all come up. We must expect some changes in the mercantile world, for the better we hope.

Mr. Justice Stanley Morgan after thirteen years service in this "Colony" has just retired on pension.

The Appeal Court, we understand sits on the 21st of this month.

Can any of our Readers throw more light on the "Public Officers' Guarantee Fund" for us, either privately or for publication.

Our reporters not having been quite ready with their report of the Judge's address, we publish only the information this week, leaving that, and the Verdict for the next issue.

We have seen copies of Mr. Hughes's photos taken during the trial, friends at the Outstations may perhaps like to have copies. For the outstations the prices will be 2/- for the unmounted and 3/- for the mounted.

His Honour Mr. Justice Smith went down to Salt Pond for the Assizes last Tuesday morning.

The "Ethiopian Progressive Association" is the name given to the Association formed last year by

West Africans and West Indians in Liverpool. Mr. J. A. Johnson (Sierra Leone) is the President and the Secretary is Mr. Kwesi Ewusi.

Mr. Ewusi formerly a student in the Grammar School has just won a scholarship at the Liverpool University to the value of £105. He is the son of the late Mr. Aikins of Elmina, and a nephew to the de Heers.

Amongst the Honorary Members of the Association, we find Rev. T. E. Ward, Messrs. Inaidoo, Minnow, C. Bartels-Kodwo, J. H. Mills &c. From a copy of its Constitution before us the Association should be a success, and useful to the Race. May it live.

Abura now has another King (Omanhin) Oton VI, the ceremony for his installation having been completed last Saturday.

We understand the Appeal Court will be presided over by the Chief Justice Sir Brandford Griffith, His Honour Mr Justice Smith and His Honour Mr. Justice Parcell.

Mr. White has returned from Sekundi, and is to hold classes on Agriculture in connection with the Fanti Public Schools, Ltd Pupils from other Schools may attend. We hope our lads will make good use of their time by attending the classes.

### MEN WANTED.

- Men whose word is their bond.
  - Men who possess opinions and a will.
  - Men who will not lose their individuality in a crowd.
  - Men who will be as honest in small things as in great things.
  - Men whose ambitions are not confined to their own selfish desires.
  - Men who are not afraid to take chances, who are not afraid of failure.
  - Men of courage, who are not cowards in any part of their natures.
  - Men who will not have one brand of honesty for business purposes and another for private life.
- Answers.

### AXIM

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The old Cemetery is now full and the new one is in use.

Mr. James Johnson (a native of Sierra Leone) who has been unwell for the past few days, died last week. His remains were interred at the new Cemetery amidst a large concourse of friends, in the absence of the Revd. Mr. Sackey Messrs. Wilson and Anderson two local preachers performed the funeral obsequies.

The town was greatly stirred by the arrival last Monday of a full grown Krosboy about 2 feet 6 inches long, parading through the town. He was followed by a large number of spectators.

DIXCOVE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

27/5/05.

A branch of the Salvation Army which was formed here about a year ago and was extinct, is being revived by Mr. Francis Comney of this town.—We wish Mr. Comney all success.

The school affairs of this town, upon which we adverted in year issue of 24th April last, has not as yet been fully settled.

The dispute between the two chiefs of this town has not as yet been settled; what puzzles me in the whole affair is when two men break the peace by a fight and only one is made to suffer for the breach; assuming that an aggression started from side A, is it right for side B to take the law in their own hands by retaliating.—This is the nature of the split between the two chiefs of this town.—If both had been fined, peace would have been restored long ago. [B ut if they were in the right. Ed.]

As to the scholars who took active part in the fight, I call the following from your issue of 30/1/04, for their instruction, under "The Duty of the Educated Natives."

In regard to bravery the deceased was said to have defeated one of the above companies some years back and a flag which bore the emblem of the said Company was displayed to which the No. 3 Company objected; a quarrel ensued which resulted in a great riot that might have done damage to a great many souls but for the help and skill of Messrs Samuel Sacoomb and P. J. Minneaux who put an end to these bloodshed by taking the flag in dispute from them. . . . We congratulate the two gentlemen here named and hope the educated men of other towns will follow their example and perform such noble deeds in order to relieve our Ahinfa from fines and responsibilities and leave the persons empty with such-like criminals."

The affairs of the "I. O. G. T." and the "Band of Mercy" in this town are anything but satisfactory; I am given to understand that certain gentlemen are underneath it all.—As was remarked by Kwamin Aare in your issue of 6/5/05—we do not want any more discussions in this town from namby-pamby scholars.—and, as my business is to expose error and fraud, I hope to be able to give the full names of these Nana Sahibs in a subsequent issue.

Empire Day.—Nothing was done here towards the celebration of this day excepting that the flag pole at the Fort which has been laid bare for years, saw a "Union Jack" flying over it.—Our chief disappointment on this day was the school-children not having been prepared to give us even songs and recitations, in honour of the day, as is done in other towns; perhaps our Minister-in-charge is not aware of this, but we recommend that in future he pays special attention to it—inviting the D. C. and other prominent men in town to the school room for the purpose.—

We are much pleased with the arrival in town of Mr. L. P. Coussey as agent for Messrs. Millers Ltd. in place of Mr. J. W. Debeer who we understand has been transferred to Winnehab, temporarily.

TARKWA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

In commemoration of "Victoria Day" the D. C. Mr. Ennis and Dr. Coleroff gave an "At Home" to the European Residents and the mining managers at the Government Hill on the evening of the 24th ult.

On his journey to Kumasi Rev. Father Oge touched at this, conducted Mass Services at the Court House, and administered the Sacrament of Baptism to a few Members of the Roman Catholic Society lately organised by Mr. Carl Stout.

The Rev. Father Oge arrived here from Bekwai on Monday the 22nd. ult. and a mass was said by him on Sunday the 28th, at the court house, the first one ever said at this place. Among the European attendants were the D.C. Mr. Ennis, Dr. Holcroft, Mr. Lacom of Swazoo, Mr. Adams of G. C. machinery & Trading Co. and Mr. Fortinades. There were three communicants. Benediction also took place at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Rev. Father left on Tuesday the 31st, for Dunkwa after having visited some of the mines.

APPAM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Rev. James Reynolds the new Circuit Minister arrived here on the 13th ult.

The wife of Mr. L. H. Leedom, one of the influential gentlemen here died at Accra on the 29th ult.

The Victoria Day was a grand day here. May we call the attention of the Government to the newly constructed Street here which is in a wretched condition.

WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The provincial Commissioner Mr. Murphy and Mrs. Murphy who arrived here on the 29th ult. from Cape Coast overland left here this morning (the 1st inst.) Mr. District Commissioner Griffith accompanying them as far as Appam.

Since Mr. Briandt's dismissal as school master there has been no one to fill the position. It was understood that one "G. A. R." had applied, but as it is impossible for the blind to lead the blind without the two falling into a pit we hope the School Committee will apply to the Grammar School or Collegiate at Cape Coast for a qualified school master to manage the school.

The attention of the District Commissioner is called to the unsanitary condition of the town, especially the latrines at Popy road.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

This number should have seen us on the trial of the "Leader," as a good many of our Readers have written to express that desire, but we must give way for the last instalment of "The Parting of the Ways," and then—Plenty of time. We are not in a hurry. Perhaps we may by that also, gain time to learn more of the effect of the result of this memorable Trial, on ourselves as well as others.

In the meantime may we not render our hearty and sincere thanks for all the telegraphic and epistolic congratulations that have since come in? How much we have been encouraged by these, an eyesore as it may prove to be to others! Neither *Verite sans peur* nor *Veritas prevalebit* can be a bad motto for a journal out here; no, not even, *Vincit omnia Veritas*, but in the Colonies,—also in a British Colony even, one cannot be guided by any of these, without having all sorts of motives attributed to him, harmless and innocent as he may be. Why, there are some even-ready to level at his head, a charge of disloyalty or "a trouble in Israel;" and this, even whilst having the Union Jack floating over you, and you are "booked down," and we who are in the Colonies or Protectorate know what this means.

Justice, Fairplay, Honesty, *the Golden Rule*, in full swing in the dealings of the Authorities with the governed, is all we pant after and nothing more; to see every one righted, be he white or black or yellow is all that we desire to live for; to see every man a free man in that part of the globe where Divine Wisdom has quartered him, with all that so called Civilization with her advantages may enjoy, notwithstanding, is all that we long for and he who "in every age, in every clime," pursues after this, and on this account, and this alone be made to suffer, let him count himself privileged, nay honoured, to be in "the noble army of martyrs."

It will be well for all and sundry no matter where we hail from, that in our social, moral and political lives we be guided by these lines:—  
What conscience dictates to be done  
Or warns me not to do,  
This teach me more than hell to shun  
That more than Heaven to pursue.

Our hearty and sincere thanks are hereby tendered to all friends who showed such a striking sympathy with us—the Press—in that our hour of trial!

The Sierra Leone *Weekly News* of May last contains an article on the "Railway Department" which may be read with much interest and edification by our Government. Governor Probyn's desire is, "to utilise as much as possible local resources where these could be efficiently secured;" and with this in view three African youngmen have been appointed as Engine Drivers. Mr. Robinson the Assistant Locomotive Superintendent, has selected 3 youngmen whom he trained himself, and the selection has met with the acquiescence of the General Manager and the approval of the Governor.

The article goes on to say—"In the West Indies and in the Congo the Engine Drivers on the Railway are natives of the soil. It is gratifying therefore to see that a beginning has been made here in this direction. This will in a measure reduce the heavy expenditure now being incurred to keep an efficient staff of European Engine Drivers.

This is a thing unknown on the Gold Coast, and when one speaks he is put down as being "against the Government," and whatever that means we cannot say, perhaps some one may enlighten us. All those who have travelled on the Sierra Leone and Lagos Railways, and have been privileged to see ours too, tell us of the "wonderful" difference between them and ours, and yet all were laid by the same Firm, the only difference being, that

this is the Gold Coast. Is it too much to say that of all the three British West African Colonies this is the least progressive, and the most fortunate in its administrators, all things considered; whilst hearing now and again of the splendid progress that is being made in the Sister Colonies whatever their grievances may be (for they are Crown Colonies) we here live to groan and croak, and this is what the British at home cannot understand and can only say, to complain is chronic with us: Not so: we are yet to know the person who having lived in any of the Sister Colonies, does not notice the striking difference between her and ours how things are done or managed.

But in this the Government cannot take all the blame. We dreadfully lack PUBLIC-SPIRITED men, and this to some extent, makes all the difference. Public men, we have enough and to spare, but public spirited-men, if the truth must be spoken remains the need of the hour. Let him who will deny this, but the truth remains, and herein lies a great deal of our trouble and non-progressiveness. If we were to have a glimpse of what is behind the scene—but we must draw down the curtain. We must, until some day, for *akyér, akyer oco n'asi*.

We seem to have one of the most remarkable Railways in the world—a line of 108 miles. And the management, and the doings of the staff, and the treatment meted out to the Native officials! As we write we have before us the last correspondence of the "Owl in the Railway Yard," and we must confess, we find it impossible to believe what is said of the goings on there. If all this is true, then some officials over there—white and black—need to be reminded that they are officials. It is a great pity to find some of our own colour, because they are not "natives of the soil" behaving most outrageously. The article referred to above, winds up thus.—We are further gratified that His Excellency is keeping an eye on this important Department of the Government." *Verbum sat sapienti*.

The returned inter-colonial Match at Accra the other day, which was reported in these columns by our special Reporter tells many strange tales, and has many object lessons to teach our cricketers which will be well for them to learn in the interest of Cricket in the Colony. More anon.

THANKS FOR SYMPATHY.

Mr. M. Birch Tarcole begs to return his sincere thanks on behalf of himself and family to all kind friends here and abroad, who by letters, telegrams and personal calls have sympathized with him on his recent bereavement on the death of his never-to-be-forgotten father Chief Kudjoe Tarcole on the 17th. March, his affectionate employer (Agent) Mr. J. S. Wood on the 27th., his promising uncle Kwofi Sam on the 1st May and his kind mother-in-law Miss Susana Obill on the 9th. instant.

May they rest in peace and in the bosom of the Creator. Amen!

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 in which replies may be expected must be accompanied with Stamps.

The Gold Coast Leader.

CAPE COAST, JUNE 10, 1905.

THE PARTING OF THE WAYS.

IV

In winding up the discussion which we opened a month ago on the subject of a more representative Government for the Gold Coast, we cannot do better than reproduce in *extenso* the leading article of our contemporary the *Lagos Weekly Record* of the 29th April last, which will show that West African public opinion is being keenly exercised over Governor Probyn's enlightened scheme and that in order not to lag behind along the line of progress, we must be up and doing. Here is the article:—

RATIONAL LEGISLATION AT SIERRA LEONE.

Private information from Sierra Leone of late has invariably announced that the Governor was busily engaged with the business of the Protectorate. Governor Probyn's activity in the direction indicated has fructified into an ordinance for regulating the government of the Protectorate distinguished for its wise and beneficent provisions and its adaptedness to these

needs of the situation while at the same time it is negative also of the exceptional administrative capacity of Governor PROBYN. We perceive in this important Protectorate ordinance of Governor PROBYN not only the germ of a wise policy of administration but, the germ also of a verile and effective system of co-operation amongst the native tribes the result of which must prove beneficial and far-reaching. The ordinance the purpose of which is stated to be "to simply, modify and give effect to native law in the protectorate of Sierra Leone," provides for the constitution of assemblies of paramount chiefs, who shall be charged with the government of the country and empowered to enforce the tribal laws and customs prevailing in each tribal district. The assemblies are to consist of a local assembly of paramount chiefs, and a general assembly of paramount chiefs of the race to which the chiefs of the local assembly belong, the latter being composed of three paramount chiefs of each of the local assemblies. The District Commissioner or any other officer appointed by the Governor for the purpose shall, if present at a local Assembly or at a General Assembly be president. If neither the District Commissioner nor such officer are present, the president shall be the chief selected to act as president by the paramount chiefs present at the Assembly. The meetings both of the local Assemblies and of the general Assemblies aforesaid shall be at such places and such times as the District Commissioner or any officer appointed by the Governor for the purpose may from time to time determine.

The following embodies the powers and purview appertaining to the chieftain assemblies:—

Every Local Assembly and every General Assembly aforesaid may by petition or resolution submit, through the President to the Governor or to any other officer appointed by the latter to receive the same, a request:

(a) To pass any law for the welfare of the race and territory represented by the Chiefs constituting such Assembly.

(b) To refrain from passing, or from passing without modification, any law which is deemed to be adverse to the welfare of the race and territory represented by the Chiefs constituting such Assemblies.

(c) To permit representatives of the Assembly chosen by the same and not less than three and not more than five in number to enquire into and report upon to the District Commissioner or to any other officer appointed by the Governor for the purpose, boundary disputes, complaints against Paramount Chiefs or Sub-Chiefs, and into any other matter affecting the welfare of the race and territory represented by the Chiefs forming such Assembly.

The report of such representatives if approved of by the District Commissioner or other officer as aforesaid shall be deemed to represent the opinions and wishes of all the Paramount Chiefs belonging to the Assembly, by which such representatives are selected.

Any request preferred as aforesaid shall be deemed to represent the opinions and wishes of all the Paramount Chiefs of the Assembly by which such request is preferred including those present and those absent from the meeting of the Assembly at which the request was preferred.

Every request and every report as aforesaid shall be in writing and shall be signed by the President or in the case of a report by the representatives aforesaid, and shall be forwarded by the District Commissioner or President to the Colonial Secretary for consideration by the Governor.

Every such report and decision of the Governor thereon shall be recorded by the District Commissioner in the District Decree Book, or in such other manner as may from time to time be prescribed by the Governor.

8 Whenever a law is passed by the Legislative Council which embodies the principles which give effect to any request preferred by any Assembly acting under this Ordinance, and whenever any such Assembly prefers a request that any law passed by the Legislative Council may be applied wholly in part to any territory or race represented by such Assembly, the fact that such request has been preferred shall be published in the Gazette, and every such notification in the Gazette shall be printed and published as part of the annual volume of the laws of the colony and of the protectorate.

9 All works upon, or for the improvement of the lands or houses which, subject to tribal custom, belong to a Paramount Chief or Sub-Chief, shall be done and performed by the labourers of such Chief and by the people of his town, to the extent and in the manner prescribed by native law and custom.

It shall be an offence for a Chief to compel, or to endeavour to compel, by fine or threats or other means, the people of any other town or any other labourers or people to do work upon or for the improvement of his lands and houses aforesaid, and any Chief who commits such offence shall be liable to deposition by the Governor, or to fine in lieu of deposition. If such Chief has used such compulsion to an extent which has made the condition of the people subjected to the same one of slavery or one approaching the condition of slavery, such Chief shall, on conviction in the Supreme Court or Circuit Court be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for a period not exceeding five years.

The ordinance provides rules for the governance of strangers located in the district but who are not subject to the control of the native chief and amenable to the tribal laws and who will be required to pay an annual sum of one pound sterling for the plot of land given him for residence. And in case where an ar-

angement already exists whereby tribal authority has been obtained for the erection of buildings of a permanent character on land, such arrangement must be committed to writing in the form of deed and it must be stated in such deed the annual consideration to be paid to the paramount chief. In case where there are a number of residents who are not subject to tribal authority, locations may be set apart for such residents under certain conditions and stipulations. Provision is also made for the contingency of local disputes between Natives and Europeans, and is contained in the following section:—

"It shall be lawful for any Paramount Chief in whose district a considerable number of Europeans, Sierra Leone traders or missionaries have settled or are residing, to apply to the District Commissioner to appoint one or more of such settlers or residents to sit as joint judge with him in any dispute which may arise between any of such settlers or residents and any of the natives in the chiefdom over which he is Paramount Chief. It shall be lawful for any District Commissioner to whom such application is made to appoint subject to confirmation by the Governor, the resident or settler so nominated by the Chief to sit as joint judge as aforesaid for one year from the date of such appointment. Every such appointment shall be noticed in the Gazette."

The ordinance puts limitation on the powers hitherto exercised by district commissioners and repeals the "Protectorate Jurisdiction Ordinance 1903." The brief outline given will suffice to afford some idea of the nature and importance of an ordinance which must commend its wise and beneficent provisions. There can be no doubt that the system of administration inaugurated by Governor PROBYN at Sierra Leone implies a new departure, and one which will be prolific of incalculable good for British rule in West Africa, and which must also unquestionably redound to the credit of Governor PROBYN and to his exceptional administrative ability.

We are at the parting of the ways. One way lies in freedom of thought, sympathetic discussion, united action, then political victory, consisting of a fuller representative system of Government for the Gold Coast in which the tax-payer will have an effective voice in the Council chamber. The other way lies in apathy, mutual recrimination, distrust of one another, then political death—death from which there can be no possible resurrection. We are optimistic enough to think that our people will choose life rather than death; and, what is more, that, with their last breath, they will urge on to victory and political freedom.

CHILDREN OF THE DESERT.

(BY A BARKER)

Those wild, caftan'd sons of Esau who roam over the desert, or congregate round the pyramids and other places of interest in Egypt and Syria in the hope of extorting "backsheesh" from travellers, or who lurk, in unfrequented roads in anticipation of plunder, although a turbulent, prodigious race, are yet withal but children in some of their tastes, pleased with the merest trifle, and with far less education than a schoolboy.

An Arab fête is indeed a weirdly vacuous and inane performance. In the background looms the mighty pyramid of Cheops, the stupendous structure towering majestically upwards towards the skies, its vast proportions appearing in the fitful moonlight even more huge and prodigious than in the glare of day. In the immediate foreground is the flower bedecked garden of the great hotel built under the shadow of those wondrous relics of the past, the waving fronds of graceful lofty palms, illuminated with coloured lamps, reminding the spectator of a scene from the Arabian nights; while outside, formed up in a ring, are congregated a large number of wild white robed Bedouin—men only, their wives and daughters being left behind in their tents in the desert to attend to their household duties—intermingled with many British ladies and gentlemen.

The ring being cleared, the place is brilliantly lighted up with coloured fires, hideous and discordant sounds, supposed to be music, are produced from probably the identical form of instrument which was in use when Pharaoh ruled over the country, though a considerable effort of the imagination is requisite to enable the listener to realize that any human being can regard that grating stridor as tuneful melody. A number of shrieking Arabs now rush in and perform an insipid pantomimic dance, which, though it appeared immensely to express their excited compatriots, is a most graceless and uncouth performance not worthy of description.

But now a diversion is created by a sudden sand storm from the desert, the powerful Bengal lights colouring the sand laden atmosphere a brilliant red, tinting everything in a weird and lurid hue, and causing the gesticulating natives to resemble a spectral horde writhing in some fiery inferno. This, however soon subsides, the moon again shines forth in all her glory, once more revealing the solemn grandeur and stately dignity of that mighty monument of Cheops, the Bedouin lie off to their desert homes, and the British speed back to Cairo by electric rail.

And how immovable is the East under the mis-

ma of Mohammedanism; for, as the centuries go by, and as Christian nations continue to advance in knowledge and in attainments the incubus of that strange retrograde faith shackles and fetters its devotees, and enchains them in the gyres and manacles of a cruel and soul destroying yoke. And so must it be until they accept the faith of the Christian, and realize that the Lord Jesus—Whom, strange to say, the Koran admits to be a Divine Person—has died for them as their Substitute, and that whosoever cometh unto Him for life and for salvation will be received with a glad and a loving welcome.

THE GREAT CRIMINAL LIBEL CASE.

REX v. Brown and Assam, Proprietors, G. C. Leader. The Hon'ble the Attorney General (Mr. Willoughby Osborne) for the Prosecution.

Messrs. Renner, the Hon. J. M. Eardley, G. A. Savage, and C. J. Bannerman for the Defence.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE GOLD COAST COLONY, (CENTRAL PROVINCE.)

THE 19TH DAY OF APRIL, 1905.

At the Assize holden at Cape Coast on the 1st day of May 1905, the Court is informed by the Attorney General on behalf of our Lord the King that Joseph Peter Herbert Brown and the Reverend Fynn Egyir Assam being then the Proprietors of a certain newspaper, to wit the "Gold Coast Leader", did on or about the 21st day of January 1905 at Cape Coast within the jurisdiction of the said Court in their said newspaper dated 21st day of January 1905 aforesaid unlawfully published certain defamatory matter concerning Isaac Emmanuel Quist, a Superintendent in the Police Force of the Gold Coast Colony in the words following that is to say—

"A Scandalous Outrage by Superintendent Quist of Kumasi."

Sir,—Your numerous readers may have heard of the perpetrations of the unprincipled I. E. Quist the local Superintendent of Police, but the following rec- occurrence of which we are about to relate undoubtedly surpasses all previous escapades of his. We will just put it in a nutshell calling upon the Commission of Police to dismiss him from the Force as a man unworthy of his position or calling upon him to take legal procedure to vindicate his character if he thinks he can do so.—On the 26th of December without a specified charge, and without warrant a young woman named Abah—and lodged her in custody. About 7 p.m. on that day Quist called the girl into another apartment (and the girl was lodged in the police cell) and misconducted himself with her. He then sent her home to return in the morning to be taken to the court. The case was adjourned the when the court sat. On the 28th ultimo (two days afterwards) early in the morning at about 5-30 he sent a Policeman to fetch her from her home and on her arrival at the Station inveigled her into a room in the Station and repeated the misconduct. The girl reported the affair to her mother on her return home, upon which the mother prepared an affidavit about it and went to the Chief Commissioner's Court who is said to have directed her to pass it through the Cantonment Magistrate. She accordingly went to the Cantonment Magistrate's Court but the Magistrate (Doctor Tweedy) did receive the affidavit, but did not swear her and up to now nothing has been heard of the affidavit! On the 3rd inst. the girl went into Court but without a charge being preferred against her. She was discharged! Immediately on her return home Quist, evidently under the fear that the affair might leak out ordered the girl to leave the town at once asserting that he was acting under the instructions of the Cantonment Magistrate Doctor Tweedy. The girl at first hid herself but afterwards left the town secretly, but Quist who can stoop to do any vile thing under the sun not being being aware that his victim had left town, arrested the mother of the girl and put her in prison for refusing to give up the girl to be chased away from town, and even threatened to starve her by disallowing her being supplied with chop; the next morning after the arrest of the mother Quist sent a Policeman to send her away but some kind friends seeing that by reason of her age she could not walk to the Coast, went to see the Magistrate offering to pay her passage by train when the Magistrate caused her release. These are the very facts, Mr. Editor, and yet we live in a British Colony! We are,

Yours faithfully,—Verrax.

(Our Kumasi Correspondent has also written at length on this scandalous affair, which if it were somewhat crystallized in this correspondence we publish without that. One cannot very well blame Quist, poor fellow, his Senators have turned him out like this, and this speaks very well of some Heads of Department; it shows how much they interest themselves in their Departments, when all goes well with their vouchers. Ed.)

with intent to defame the said Isaac Emmanuel Quist against the form of the Ordinance in such case made and provided and against the peace of our Lord the King his Crown and dignity.

(Sgd) CHARLES W. MURPHY, for Attorney General.

- Plas—  
 (1) Not guilty  
 (2) Justification  
 (3) The matter is true and it is for the public benefit.

## SCRUTINEER.

The more I think of the unchanging conduct of the Government; the more I think of the way laws are made and moneys voted and expended out, and particularly the more I think of the Town Councils Ordinance, the more am I strengthened in the belief that the Government take us for a community of babies and dolls who could be handled and swayed backward and forward at will. Their idea is that the natives may be considered as nonentities, and in every question, the unassailable Government will must prevail by fair means or foul, even if they made a show of consulting native opinion, and it was against them. They believe that their intentions are always holy and undefiled; their laws just and above reproach; their general conduct wisely and above censure; and consequently any undertaking on their part affecting the natives must be swallowed without a hiss. As men in authority they expect, in effect, that we should adopt the resigned attitude of the Biblical centurion's soldiers, and to do as we are told; whether it comes to giving up our landed possessions by the grace of a "Lands Bill," or whether it ends in rendering ourselves liable to be used free of fee under the mercy of a "Compulsory Labour Ordinance."

This has been the cult of the British Government in our midst—that the blacks should yield ready obedience to all measures proceeding from them. It may be true that we have all along almost shown a chronic non-chalance towards our own interests, and have been snoring hard in sleep when our liberties are being infringed, and when our houses are actually on fire. But considered on the other hand it implies a mean and cowardly conduct on the part of the Government to have taken advantage of the unconcernedness of the People and bereft them of most of their rights and privileges delineated in bonds and treaties extant. A Government that pays no regard to its boundary mark but persistently encroaches on the property of its neighbour is an ill-blood-provoking Government. A Government that does not carry on its administration under fair methods but adopts harsh and peremptory measures on its subjects thereby bedevilling their state and with despatches crying, Peace, peace, whilst there is no peace" is a fraud. A Government that is brained with the belief of a divine-right of ruling the People according to its own disposition; a Government that believes that the People exists for it and not it for the People, and that its will and not the will of the People must lead, is surely a terrible institution for humanity.

Such is the spirit and peculiarity of the Gold Coast Government. We have got to hammer out and render into atoms its evil nature, using hammer and tongs at the same time. It is our patriotic duty to remind the Government that it exists for the People and that its will should be subservient to them, but not vice versa. It may be an unpleasant lesson for it, but willingly or unwillingly it has got to learn. No fear. To get at this end it is our imperative business to see that we are fairly represented in the Legislature; that at least we have an equality of votes there, as there is equality all round in paying taxes. This panacea secured, all official extravagance, irregularity, carelessness, beef-wittedness and oppression will melt out of existence as fast as the ice before the sun. Herein lie two paths out for us. The one leading to the securing of political happiness and equality is fraught with difficulty, is altogether, not an easy one although victory awaits it—it needs soberness, vigilance, vigour, and consistency in purpose. The other, soft and easy, needs no care nor worry, it is but eating and drinking; but recollect, on the morrow you die in perpetua servility and you are politically non est. Now, which path would you take?

Yours faithfully,—ATTO.

## "GOLDEN NEWS" FROM BADI MERKOR VILLAGE.

A writer from the village of Badi Merkor in Wassaw asks us to give publicity to the following for the benefit of Messrs. F. W. Wilson and Clement Darcy of this town, owners of the Fernweh Mines.

The incident is said to have occurred in broad daylight.—

"On the 23rd. of May I left from my village to Fernweh to hunt bush deer. On my going I met 4 rabbits in a certain stream which flows from Terquah to Fernweh. When I saw these beasts I killed two of them at one shot. About 15 minutes more I saw a large box and I killed him; about 20 minutes I was walking between Asonjah and Fernweh, in a certain hill I hear chuck, chuck, chuck three times and I made quiet to see what is coming, why, because from the village to the place is rather far, any fowl can't come there. Not more than a minute I saw golden fowls one male and one female and their chickens followed them, most

saw one golden dog wagging his tail in the Fernweh stream which I am afraid to go before all these because I have not seen some before. After that I came to the chief and asked him the owner of these mines. The Chief told me that the properties belong to Messrs. F. W. Wilson and Clement Darcy at Cape Coast which they have handed them to Elmina Concession Ltd. London.

The object of the writer is to ascertain if Messrs. Wilson and Darcy are not ready to work the properties, in which case "I may beg the Chief of the land to dig and I will give him the half of whatever I will get.

"Those who seek for better concessions can't get and those who have got can't do what is better."

We hope Messrs. Wilson and Darcy will take the hint and repair to the spot before the golden fowls both male and female with chickens disappear and the golden dog cease wagging its tail.

My Dear Jabez,—Those native Urchins up the front was right after all, any how they each on them got half a dozen of the cat as was ordered by the Genril.

By Jove, Jabez my lad! It wore rare fun! The rummest bit of acting I ever struck! That fellow's an Artist—He's an Artist!

He up into the box like a parson go up a pulpit all serene, and by Jinks! You might have sartin mistook him for a real genuine one if had 'ad the white fly stuck on to his collar, for the bundle of scripture he had stowed away what he give us a sample on.

He come down on the fallen Angels mighty thick and open all us unfortunate Mortals as have done time, and for coming right out and rattling away of military terms, I can only speak in the lingo of the holy prophets, "Never man so spake." He contended when the charge wore brought to him face to face as he was perfect nincient and was for proving a alibi; but the unlucky dog found the old boy one too many for him.

Talk about being short of funds! Why, if the authorities had any savvy, or if I'd been down to give 'em the wink, it would have been a tanner for every man Jack as put his head through the winder, a bob for standing in the door way, and two bob for a seat in the Court.

What a pile of brass would have been handy for the drinks to the 'ealths of the ladies and gentlemen as come down from the Kingdom in connexion with the affair, eh,—What? Just think of it, eh,—What?

Yours sincerely,—J. REBUS.

## AGRICULTURE.

(Continued from No. 148.)

"What can be produced?" As already observed, the Geological features of this country, in this inland portion compare favourably with those of other countries of vast Agricultural reputation. A soil—exceedingly rich—only awaiting to be tickled into a bountiful yield—the various sizes of the tubers of yams, potatoes &c. bearing evidence to this. The query "what can be produced?" is therefore disposed of—it being evident that any and everything producible can be got. At the present moment,—I am so informed—this Town depends to a large extent on the neighbouring Districts for its food supply whereas, it is true that the less one occupied in the commercial part of any enterprise, and whereas this aspect of position may not have presented any serious phase when foreign commercial trade was at its height here,—for then every one found occupation bringing himself monetary reward—and so long as there was money to secure one's needs there probably need have been no anxiety—now, however, that the position of affairs have become changed, is it not time for us, not only say but do as one or two ladies of this Town have been doing for some time past with, I am told, the most satisfying result? May we not decide to organise ourselves into companies and to cultivate our own corn, bananas, yam, peppers' eddoes, tomatoes, beans, cucumbers, eggcups, mellons, celery, pineapples, mangoes, pomegranates, sweet saps, &c. &c. for our tables, and for the foreign market may not the question of cocoa, coffee, tea, kola, rubber ginger, palm-kernels, arrowroot, and the other things engage our most serious attention?

## IRRIGATION.

But I hear some very strong argument and pertinent questions from the front benches about the question of Irrigation. It cannot, I think, be left out of the calculation that whatever may be the future of the Agricultural position of this interesting country, the question of irrigation will be one to be counted with and the result faced. It must play a most important, if not the most important part, after capital and facility of transport. But I am never without hope. The Empire has had a Cecil Rhodes of South African fame—that Empire that has produced such a man can produce another in good time. Therefore, a "West African Cecil Rhodes" may confirm these expressions that nothing is impossible in any part that is a constituent of H. M. vast dominions. I would suggest that a band of men, under proper supervision be got together to arrange with parties having lands and who may wish to cultivate them for the purpose of digging canals for irrigating

their fields; either for cash payment or—say 25% of the crops produced. I am informed it is not impossible to get a proper flow of water from the Sweet River. Or in a country having a fair number of Native Civil Engineers, farmers might be got to co-operate in irrigation work by either the sinking of artesian wells or pumping as is the case in other parts of the world. For example, a company of Engineers undertaking to erect a small pumping station, arranging with the whole inhabitants of a neighbouring locality to furnish them with water to irrigate their fields during a given period in return for stipulated amount of crops raised annually. It has been shown that such an enterprise has been successful in other parts, and—the money so earned enabled similar undertakings being extended to other Districts, so that large tracts of land which at certain times in the year remained arid have been beneficially occupied—several of the inhabitants having spontaneously offered lands free of charge for the purpose of building pumping—stations and other necessary installations—for the purpose of introducing a systematic application of irrigation in their District. Noble example of self-help!

(To be continued.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

## THE TOWN COUNCILS ORDINANCE.

A STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE.

Sir,—Since the question of the Town Councils Ordinance was mooted, we as a community have shown our utter disapprobation of it: we dislike the Ordinance in all its bearings because it is in every way disastrous and repugnant to our manners, customs and institutions; and there has been a strong protest against it, but might is always beating RIGHT and so the Government is determined not to give ear to our suggestions or to listen to the reasons we have been giving through our local organs; nor do they regard our views submitted as being expedient or equitable—even though men of good reasoning faculties and with unbiased mind over the ocean are of the same views with us, as seen in recent English papers some of which having taken up the question ardently in our favour, but the ruling Power notwithstanding our incessant protests still persist to enforce the Ordinance very shortly: where is the necessity for such an Ordinance?

It seems to me then that this is not the time for us to sit quiet: my reason for saying so is that I have noticed the dullness that now prevails. There is nothing to my knowledge that is being done to stimulate the movement against it. If we say we dislike the Ordinance in toto and there is a way we can appeal against it, why should we be lingering especially when there is some probability of our being backed up by some philanthropists elsewhere. I am therefore referring this matter to the Aborigines Society whose duty is to seek and protect the rights of the people. It would not be prudent to wait at the last moment to rise from our lethargy that is when we see our houses being marked or numbered, before coming to our senses. Let us be up and doing and see whether we cannot spend our last farthing to defray the expenses in representing our views to proper quarters. I have been told that meetings are being held regularly, but for what purpose it is only known to those who meet: but matters of this kind calls for no private meetings, it concerns every body, and therefore any meeting which has for its object the Town Council should be held at a public place or on the other hand such meetings the substance thereof should be communicated to the public by a gong-gong, suppressing matters of such vital importance from the knowledge of the illiterate community tends to bring into their minds that there is nothing being done.

In conclusion, the Ordinance coming into force next July I expect to see between the interval something done satisfactorily before the promulgation of the Ordinance. I am quite prepared to give out my last three pence to seek the welfare of my country and may God deliver us from the impending peril.

Yours truly,—MIRREH-YAMI.

Cape Coast, June 6.

[We have read "Mirreh-Yami's" letter with much interest, there is this however he should note; if he wishes to know what is being done in connection with the Ordinance, let him attend the meetings of the Society which are open to all—the educated and the illiterate, and if they have really any interest in the affair, let them show it by attending the meetings. There are no private meetings held any where and the Society's meeting place which is open to all is public enough. Of course those who do not attend meetings will naturally think there is a lull in the efforts of the People to protest against the Ordinance, but those who go from week to week find it to be just the contrary; and we wish all will come out boldly with their three pences as the above writer. Ed.]

# The Gold Coast Leader.

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## THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

(Payable in advance.)

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

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

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

For copies of the paper please apply to  
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AT AXIM,

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

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MANAGER.

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## NOTICE.

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## NOTICE.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Until further orders Mr. Matthew Sagoe Crensil of Salt Pond will from this date and henceforth act on my behalf as my authorized agent Auctioneer to dispose of or sell goods, lands, houses &c. by public auction and to carry on such business at Salt Pond or elsewhere in the Central Province.

J. W. ENCHILL.

Saltpond, June 1905.

## GENERAL NEWS.

We are pleased to find the Hon. James Muir making a good use of his time at the Council, in the interest of trade. Our only regret is, that all the efforts of the unofficial members avail nothing, and this is the Representation we are blessed with.

Readers of the Gazette may have observed how Bills are rushed through the Council to become laws in the country and this has its tale to tell.

The Sekundi European team played the Cape Coast team on last Sunday and Monday. We understand Sekundi won by 13 runs.

The Government Schools closed for their holidays last Friday week. The Contenary and the Baptist Schools also closed yesterday and the Zion Institute on Thursday.

Some improvements are being made to the Old Hospital now, where the Commissioners are dwelling. Good.

Messrs. C. J. Bannerman and J. Galton Halm left on Thursday morning by the Ferryboat for England.

The Court returned from Salt Pond on Wednesday, and His Honour Mr. Justice Smith sat on Thursday morning.

Thieves broke into Madam Massa's Store by Swanzy's and made away with some silk handkerchiefs about £80 worth last week. And the Police—non est: even in such a prominent thoroughfare.

The Acting Colonial Secretary publishes the following extract from a letter from the Acting British Consul at Boma for general information—

"2. The wages offered to-day are only one-fourth of what a man could earn a few years ago. For instance, a labourer's wages now are only 8/- to 12/- with rations, per month, and a carpenter's or mason's only 25/- to 30/- with rations per month, whereas, in days gone by the wages were 30/- and £4 to £5 respectively.

"3. Men come here thinking to obtain employment for the good wages of the days of yore, only to find to their surprise, that things have greatly changed. And, as they are without means to pay their passages back to their own Colony,

they find themselves forced to accept an engagement on a contract for two years on the reduced scale.

"4. The men, once their contracts are signed, are liable to be sent to the far interior, where they are subjected to treatment almost amounting to military discipline."

—Governor's Gazette.

## ADJUAH.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The Postmaster General has been kind enough to instruct the Post Office here to issue our postal Orders and to show how much the people were eager for them, there was a rush when they were informed of it by a circular letter. We hope he will extend the favour by establishing Money Orders also here to save us the expense of running down to Sekundi for them.

## ABOSSO.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Abosso is an important place which the Government should give some attention to. The merchants and petty traders are daily grumbling for Post and Telegraph offices; letters and papers sent from Tarkwa by the Train are not properly looked after, and so with those sent from here.

G. O. G. R.

To show you that the complaints against the Railway is becoming universal, I may say that we here too, have some serious ones to make of which I shall write to you later on. Things are most unsatisfactory.

On the 11th inst. died at Adjah Bippo (new village) Essie Mensimah daughter of Kobia Akaba of Cape Coast now at Adjah Bippo who was smitten down by fever. The burial took place at 8 a.m. the Adjah Bippo and Abosso Singing Bands attending. Rev. Stanhope officiated.

Abosso is now protected by few constables sent from Tarkwa.

On Thursday the 25th inst. a House man who has made himself out to be a woman for some years, deceiving his fellow men for money was shrewdly caught by one Josiah (Meadie) whom the man-woman promised to marry and handed him to the constables. He has managed to escape.

## DUNKWA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

10th June.

I was obliged by the court compliments paid me by Mr. Korah in the issue of the 25th May, evidently Mr. Korah is working a free about nothing, what he defines as defamatory to his character in my correspondence which appeared in the issue No 150, I fail to see.

Mr. Korah, is an afraid, one of those impulsive young fellows, who being very tenacious of opinion and purpose, (in the opinion sound and healthy or just the reverse), act on the impulse of the moment without considering any extraneous con-

quence that might follow.

In all my correspondence from this end, I have, in justice to the community at large, given details of occurrences with conscientiousness and with as much preciseness as possible; to go beyond these two essential features, I have never attempted; I have avoided all exaggeration of the Truth, and shunned all provarications. In communicating this Handkerchief-theft incident to the "Press," I abridged to a great extent, the narration of the incident to avoid any scandal where the two young men were concerned; but I find to my cost that in exercising this discretion, Mr. Korsh has taken offense at my seeming neglect, in not publishing the whole facts that transpired at the time of their arrest, which would be to his great discredit. It is mean to laugh at a man when he is down on his back; as I do not want to be accused of this meanness, and especially, as I value 'good name' in a man, which is 'the immediate Jew' of his soul, I have no wish to expose to the public the whole facts of the case, although Mr. Korsh has set into motion a cause for so doing.

Mr. Korsh's name as well as that of his confederate, is associated with this handkerchief-theft incident; and as "neither pappy nor Mandragora nor all the cleansing syrups of the world, can medicine and recall that good name he owned before" in Dunkwa and elsewhere, I leave the comments on his letter to the silent contempt it well deserves.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

The return match between Lagos and the Gold Coast as we said in our last issue, has its many object lessons to teach us, which will not be too soon for us to begin to learn, that is, if these inter-colonial matches have become an institution. Concerning the recent one at Accra the other day, those who went down brought up certain reports which if true will do no credit to these inter-colonial matches: its best to say nothing about them. Let Lagos be congratulated for coming out victorious, and the Accra players for doing their best under the circumstances.

Two things we would notice in connection with this match. First we very much regretted the little dispute that arose over the captainship for the Gold Coast Team, resulting in Accra and not the Gold Coast playing the Visitors. If we wish to do a thing, we must do it properly; as a return match, at least, it would have been very much better, if the same players who went down to Lagos last, had played, of course under the same Captain; if there was any necessity for a change, both in the men and Captain, this should have been with future matches. The Central Committee, and some crack players did not think so, hence the disgraceful defeat. By the way, did all the members of that Committee know any thing about cricketing? And if we must credit what we are informed to have been the reasons assigned for the changing of the Captain, and some of the men, all we can say is, its time all such purliness were done away with, and the individual lost in the collective, in matters of this kind.

The other thing to be noted is, what we called attention to sometime ago, and which our cricketers will do well to pay some attention to, and that is, let the principal Towns play each other, and then select the best players of each one to represent the "Colony." Let these be our "County Players." Axim set a fine example the other day, in coming down to play Cape Coast, a splendid example which has never been followed up. Having so many Towns with some splendid players in each of them, this will be the only way to select the players to represent the "Colony" and when the time ever comes for us to play outside West Africa, Lagos and Sierra Leone sending their best men, the men thus selected will have to represent this "Colony." Our last word would be, let our Clubs be properly organized, and then practise practice, practice, and not to simply exist only in name, and then when the time comes for an inter-colonial match, to pick up Mr. So and So, because its thought, he can play or he used to play well or he happened to be in good trim at a certain match, thereby leaving out the good players.

By the way whilst we are on cricket. It was nothing surprising to us, to see the community so shocked at what it witnessed at the Victoria Park last Sunday, cricket match between the European team from Sekondi, and that here. The fact is we are not used to such Sunday Cricket Matches, and that is a European Christian Civilization we are utterly unprepared to take in at this stage of our civilization. Our European friends who did this should try to take in these remarks without self offence as none is intended: (ah yes, quite necessary to put in this, as recent events have clearly shown that it is quite possible for personal pique to influence the performance of official duties.) If it is our duty to speak up at all costs in

the interest of the people when necessary, then we say, we have undergone enough demoralization from our contact with Europeans that we are not prepared to add this to it.

This demoralization of the native from his contact with Europeans (it should be, *some*) is the candid opinion of all right thinking Europeans who view the question scientifically. To confirm this let us remind the reader of what appeared in the *Morning Leader* of May 25th last: there we are told of Mr. WALTER HUNT, an explorer and a sweep who has sprung into notoriety as a SCIENTIST: he observed of the natives of the Pacific Islands and China that they have been degenerated "by reason of their contact with Europeans."

Before the European civilization came in, we as a race, had a day (it is days in some places) which we kept sacred and on that day or those days "no manner of work" was done much more, recreation, and those who profess christianity amongst us have learned to keep the Sunday a holy day, and look upon anything as was witnessed on last Sunday with some awe. Even the very heathen from what we can gather looked on last Sunday's cricketing with a good deal of surprise. Perhaps religious toleration in England permits such a thing, though we doubt if the State would allow the Australians who are now in England to pitch a match against any English players on a Sunday or one County against another. At all events if such a thing can be tolerated in England, we are too young in the growth of christian civilization for any such thing though it may perhaps be nothing to the players themselves. Are the christian gentlemen on the Victoria Park Committee going to allow this?

We have never seen or heard of any such thing about our European cricketers here, though we often hear it of the Sekondi cricketers: we therefore hope they will not seek to contaminate our white folks, whose seldom appearance at Sunday Church services here creates enough surprise to the native christian, and this must not be added. The Missionaries who tell us not to do such things if we profess christianity are from their country and they tell us every white man is a christian at least by profession, and so we are puzzled at such things. Whom are we to follow, the Missionary or the white man in the Country? There should be some consistency. Whatever it may be in England, the fourth commandment, which asks the day to be kept holy has not been blotted out from the Ten Commandments, it is binding on christians—professed or otherwise, and our Government, is a Christian Government, whatever it may be with the individuals in it. Is it going to tolerate such things?

The visit which Messrs. Batty and Nicol, two old coasters, are now making to our principal trading Towns will, we hope, be productive of much good to our Trade which has been suffering and is suffering, shall we say in the hands of our present Managers? We sincerely hope they will be able to take away the little foxes that spoil our commercial vine. It must be clear to any one who is not prejudiced in the matter that the lines adopted by our present Agents are detrimental to our Trade. It must kill Trade: and the Principals of our mercantile Houses in England can only be guided by the recommendations of their local representatives although we are forced to think that they should use their own discretion at times if they do not consider themselves wealthy enough now to be reckless.

Mr. Batty, for instance, must notice the state of affairs in these combination days, to what it used to be in his days, let us say. We say this, whatever may be the usefulness of the combination scheme in civilized countries its success is questionable in this country, if the truth must be let out: if its object is to kill the smaller houses and the Native Merchants, (and we doubt that) then the idea must be suicidal for competition is the soul of Trade. Then also, we must point out that our Merchants are indulging too frequently in lawsuits—unnecessarily so, which must impede the progress of trade. The firm of the African Association particularly is at fault here, as Axim, Sekondi and particularly this Town tell the tale. In fact this House goes on in a way which looks as if they intend closing their Establishment. See the hearing list in the High or Low Court and you find the African Association *versus* this or that. If that was the way the previous Managers went on, this House would have been closed long before now.

From what we know of the present Chief Agent of this firm, this is not his way of doing things, who then is the cause of all this. An Agent has a right to sue a person for his accounts when matters have come to a push but the cases of Ekwa Per and

Lewis and others tell a different tale of how this Firm goes on, which is sure to kill trade, and it will be sure to affect the other members of the Combination Scheme however indirectly, and in consequence affect the Trade of the Town. One seldom hears of such things of the other members of the combination scheme where also people may be indebted; but as their object is, trading and not lawsuits they manage to get in their accounts without all this expenditure in lawsuits. These things must go on, and then store-keepers and clerks must suffer for it. This is not trading. Add to this, the closing of stores, and one would like to know what will become of our trade in a few years hence. But a trace to all this. Ought negro-phobism to be carried to such alarming extent in commerce? The success of the early merchants did not arise from personal interest in their business only but also in the ways and means adopted to make their business a success irrespective of colour. No doubt our English Houses have had enough from the country hence all this, its time then their kinsmen, the American Merchants turn their attention here. More of this anon.

Yet another thing: we would respectfully submit, if Messrs. Batty and Nicol would really like to see some good out of their inspection, and not to undergo the expense practically for naught, let them endeavour to be in touch whilst out here with their clerks and store-keepers, and the Native Merchants, or else it would have been just as good if they had stayed "at home" and read their correspondence. Perhaps we may add, these remarks are made purely in the interest of our trade and nothing more, and as it is possible for the best of men, no matter what his colour may be to err, it will not be amiss to listen to the native side of a question at times, at all events since we are in Africa. Success to our trade! Good health to Messrs. Batty and Nicol.

### THANKS FOR SYMPATHY.

Mr. J. E. Condué (Elmina) desires to thank all kind friends who by telegrams letters and personal calls sympathized with him, in the loss he recently sustained in the death of his nephew Alexander Abraham.

### 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 guarantees 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, JUNE 17, 1905.

### REX. v. "GOLD COAST LEADER"

The recent prosecution or persecution of the Proprietors of this valiant Journal, and other momentous issues connected therewith, loudly call for words of praise and commendation. All West Africans should feel deeply grateful to His Majesty's Government for the lasting benefits it has incidentally conferred upon them, in the hearing of the above cause. With all the unlimited resources at their disposal, the Authorities have placed it beyond the region of doubt that the "Gold Coast Leader" bears an unimpeachable character. A *prima facie* case has, at least, been made out in justification of the perennial complaints which appear to characterize Newspapers on the West Coast. Nothing could have more accurately gauged the veracity and *Raison d'être* of our local Press than the course officially adopted in dragging the "Leader" into Court. The inevitable consequences that might have ensued—the possible disaster that threatened—taken together with the Judge's unequivocal pronouncement after so patient and exhaustive investigation accentuate our indebtedness to the Pharos light that beat so fiercely upon this ill-used organ.

The credibility of the Press was sadly impugned; its peace and security menaced as never before; its power terribly shaken. But only for the fraction of a time. By the most crucial test, supported by the sworn evidence of high-placed officials from Kumasi and other functionaries, the "Leader" has been acquitted. It has fully established its claim to recognition as a force to reckon with in the successful administration of the Colony and Protectorate. Nothing derogatory has been found against

it, on the other hand, it has shed a flood of light upon the anachronisms and eccentricities of the Crown Colony System.

The Crown is not to blame for rushing into Court apparently unprepared. It only tried to do its duty; although it might have honoured its prestige and reputation more, by first seeking to understand its own position better. We credit the Government with a holy solicitude for the spread of Truth and Justice. We give to it, the benefit of any doubt that may lurk in the mind of some as to its honest intentions in instituting criminal proceedings against the "Leader." We are blind to the indecent haste with which this cause *celebre* was sprung upon the Accused. We are deaf to the sinister expressions of foregone conclusions, at the prospect of silencing for ever, a "scurrilous rag". We must not make capital out of the villainies and intrigues of a fallen foe. *All is fair in love and war.* In the presence of a triumph so stupendous, so complete, one can afford to be magnanimous and dispense with such accessories as the blare of trumpets and beat of drums. We rejoice with joy unspeakable what might have been—rather, what might, not have been—if the Court had decided in favour of the crown? Think. This Paper would have been sullied and dishonoured; the Proprietors imprisoned for a criminal offence; Sycophants and Penny-a-liners of the shady sort encouraged to continue their nefarious task of maligning and traducing a noble race. Puppets and Spring Jacks in office vindicated and made more vindictive still; then, the Government would have been perfectly right in creating a Press Censorship on the Gold Coast; Liberty of speech throttled; the country left without the medium of ventilating its grievances of doing so under most depressing conditions.

All these monstrous evils—nay more—would have sought and found a local habitation and a name, if the "Leader" had not turned the tables upon the head of its peasant opponents. As it is, the country has been advanced more than three stages onward, Fairplay, not Hocus Pocus proceedings—facts not bounce; Evidence not threats; Right not Might—these are the predominant factors which have rendered it possible for a Gold Coast Newspaper to carry the laurels from His Majesty's High Court. Next to the Government, we must congratulate the Proprietors who endured the ordeal as men unflinching, bold and fearless, assured that *Truth was great and must prevail.* If by helping so gratuitously to further the interests of the Gold Coast, they had found themselves in a prison cell, how low would have been their estimate of Enthusiasm, Self-sacrifice and Patriotism? What discouragement and disgrace might have been their lot or portion? Having escaped these ills and misfortunes, it behoves, all their friends, and the public generally to extend to them, with renewed devotion, the right hand of fellowship and practical sympathy with—their colossal work. The Editor deserves well of the nation. He has lit a torch that successive ages shall fan into inextinguishable blaze and we voice the sentiments of all the sons of the soil when we thank him most cordially for the valorous stand he has made for the truth.

But we must not forget the Gallant Knights of the Legal Profession, who volunteered their invaluable services, as they often do, at the Psychological moments of our national History. They have once more shown their faith and zeal to advantage and the future will prove that in coming to the help of the country in her hour of distress, they have heaped up, for themselves imperishable treasures in the increased esteem and affection of the people—  
AND A RICHER RETAINER THERE NEVER WAS!

D. C.

FANES OF THE GREAT PAST.

(BY A DANBERR)

The majestic and imposing remains of Grecian temples still standing on the Acropolis at Athens convey a better conception of the extreme beauty and grace, and the exquisite refinement and symmetry of ancient architecture than perhaps any other examples of the work of the old Greeks extant; and as the astonished and delighted beholder stands upon the historic mount, and contemplates those magnificent relics of the great past, he is reluctantly compelled to admit that notwithstanding all our advance in civilization, in knowledge, and in attainments, those ancients far excelled us, in the classical purity, and the artistic refinement and beauty, if not in all cases of their statuary, yet certainly of their architectural achievements.

In the immediate foreground is the world famous Parthenon, its lofty marble columns standing in bold relief against the wondrous azure of those Grecian skies; and though the masterpiece of that greatest sculptor whom the world has known for all time—Phidias—is no longer there to grace and adorn the noble building, yet the dignity and the stateliness of the superb structure itself is so overwhelming and so bewildering that the spectator stands spellbound and fascinated. And those other

enriched and decorated marble erections of Pericles, Lycistrates, and other of those artistically gifted old Greek warriors—the "Porch of the Caryatides," five of the six gracefully draped figures supporting the architrave still, after the lapse of four and twenty centuries, almost perfect; the beautiful Ionic temple of victory; or the handsome Theaion, subsequently dedicated to Christian worship—all these, too, evidence the mastery superiority of their accomplished ancient architects.

And the prospect, too, from this marble-paved lofty hill is superb. To the south-west, the blue ocean with its many islands—the good ship which brought the writer over the seas lying there at the Piræus; to the north and east the scenes of many an epoch making battle where those old giants of welfare fought to the death with such surpassing valour and heroism; while immediately beneath is the modern city of Athens, still beautified with ancient Grecian temple, old Roman edifices and bastions, and also the recent restoration of the Stadion, erected by Lycurgus, a vast amphitheatre wholly constructed of dazzling white marble and capable of seating fifty thousand spectators.

But perhaps of greater interest than all is a lower rocky hill at the foot of the Acropolis, named the Areopagus, or Mar's Hill. Here the great Greek orators were wont to pour forth the flood of their burning eloquence; here Demosthenes has kept his audience spellbound with his passionate oratory; and here, too, the great apostle St. Paul uttered that memorable harangue to the Greeks, in which, after expostulating with them for their folly in erecting an altar to the "unknown God," he showed them that the Son of God Himself had visited the earth of His, and by making expiation for the sins of all who come to Him for pardon, had opened the gates of Heaven to all believers. And whose ever cometh will in no wise be cast out.

MATTERS EDUCATIONAL.

Referring to the above trust the report on the Education Department for 1903 recently published contains the following remarks:—The development of the Mining Industry and the construction of the railway have naturally been effective in awakening the people to their needs. Several of the chiefs on whose property companies have been formed have agreed to hand over 10 per cent of the income derived from their concessions to a fund to be used for the purposes of education. This fund which is not yet large enough to warrant active measures being taken, is vested in Trustees, of whom the Director of Education is one. The Chiefs of Lower Wassaw an important mining centre, are paying the cost of a substantial school house and quarters for a European headmaster, which the Public Works Department is now erecting at Bensa, the residence of the Head Chief. Since this report we learn the Director of Education is no longer one of the Trustees having resigned. We learn also that Mr. Clarke from Jamaica who is a trained and certificated teacher has been appointed as headmaster of the Chiefs School at Bensa. His salary is now paid by the Government, but this is for a period of one year after which period the question of further action will be considered when the Board of Education receive a report as to the progress made by the school and the degree of support given to it by the Wassaw Chiefs and people.

The Honorary Secretary of the Mfantse National Education Fund has communicated to the Trustees information given by the Bank that the amount at present to the credit of the fund is £120 odd.

SCRUTINEER.

As a matter of fact the real source of misgovernment in this Country is directly due to the constitution of the Legislative Council, or rather the advantages it affords the Powers that be of ruling absolutely; and therefore this is a matter we should all create so much din about until the right that naturally belongs to us is meted out—namely the right of having a clear voice in the making of laws affecting us and in the disbursements of taxes raised by us. It has always appeared to me quite indefensible that the destiny of 2,000,000 people should be left to be taken care of by one man. The People may not all be educated in the English style, but there are at any rate sufficient number of the educated in that line capable of undertaking an adequate representation. For the matter of that it is not necessary that all the inhabitants of a country should be educated before they are granted fair representation, and it should have been widely known by those who ought to know, all this time, that although all the natives cannot read and write they are nevertheless well up in political education—the Art of self-government the result of this denial of fair representation is that we are forced by sight to pay heavy taxes without our knowing how they are expended, and not only are laws made of which we are never consulted, but three-fourths of the local ordinances are antagonistic to

our local surroundings and are the real impediments in our way of progress and prosperity. Such a random system of Government cannot face the efflux of time, and it is in our power to outlive it, if we will only present a continuously-suited and bold front towards it. Let us see to it, herein lies our salvation.

So much have I said of the previous Town Council Ordinance (and so much have all the People said about it) that the constant attitude of the Government to enforce it despite the protestations and practical suggestions of the People is just in keeping with the cherished policy pursued in West Africa. Any one who takes the pains to study us impartially will always admit that in our demands we do not in any way come near the border of arrogance. We put forth fair and reasonable demands, and we look forward to their being attended to, for as a free people living in our own Country we expect that we should be treated as such, but not as mere dumb-driven cattle or captives led out of captivity. And in this Town Council Ordinance we have not asked too much. We are not strangers to the system of municipal corporations ourselves, we know all about them before the mountains of English civilization were brought forth in our midst. We have asked, we ask, and we shall continue to ask, whether we walk or are driven, that we would only have the sort of municipal Government in existence in England, or, to come nearer home, in Freetown Sierra Leone, where those who pay the rates have their own regular representatives; where no Government nominees or officials predominate or even have business in their Councils. We will have nothing whatever to do with Town Councils infested with officials, and we will have none other than the real kind referred to above. We have been fools in time past (and we have paid dearly for our folly) but fools no longer will we be. We know the sort of Government we have to deal with; it is an inconvincible, unsympathetic, unyielding, and careless-of-consequences Government. But as far as this peculiar Town Councils business is concerned, and as far as we are sure that we are working in the right we shall see what we shall see.

There is no doubt about that there is going on too much easy life in the Telegraph Department of the Post Office. Why is there so much delay in the transmittance of telegrams particularly to and from the out-of-the-way places? During the month of May I received no less than three telegrams from Kumasi which could not come to hand until three or four days late. I am aware that there is a class game known among telegraphists as "line down" but I am surprised to find it played so often and rapidly now. The importance and privacy connected with private telegrams are also some of the manifold lessons the F. M. G. ought to impress on his operators. And if the F. M. G. does not know or appears not to know of these pleasantries, I, of course, consider it my duty to give him a respectful awakening on the first occasion, although in the public interest I shall have to give him a rude one if such irregularities remain unchecked and unrectified.

The Sekondi-Kumasi Railway still crawls on its uneven lines, whilst Mr. Graves the Manager calmly sits at Sekondi and draws a handsome salary for managing that line of 168 miles. To keep down expenses, or plainly speaking, to keep intact his pay, that of his assistant, the numerous Traffic superintendents, engineers, and other superfluous officials, resort has been made to the use of firewood in the place of coal, which, beside making the trains crawl the more, keeps passengers clothing and goods alive by occasional ignition at the journey lasts. Common sense and practical business suggest to me that in view of the shortness of the line, and to cut down expenses some salaries ought to be lowered down by one-half and some of the superfluous offices may be done away with, as these could be conveniently done away with. If this right course were taken, enough funds could be had to import coal, and this 168-mile line which an ordinary English train could traverse within a few hours, might be done in a day, and not in a day-and-a-half as is the case. And not only this, the Government could conveniently reduce the exorbitant fares.

Yours faithfully,—A.T.T.

THE CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHER

THE SEA.

NO. LX.

The sea is supposed to cover a part of the surface of the earth which equals, if not exceeds, the dry land. In the existence of this vast body of water we may discover the same proofs of divine wisdom, and the same designs of general utility which appear in the other part of the creation. 'O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches, so is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great.' Naturalists have taken great pains to inform themselves of the varieties which prevail amongst the inhabitants of the deep—more than 6000 different species of fish have been discovered; but Mr. Ray imagines that we are not acquainted with half the kinds which really exist. Of some species of fish the number seems almost infinite! For ages past, how many of the human race have been supplied with food from the sea, and yet its riches seem unexhausted.—Every season certain kinds of fish, as pilchards, mackerel, herrings, &c. visit the shore of our highly favoured island in immense shoals; and though millions of each species are annually taken, there is no deficiency! That this might never happen, the goodness of God hath rendered the sunny tribes peculiarly fruitful.—Mr. Harmer, who pursued this investigation with peculiar attention and accuracy, found in the spawn of a herring 36,360 eggs; in the mackerel 546,681; in the cod 3,686,760.

While the sea, by means of its innumerable inhabitants, affords food to man in one part of the earth, where there is a deficiency of wood it also supplies him with a fuel.

We are told by Mr. Cranz, in his "History of Greenland," "That the great Founder of nature has denied this frigid rock-region the growth of trees, he hath bid the streams of the ocean to convey to its shores a great deal of wood, which accordingly comes floating thither, and lodges itself between the islands. Were it not for this, we Europeans should have no wood to burn; and the poor Greenlanders (who, it is true, do not use wood but, trained for burning) would, however, have no wood to roof their houses, to erect their tents, to build their boats, and shaft their arrows, by which they must procure their maintenance." It is difficult to decide where this timber grows; but wherever it may be produced, its arrival in this dismal part of the earth is an astonishing proof of the care of our Father who is in Heaven over the humblest of his children on earth.

Another important purpose answered by the sea, is the supply of the clouds with vapour. According to the calculation of Dr. Halley, every ten square inches of water yields, in summer, between the time of sunrise and sunset, a cubic inch of water; every square mile 6914 tons. Thus the water poured into the sea by the rivers, ascends to the clouds in the form of vapour, and thence clouds being conveyed over land by the wind (which much more frequently blows from the sea, than in a contrary direction) returns to the earth in form of rain.

By means of the sea, those who are skilled in the part of navigation, are able to keep up a communication between distant countries; the blessings of commerce are thus extended, and the knowledge of the glorious gospel communicated to "the isles afar off."

The constant motion of the sea, produced by the tides, is a curious phenomenon. The tides are occasioned by the effect of the attraction of the sun and moon upon the waters of the sea: the solid part of the globe remains unaffected, but the fluid parts assume a spheroidal or oval figure, the longest diameter being in the direction of the moon. When the sun and the moon act together, they occasion spring-tides, which happens once a fortnight; when they counteract each other's attraction, neap-tides take place, which also happen once a fortnight.

Yet notwithstanding the perpetual motion of the sea, and the violent agitation produced on its surface by the winds, the waters never pass their bounds! "The waters are in the place which thou, O God, has prepared for them: thou has set a bound, that they may not pass over." "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked; they are like the troubled sea that continually casteth up its own mire and dirt." No words can possibly express with greater force, the perpetual agitation produced by a guilty conscience, and the terrifying appearances, which often arise from the violent animosity of sinners against the interest of Zion. But there is one who is able to set bounds to those mighty waves, and to say to them, "Thus far shalt thou come, and no farther." He who once said, "Peace! Be still," and in an instant calmed "the roaring tide," can with equal ease restrain the madness of the people. Let the heathens rage, let the princes take council together: he that sitteth in the Heavens shall laugh; the Most High shall have them in derision.

The proudest enemy of Christ on the face of the earth, or in the caverns of Hell, is fast bound in a chain, and cannot move beyond its length. The Israelites trembled on the Red Sea, and were afraid they should not escape the sword of the enraged Egyptians: but when Israel, agreeable to the divine command, moved forward, "the waters saw thee, O God! The waters saw thee," and fled at thy coming. So it hath often been with the spiritual Israel in the much dreaded hour of severe conflicts; when they have thought they should perish by the hand of their enemy, they have gone forward; and the waves of trouble, which at a distance seemed a mountain high, and threatened to overwhelm them, have, through divine interposition died away at their feet.

"WHISPER AND I SHALL HEAR."

Is it true that the Government is so disappointed over the Quist-Leader case that instructions are given or are about to be given that all letters, papers and parcels addressed to our contemporary and ourselves should be opened read, digested, and the opinion of the law officers of the Crown taken upon their contents before delivery, if they are delivered at all?

Is it true that "poor servicable Quist" has already been found "Guilty" by his Senjors and arrangements are being made for him (Doctor's services requisitioned &c. &c.) to immediately take effect after the August Assizes, so as to baulk justice in case he may be found "Guilty" by the Court as "Kumasi has need of him"?

We hear certain among the community say, we are the "intelligent" and "responsible citizens" of this town, and see say the Town Councils Ordinance should be applied, no matter what the dolts and duffers, the ignorant masses and the poor may do or say because they know not what is good for them, and they ask for Kanky instead of rice and Fafa instead of bread, Possible?—G. C. Aborigines, June 10, 1905.

SEKONDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

11/4/05.

The news of the Leader's acquittal from the charge of intentional libel communicated by telegram on the 2nd instant, was recieved here with great joy; this is a splendid achievement in the annals of Gold Coast Journalism which exists "For God, the King and the People". Long live the "Leader"! [Why not West African Journalism? Ed.]

From Cape Coast by the a.s. "Sobo" last Wednesday morning landed Bishop and Mrs. Hamlyn.

In a conversation with a Railway official a representative of a respectable Company here peremptorily suggested the advisability of importing Chinese to hold clerical appointments in the service of all the firms in Sekondi and on the Railway, and to radically dispense with the services of the Gold Coast clerks. Mr. T. . . . , disputed that, it was impracticable; and thereupon the disgraceful negrophobist vanished into space.

The Honourable J. P. Brown among other passengers from Axim landed here yesterday on the "Zungeru". We understand Mr. Brown leaves for up country during the week.

The cricketers to play Cape Coast on Whit-Monday left by the "Zungeru" yesterday.

Mr. Smith of L. Pagenstecher & Co. leaves shortly for Tarkwa to take charge of his employers' interest there.

The case of Fred Sam v McLaren Bros. & Co. a civil action instituted under Master and Servants Ordinance—came to a close last Friday evening with laurels for the Plaintiff.

THE RAILWAY.

It is understood that Mr. Graves, who, is anticipated, to take part in the cricket match at Cape Coast, arrived last night by the a.s. "Leopoldville" from Accra.

From authentic sources, we learn that the bridge on the Bona at Esuon got collapsed yesterday immediately after the Up-train had traversed over; this accident is only providential or the result would have been horrible.

The Railway Paymaster again goes to-morrow to distribute the wages of the workmen up-country. I mean wages due to be paid on the 31st May.

From Chama we learn that Mr. T. M. Hilson of Messrs. P. & A. Swanzy Ltd. has been transferred to Appam.

ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Dr. Loughrey who has been unwell for the past week left here for Cape Coast last Saturday afternoon 10th to spend a few days for a change. Dr. W. W. Claridge is now in charge of the station.

The execution of Yaw Beddo, who was condemned at the last May Cape Coast Assize for the murder of a man at Mampon, took place at St. Jago Prison on the morning of the 13th inst. at 9

o'clock. Death is said to have been absolutely instantaneous. Mr. Foulkes D. C., Cape Coast and Dr. Claridge attended the proceedings.

Mr. Thomas Aakon Ruble residing at Buiten Rust committed suicide on the morning of the 13th inst. by taking a draught of carbolic acid. The deceased who was much respected, was a Leader in the Wesleyan Church and it is alleged that his tragic end, which has been a subject for much comment, was the outcome of some financial embarrassment.

Mr. Prison Keeper Maskell left for Cape Coast on the 13th morning to join the steamer Tarquah for England on furlough.

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.

REX. s. BROWN AND ASAAM.

Sir,—As one keenly interested in the Native Press and a true believer in its marvellous possibilities. Allow me to congratulate you on the favourable issue of the original charge brought against you by the Administration.

You have effected one grand thing for your Fatherland, and that is—you have opened the eyes of a large army of honest doubters, both here and elsewhere, and done much to illustrate the topsy-turvy muddle-headedness of the system of Government which obtains in all Crown Colonies—and that is saying a great deal.

I must candidly confess to a feeling of intense humiliation to see Representatives of the Crown making such a sorry exhibition of themselves in the name of the King.

Caution bluffing the Minnows indeed! Surely the Authorities might have taken common sense into counsel before posing as belated champions of outraged Law with such unnecessary bluster and expense!

I venture to hope your people after chairing you through the streets of Cape Coast Castle, will "go one better", as we say in England, viz.—endeavour to realise what a dependable stock the Press is in the life of a nation, and do their utmost to exploit this asset. You are deserving of all moral support and sympathy.

The "Leader" has its faults—what public organ has not?—but I am proud to know by ocular proof, that mendacity is not an element in its composition. I can assure you, Sir, it is all meaningless bunkum for any of your readers to run away with the horrible idea, that you have no ardent admirers outside your own colour and country. Indeed you have; and your honourable acquittal will add to their number.

Just one word of friendly advice, if I may make so bold. Be always very sure of your facts, then full speed ahead! An Editor who is, worth his salt, must ever be jealous of each paragraph that is to be incorporated within the columns of his journal. Use the "W. P. B."—even at the risk of wounding the susceptibilities of irresponsible scribblers and fifth rate correspondents, rather than tarnish the respectability and influence of your Paper. Aim high, at all times; and then whenever the dogs of war are let loose, you will be acknowledged and honoured as a foeman worthy of their steel. Spoils to the Victors!

Yours "Imperially",—JOHN BULL.

Whit-Monday, 1905.

[Much obliged, "J. B." Rest assured, that although English is not our mother-tongue and we are not widely experienced in the thorny field of journalism, we shall, yet, always have our say on matters affecting our country and people, regardless of personal consequences. Your welcome letter has mightily nerved us. We are certain of our friends, Black and White at Home and Abroad. Again, thanks. Ed. G. C. L.]

THE DIXCOVE "I O G T" AND "BAND OF MERCY"

Sir,—Despite my suggestions re the better management of the above bands in your issue of 6/5/05, I regret to report that some of the most prominent leaders of the I O G T: whose names I refrain from mentioning for the present, are sowing greater seeds of the "dissension" I complained of, the proof of this is, there being chided publicly (one at the Post Office and the other in his own house) by the leaders of "the Band of Mercy;" such a flagrant display of ignorance and un-christian principles by the very people who call themselves christians deserves special notice; if these people who ought to know better, cannot do otherwise but must breed strife and unrest in these bands, then, the sooner they are expelled from such clubs the better, inasmuch as these bands can do better and thrive well without them: the poor members of the noble "Band of Mercy" are so much exasperated by the action of these christian men that I intend not to fail to publish their names if a stop be not put to such flagitious practices.

Thanking you for space allowed.

Yours very truly,—KWANIN ASARE.

Dixcove, 27/5/05.

# The Gold Coast Leader.

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No. 137.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 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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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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### ADVERTISEMENTS.

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LEMONADE, GINGER ALE & SODA WATER,

supplied at 5/- per Dozen Pint Bottles and 4/6 per Dozen Half Pint Bottles.

### Stone-Ginger Beer,

5/- per dozen Pint Bottles.

3/- per Dozen allowed for all bottles returned in good condition.

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

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

Terms strictly cash on delivery.

H. E. SAGOE.  
MANAGER.

Aboom, Cape Coast.

## NOTICE.

Quotations for RED and GREEN CASES GIN, exactly those exported to the Colony, and also the well known brand of SCOTCH WHISKIES of Messrs. DUNVILLES

Can be obtained at the Mart of the undersigned, Commissariat Building, opposite Chapel Square.

Orders promptly executed F. o. b.

Ready made suitings of all sizes and Gents and Ladies underclothings expected shortly.

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REGULARLY USED and IMPLICITLY TRUSTED.

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The oldest and ONLY Reliable Remedy.

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Resistances must also include cost of postage or freight.

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25 & 27, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.

For whom all Orders and Enquiries should be addressed.

## NOTICE.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Until further orders Mr. Matthew Sagoe Crensil of Salt Pond will from this date and henceforth act on my behalf as my authorized agent Auctioneer to dispose of or sell goods, lands, houses &c. by public auction and to carry on such business at Salt Pond or elsewhere in the Central Province.

J. W. ENCHILL.

Saltpond, June 1905.

### GENERAL NEWS.

The Judges and the Barristers from the other places arrived in Town this week for the Appeal Court which began its sittings last Wednesday morning—the 21st.

The presiding Judges are His Honour the Chief Justice (Sir Brandford Griffith) as President, supported by His Honour Mr. Justice Smith, and His Honour Mr. Justice Purcell.

Ahuba Kakraba was celebrated last Friday week.

The Collegiate and the "Miantapim" Schools were closed last Friday the 16th. and the Grammar School on Wednesday this week.

The following delightful bit of haboo English, written by a Bengali clerk, appears in an Indian paper:—

'Honourable Sir,—Kindly excuse this poor thy servant from attending on your honour's office this day as I am suffering from the well-known disease commonly called ache of the interior economy, and I shall ever pray,—Your's ever painful, Ra Chandur. P.S.—Oh, death, where is thy sting?'

A stallion (Cyllene) has been recently bought (in Enland) for thirty thousand guineas. Civilization can do wonders.

His Honour Sir Brandford Griffith contributes an interesting article on *Native Stools on the Gold Coast* in the April Number of the *Journal of the African Society*.

The *Monthly Journal* for this month also of the National Order of Free Gardeners has for its "Gold Coast Items" notes on the Town Councils Ordinance. Says the Editor in his first paragraph:—"We have received several newspapers from Bro. Korsah, which we have read with uncommon interest, even for such an omnivorous reader as we are. They have proved a revelation in many things that were difficult to understand before, and which does not reflect much credit on Crown Government"

Further down he says:—"Judging by what is before us this Colony appears to be run in the interests of traders and officials only. If the Governor is a man of high ideals and conceptions of duty the minor officials and under-strappers are kept well in hand. If otherwise, our conceptions of British Government are strangely at fault. We

must remember that where there is no influential body of white men or Europeans to watch and checkmate the insolence of office bearers and speculating and trading Company's staffs it is apt to be more than rough on the subject peoples.

Then follow some extracts from the *Leader* for his "readers to ponder over," and strangely enough he cites our remarks on the effect of the Ordinance on Accra, *inter alia*, which the writer in the *African World* put down as "silly" and likely to ruin our cause. The number contains an excellent portrait of Bro. Korsah.

We are having plenty of rain this season.

Mr. Smith (the Dispenser) lost a daughter on last Thursday evening. We deeply sympathize with him.

On Tuesday morning the 6th. the Commission appointed by Sir John Rodger to enquire into the working of the Marriage Ordinance held its first sittings in the Divisional Court at Accra. All the Commissioners were present and evidence was given by Rev. Edward Samson of Aburi.

On the following day the President Sir W. Brandford Griffith with the Hon. A. W. Osborne, Attorney General and Hon. J. M. Sarbah sat and heard Messrs. T. H. Mills, Rev. C. Reinhardt of Christiansburg and Rev. Ernest Bruce. The sittings were then adjourned to Friday 9th. June when Rev. Ellenburger of the Wesleyans and Rev. A. Th. Mohr the General Superintendent of the Basel Mission were heard. Rev. Mohr a German Missionary who has been thirty years in the country gave very important evidence.

The next sittings of the Commission was fixed for Wednesday 28th. instant at Cape Coast.

Just as we go to Press we find foundations are being laid out on the Parade Ground. We understand it is for the building of a Police Barracks. Under no circumstances should this splendid spot, now about the only old relic of the Town be used for any building purposes. It is necessary that this spot be left open as an extra ground for sports, &c. We appeal to the Aborigines Society to petition against this unnecessary encroachment by the Government which is sure to spoil the beauty of that nice and breezy Road. We have an Engineer here, we think.

Miss Hagar Stanhope died this morning. Sincere sympathies to her friends for the loss.

### AXIM

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

At the Court House last Sunday, Bishop Hamlyn dwelling on St. John III. v. 5 to 8 delivered a thrilling sermon on the Pentecost to a crowded congregation.

A meeting in connection with the establishment of the Anglican Church at this end was convened last Monday at the Court House with Mr. Justice

Purcell in the chair. There was a large attendance. Mr. Jones, Swanzy's Agent has been invalided home.

By the "Laisie Weermann" Messrs Nicol and Clark of the African Association arrived with another gentleman to relieve Mr. Murray who is to go to Kumasi.

Mr. Aldridge, the Supervisor of Customs left for England by the *Tarqua* having been relieved by Mr. Clark.

At the last Assizes Mr. J. M. Imbiah was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment penal servitude.

## SEKONDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

June 18.

A vote of money amounting at some hundreds of pounds sterling has been provided in the Estimates for the year towards the erection of a Club House or Recreation Room for the European Officials of the Government. The site selected for the house, is on the hill lying between the D. C. and Machinery Co's. bangalows.

The cricketers who went to play Cape Coast last week, returned by the "Tarqua" on the 15th inst.

The Victoria Dancing Club gave a grand instrumental ball last Monday night at the "Family at Adversarius Chambers."

By the s.s. "Khalif" last Friday arrived Mr. A. W. Sey (Fourth Class Customs Officer) and wife from Winneba and Mrs. Letitia Marshall from Appam. Mr. Sey relieves Mr. Amos Dadai who proceeds to Salt Pond this week.

## THE COBINATION STROOL.

An end to the political contest and other state disturbances over the stool affair is never yet anticipated; the decision of the Court the other day affecting the delivery thereof has seemingly collapsed with the disappearance of ex-Ohin Johaphis from this town.

## SEKONDI TOWN COUNCIL.

It has been advertised that on and after the 1st July 1905, wheeled vehicles within the Municipal area will be required to be licensed; that licenses will be issued for the half year from the 1st July to the 31st December at half the annual rate, on application at the Town Council Office as follows:—

For each Cyst 5/-, Hand-cart or barrow 5/-, Bath-chair, Go-cart, Rickshaw or Perambulator 10/-, Two-wheeled Cart or truck 15/-, Motor Cycle 15/-, Four-wheeled Cart, Hearse or Trolley 20/-, Two-wheeled Carriage 30/-, Four-wheeled Carriage 40/-, Motor Car 50/-, and Traction Engine £10.

## THE RAILWAY.

According to official notification, a reduction in rates for both goods and coaching fares will come into force from the 1st July next; numerous articles have been cheaply re-classified, and the minimum distances and weight charged for (excepting timber), reduced from ten to five miles and from one to half hundred-weight respectively. Special rates have been provided for the carriage of patent fuel and a rebate allowed to consignees carrying same during six months. Through rates also have been arranged for the carriage of rice, cement and galvanized iron sheet from Sekondi to Kumasi. The following reduction in passenger fares has been advertised for general information:—

Although there is no restriction to the natives travelling in First Class carriages, yet the advantage of the reduction has not been practically extended to those passengers usually travelling Second Class. If the Railway truly exists for the people, we are of opinion that a reduction on the existing rate of Second Class fare should be made so as to serve an advantage all round.

First Class. From Five Pence to Four Pence per mile. The following new coaching arrangements will also come into force from the same date:—

First Class Five Hundred Mile Tickets. Books of these tickets will be issued at 25 5/0 each, three pence per mile, on special conditions which are printed with each book.

The holders of these tickets will be entitled to travel between stations on the Gold Coast Government Railways during the period for which the tickets are available until the coupons are exhausted.

The books, which contain 500 coupons for one mile apiece, will be available until the end of twelve months from the last day of the month in which the issue is made for the personal use of the purchaser and of his or her family and guests or employees. Such tickets will be available for use by any of the purchaser's family or guests when not travelling in the company of the purchaser on production of a signed certificate, form of which can be obtained with the tickets.

Applications for such tickets must be made in writing to the Traffic Superintendent, accompanied by the necessary remittance, giving the full name and address of the purchaser.

Return Market Tickets. These tickets will be issued at one penny per mile in each direction to persons carrying edible native produce on the outward journey and desiring to attend local markets.

Half one hundredweight, or 56 lbs, will be allowed free for such ticket taken.

Edible produce above that quantity will be charged at 50th class rate.

Language will be charged at ordinary rate.

These tickets will be available on the outward journey on the date of issue only and for the return journey up to the seventh day after issue, that is, if there be a train running. This a market ticket issued on sixth July

will be available only for the return journey up to eighth July but a market ticket issued on seventh July would be available for return up to the tenth July because of trains not running on Sunday.

## WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A second meeting of the Simpah man and Ohin Acquah II was held at the Mission House on the 14th inst.

The Revd. J. O. Hammond after going through the affair between them suggested that the Oman should satisfy the Ohin with a bullock, and that the Ohin in his turn should see that the Oman contributes towards the account in connection with the Ayensu river.

The Revd. Gentleman pointed out to the Oman that at the beginning of the Amba Sika case it was the Ohin who suggested that the Oman should raise a loan and if they had failed it was their duty to inform him instead of acting themselves. The Ohin agreed to the suggestion of the Revd. Gentleman, but the Winneba Town Scholars Association and other chiefs objected to abide by the suggestion.

Mr. A. W. Sey the former officer in charge who was suspended about a month ago has been recalled to resume his duty. He is to be congratulated. He left here on the 14th inst. by the "Khalif" for Sekondi.

A Mahomedan priest who claims to have descended from heaven has arrived at Hopesa Zongo. He is engaged in very wonderful performances.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Sir Charles Bruce's paper read at the fifth ordinary general meeting of the Session (1904-1905) in March last before the members of the Royal Colonial Institute, should in our humble opinion engage the serious attention of all those who have in any way to do with our Crown Colonies from the Secretary of State down, if really and truly in the performance of their official duties, their single aim be, the success and prosperity of the Greater Britain.

The paper came from a man who knew what he was talking about, for he has put to the test what, his papers say. The Chairman (His Grace the Duke of Marlborough, K.G.) in introducing Sir Charles, referred to the "great services" he had rendered to the Empire in his long and active career. Beginning as Librarian at the British Museum, he closed his distinguished career as the Governor of Mauritius, "and after having presided over the destinies of" this "island for several years he has retired to enjoy a well-earned repose. During his long and arduous services on behalf of the State he won the goodwill and affection of all with whom he came in contact, and he has invariably possessed the confidence, respect and esteem of the successive Secretaries of State under whom he served". A paper therefore from such an authority should not be lightly dealt with, or left alone in the archives of the Institute but should be "conned and donned" by all who say to the World, that they have the interest of the Empire at heart, for which they would give their time, intellect, position, and dear life itself.

Not for fame, or wealth, position or self-aggrandisement would they throw in their lot here, but for the good name and prosperity of our dear Empire. Grouping his subject (The Crown Colonies and Places) under such headings as, *Our Colonial Policy, Of what good are our Crown Colonies and Places?, What shall we do with our Crown Colonies and Places? Health, Labour, Organization of Industry &c. &c.*, Sir Charles simply exhausted it. Our Administrators allowing the old Soldier to shoulder his crutch to show how battles are won or how best to serve the real interest of the Empire and how best also to attain to true Fame, to be loved and to win the affection and goodwill of all with whom they may come in contact, should waste (?) sometime over the paper, for after all, bad, faulty inconsiderate, and even impracticable and imperious as times as the Crown Colony System may be, a good deal depends on the men in whose hands the administration may be entrusted. Look around you.

We have the impression that a detective is a species of police officer having no specific beat, whose special duty is to detect offences and to apprehend criminals, or a private person who engages to investigate cases, often of a delicate nature. But here our detectives must go out of their way to induce you to break the law, and then turn round to arrest you. It is known for instance that after six in the evening and on Sundays, rum-sellers are not to sell but you will have a detective disguising himself as best he can, persuading you to sell to him, or even to oblige him with a "wee bit". You may remind him of the law, not knowing who he is, but he will tell you that, that for which he

wants the rum is so urgent that you can oblige him, you yield, and you are in for it. Then a heavy fine comes in. That's a detective.

And can you call him a detective who for a living must misrepresent people and their actions, give false reports of innocent political meetings let us say, or distort people's words, or pry into their private affairs, putting his own interpretations on them, if only to blacken them as best he can—and all this, to serve his selfish ends.

Are not people to discuss matters of public interest? Is one necessarily disloyal to his Government in venturing any criticism on its actions towards the governed, if these do not commend themselves to him as to their interest or the welfare of the very Government itself? A people in civilized countries then who at their Clubs, Societies or political meetings discuss on the policy of their Government disloyal to the State? Who is truer and more loyal to the State or Government? He who would like to see its administration under the aegis of the "Golden Rule", irrespective of colour or creed, to keep its world-famed name untarnished, or he who would grin at anything and feign that loyalty which has an eye to number one?

Why for instance should those who venture to think that the Town Councils Ordinance as it is, is altogether unworkable in this country be looked upon as disloyal and all that sort of thing? Can that Government conscientiously say, that it is true to the "theory and art of Government" which is afraid of criticism, if this be fair and honest and true? Detectives, paid spies or traitors, or whatever you may call them (thanks to the Town Councils Ordinance) which seem to grow to such alarming extent, if one must give credence to what he hears, are not needed in this country—where the loyalty of the People to the Powers that be, cannot be questioned in the least. The revenue must be saved, for this class of people is doing far more harm than good to the administration.

## THANKS FOR SYMPATHY.

Mr. J. E. Condon (Elmina) desires to thank all kind friends who by telegrams, letters and personal calls sympathized with him, in the loss he recently sustained in the death of his nephew Alexander Abraham.

Mr. J. E. Amos on behalf of himself and wife begs to return his sincere thanks to all kind friends here and abroad, who by letters, telegrams and personal calls, have sympathized with them on the recent bereavement of the death of his dear child Kofi Yabor which took place at Akrokerri on the 7th March 1905. Akrokerri, 18/6/05.

## 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, JUNE 24, 1905.

Not only to afford our readers the opportunity of seeing it for themselves but also to give the sentiments expressed there, all the emphasis we can command, we reproduce in our leading column to-day, what our contemporary the "Weekly Record" gives to the world as its 'attitude' and 'policy'. Those of our readers who may have been following us of late in our *Notes* column, must have observed, that the necessity for such a "declaration" has been haunting us, owing to certain articles that some of our English contemporaries have been publishing on some of the vexed questions prevailing in this country. It seems at times, that some of these writers, delight simply in taking the opposite view of things if only to find themselves in opposition to a "native opinion" and as such they are dreadfully reckless as to what they hold out to the British Public as *facts*, which they seek to lend weight to, by reminding them of their so many months' or years' residence on the Coast.

Take for instance the questions of the Railway and the Town Councils Ordinance. Some writers on the former have been saying nothing but what any simpleton who has been "privileged" to travel on this line, can only brand as a falsehood, and yet, all said, passes, and those who seek to tell the naked truth, are put down as being prejudiced, or fault-finders. If the Gold Coast Railway had been properly constructed, even as the other West

African Railways had been, it would have been more useful and less expensive and this would have been the case, had a private company undertaken the work, and not a firm taken up the job, under the auspices of a Crown Colony System. Then the Town Councils business: concerning this, some amusing things have been said, all clearly showing, that those who say them, know nothing and have not taken any pains to study the native side of the question, or the history of this Protectorate, that is, refusing to listen to Reason or common sense, and at once, stigmatize all who hold the opposite view from the Ordinance as it is, as savages not prepared for any twentieth century civilization, whereas in reality they are those who want it, but not in a "cut and dried" fashion, but rather to assimilate what their constitution, manners and customs would allow, so as to be what NATURE has designed them to be, and this, we opine, is what she has raised up ENGLAND from among the Nations, to do.

To give due respect to each side of a question—European or Native, to marshal out facts to convince each other, to see the British Escutcheon of Justice and Fairplay un tarnished even on the West Coast of Africa, and on the Gold Coast, to see constitutional rights and national or racial prejudices respected or taken into consideration and never to witness Might or Jingoism riding red-shot in the land, or a gratuitous indulgence in personalities or negro-phobism, to find ourselves real and not ornamental members of our Empire are all we ask for and nothing more: with no intentions therefore to trespass on the sweet preserves of our contemporary, we give our hearty assent to the following, without any equivocation or mental reservation:—

"THE WEEKLY RECORD."

We deem it necessary to explain our attitude and policy so there can be no misapprehension in regard to same. Under the new order of things introduced into West Africa, two points of view have evolved; the European point of view, and the Native point of view, both of which are the natural and inevitable outcome of the existing conditions and represent a set of systems, ideas and modes of life quite dissimilar and liable to conflict with each other. The European point of view is not only given emphasis and widely by both pen and voice; but finds expression also in the direction, aim and purpose of civilised life in West Africa vociferously. On the other hand, the Native point of view is seldom voiced and is on the whole accorded but scant recognition. Our aim is to give greater prominence to the Native point of view, feeling confident that no solid progress can be made in any direction without there being a thorough comprehension on both sides of the views held by each, and a united effort to bring these into reconciliation where they happen to clash or differ. In fulfilling our role as the exponent of the native point of view we are not infrequently led to take up a position which is directly opposed to and in antagonism with the prevailing view held by the European. This must in the nature of the circumstances happen if we are true to our trust; but it does not imply animus nor is it right or reasonable to impute animus in the case of the exposition of a view which is known to come into sharp and accentuated contrast at many points with the cherished view of the European. It is far from our purpose to create animosities which only avail to defeat the object we have in view. We are only demanding for the Native that he should be accorded a hearing and allowed a measure of "fair-play" of which the Briton is the recognized champion. In short our position is that which any European would take if similarly situated. We fully recognize the difficulties and drawbacks incidental to the position that we have assumed, but we are far from being oppressed with any misgivings, and so far as lies in our power will continue to advocate with unrelaxing vigour the cause and view of the Native.

"THE CROWN COLONIES AND PLACES."

In the course of a very telling Paper which Sir Charles Bruce G.C.M.G., read before the Royal Colonial Institute on March 14 last, on the above subject the noble Knight said:—"So much have been written by the wisest of mankind in all ages on the theory and art of Government that I have some reluctance in declaring that I have found the best expositions of the principles which should underlie our administration of the Crown Colonies in the *Sarawak Gazette*. Here it is; it was designed for Eastern use, but its principles are of universal range:

"There are two ways in which a Government can act. The first is to start from things as it finds them, putting its veto on what it is dangerous or unjust, and supporting what is fair and equitable in the usages of the natives, and letting system and legislation wait upon occasion. When new wants are felt it examines and provides for them by measures rather made on the spot than imported from abroad; and to ensure that these shall not be contrary to native customs, the consent of a People is gained for them before they are put

in force.

"Progress in this way is usually slow, and the system is not altogether popular from our point of view: but it is both quiet and steady; confidence is increased, and no vision of a foreign yoke to be laid heavily on their shoulders when the opportunity offers is present to the native mind.

"The other plan is to make here and there a clean sweep and to introduce something that Europeans like better in the gap. A criminal code of the latest type, polished and revised by the wise men at home, or a system of taxation and policy introduced bodily from the West, is imposed, with a full assurance of its intrinsic excellence, but with too little thought of how far it is likely to suit the circumstances it has to meet."

The better way has been allowed freer scope in the Federated Malay States than in any other part of our tropical Colonies and Protectorates, and with admirable success".

[It must be admirable. Ed.]

AFRICAN TOPICS REVIEWED.

There seems (if we can judge of native opinion from the columns of the *Gold Coast Leader*) a certain amount of friction between the Ashanti and the Government-made chiefs who have been in power since the downfall of the Kingdom. Remembering the bloodshed with which this kingdom was associated, it is difficult to understand how any one can sigh for "the good old days" in Ashanti. But as regards the present regime and the feelings of the natives towards it, we think that it will be realized by all concerned that the most satisfactory solution of such native problems is to rule the people through chiefs of their own choice wherever and whenever possible. The appointment of chiefs chosen principally for their subserviency to the European authorities, it may appear to save trouble and friction through at the time, usually causes much more in the long run; for men less of this stamp are likely to be either character puppets, or unscrupulous prophets, who will make use of their position to indulge in their own private enmities. Before the advent of European rule—these native "despotisms" were usually limited by rough but effective checks. Ancient customs or sudden panics sometimes gave individual chiefs or dynasties a reputation for cruelty, but as a general rule, even when their power appeared to be absolute it was only so because they succeeded in carrying the general sense of their people with them. If they persistently ran counter to popular feeling they were in most cases either deposed or deserted by their more influential followers.

—Editor, *Journal of the African Society.*

PHAROAH'S DOOM.

(BY A BANKER)

Entering the magnificent museum of Cairo we at once realize that we are in an atmosphere of remotest antiquity; on all sides are the actual mortal remains of mighty monarchs, of great warriors, or of beautiful queens, whose lineaments, judging from the medallion portraits painted on their caskets, might well vie with many a fair beauty of the present day.

Here is the actual preserved body of Rameses the Great, the Pharaoh of the oppression, he who "knew not Joseph," his hard features indicating such determination and power that we can well imagine that those now sightless orbs could transfix with terror any who dared to excite his wrath. Well may those down-trodden Israelites, whose straw-made bricks may be seen to this day at Sakkarah, have groaned under the iron heel of this despotic warrior whose recumbent form now lies there, doomed to be gazed at by thousands. And here, hard by, is the figure of his great father, Seti I., whose magnificent temples have for four and thirty centuries withstood the ravages of time and still remain almost in their pristine freshness, to excite the wonder and the admiration of the beholder.

But of even still greater interest is the body of Menepthah, the Pharaoh of the exodus. Here we are in actual presence of the very man who, it is believed, so dramatically withstood Moses, and who for so long refused to permit the captive Israelites to quit his realm, notwithstanding the weird and terrible plagues to which, one after the other, he and his country were subjected—that awe-inspiring "darkness which could be felt," the blood-red Nile, and all those other terrifying visitations—and who, even after their departure, sent a great general with an army after them, only, however, to perish ignominiously beneath the surging billows of the Red Sea; a contemptuous statement that "the Israelites are destroyed," being almost the only allusion thereto on the moment. And as we gaze spellbound at that hard-featured, determined man, and recall to memory that those very lips uttered the threat to Moses "Get thee

from me, see my face no more, for in the day thou seest my face thou shalt surely die," a strange thrill courses through the veins at finding ourselves face to face with Pharaoh himself, with the very monarch against whom were decreed that amazing series of tragic, withering chastisements.

And on all sides are countless relics of that great age; chariots, almost as fresh as when those fiery steeds madly charged with them into the ranks of the foe, articles of furniture, cups and other vessels, weapons, signet rings, ladies' jewellery of gold and precious stones; with, alas! Innumerable figures, large and small, of hideous idols, with mummified birds, cats and other animals which those senseless idolators worshipped in the belief that the inanimate piece of carved firewood or clay could control their destiny for time and for eternity. Happy we who, instead of worshipping a dead cat or lump of clay shaped like a man with pig's head, worship and serve Him who created the universes, Who, in order to rescue us from the penalty due to eternal justice, made full and complete expiation on the dread, bitter cross for all who will but avail themselves of that ample and free pardon.

REX. v. "GOLD COAST LEADER"

BY DICK CARNIE.

*"Where the British Flag goes, go British Freedom, British Justice, an absolutely incorruptible Civil Service, a scrupulous individual liberty and local Self-government which have made England herself so great."*

Democracy and Reaction.—J. T. HONOURS.

His Honour Mr. Justice Smith's summary of the Great Leader Case will make painful reading. It was clear as Horace's Brandulan spring and to those who prize British suzerainty above every material consideration, it was humiliating exercise to listen to it. What a strange miscellany of incidents and revelations! We do not wish to inflame the prejudices of the wrathful populace or there would be enough to set every thinking soul on fire for many a long day. The impression of chaotic confusion the address left on the mind was appalling and the instinctive feeling that there was an unspoken residuum behind what had been disclosed, was more appalling still. But the end is not yet: we will not anticipate.

Over the heated embers of this dire conflagration, the mystified pagan in Ashanti might cry out in horror—"and this, is the Government of high illumination which is to supersede the regime of the exiled Prempeh—a monarch whose unpardonable sin was the simultaneous execution of two hundred human beings, mostly criminals, all undesirables! For this miserable farce we were rudely despoiled of our ancient institutions and immemorial rights! Alas, poor Prempeh!"—And the apostrophe would be a justifiable one.

His Majesty's Government would have been well advised not to play with edged tools. On-lookers see most of the game; and therefore, the alleged criminal libel should have been thoroughly sifted before definite steps were taken to place in the Dock those two Public Benefactors—the Proprietors of the *Gold Coast Leader*. Ignoring the application of such elementary principle, the authorities deliberately embarked upon a campaign without counting the cost, and have in consequence stirred a nest of hornets, raised fierce protests from every quarter and invited gubernatorial criticism of a most destructive character. No one with a conscience can witness this recrudescence of the dark days of native rule in the regions beyond without expressing a dissentient opinion, nor could any intelligent African who saw the virtuous effort of the Police magnates in seeking the bubble reputation even at the cannon's mouth, do so without describing it as an imprudent attempt at "humbugging" the public. Never in the history of the Gold Coast has there been such a startling spectacle of incompetence, Lawlessness and hopeless irresponsibility—we had almost written imbecility—as were successively unmasked during the epoch-making trial and with such scenic effect. And even though in the true spirit of christian charity, we may own that the Government meant well and meant intensely in the part it took in the disgusting business, we must not wait to be reminded that no amount of good intentions could condone the flagrant indiscretions and thoughtless simplicity—the simplicity of pathetic ignorance—under which it chose to act. To take such prodigious leap into dark and murky waters, unless the proverbial Head-er may be gymnastic, it is not politic. In fact, it is not even rational or human. Only a pluperfect conceit of their own resources or an abject contempt for the *Leader* could have inspired the suicidal feat. Whatever it was, the Government lost its head—its sense of perspective at a great crisis and the fatal experience is not a very healthy sign in Political Philosophy or military tactics. And with what result? In the absolute exculpation

tion of the accused, the Administration of Kumasi stands convicted of being an elaborate duper—a curious mixture of folly, weakness and cruelty, not the faithful reflex of the British Rule of which we are so enamoured and which is eloquently eulogised above, by Mr. Hobhouse.

But which is more worthy of censure? The Cantonment system so remote from the amenities of civilization, with its Machiavelian Methods or our sapient Government with its benevolent despotism and grandmotherly indulgence? We need sympathy, if in these scabrous moments, we perceive no appreciable difference between *Tweedledum* and *Tweedledee* and fail accordingly to exonerate either.

We feel most acutely this blow that wounds us at so many vital points. Our pain is rendered still more unbearable by the comparative silence entailed on us by loyalty to the Crown, to our rational forbearance and by our respect even for the blundering, culpable officials concerned.

It is to be hoped that the wholesome lessons of events shall compel the recreant deserters to range themselves once more under the British Flag in the grace of true repentance; that the Central Authority will realize that the obsecratic policy pursued in the hinterland must inevitably react upon the peace and progress of the Colony and Protectorate—especially the Protectorate, and that this tortuous procedure may not occur again.

"It's an ill wind that blows nobody good," and this cataclysmic débâcle will have served, at least, one useful purpose, if it helped to silence effectually the Journalistic abortions and customary platitudes of the *West African Mail* correspondent and that ilk whose ignorance of African matters is invincible and whose capacity for absorbing mendacious reports immeasurable.

Within seven years there have been two injudicious attempts to gag the local Press—each ending ignominiously and presenting in its last stages a thrilling study in dramatic developments. After this second *fiasco*, it might add to the dignity of the Government to take it for granted and for all practical purposes, that no native of the Gold Coast would volunteer to give Publicity to anything concerning any servant of the Crown of whatever colour, caste or creed without abundant proof up his sleeves and unless it be for the safety and welfare of the Body Politic. Henceforth let there be sabbatic rest from all persecutions, visible and invisible, for those whose high calling is—to guide the destinies of their country and people from darkness and chaos to light and order.

We cull from *West Africa* of May 13th 1905 an important article on the municipal question. Here it is:

### THE MUNICIPAL QUESTION ON THE GOLD COAST

(By our own Correspondent.)

#### GOVERNMENT POLICY CONDEMNED.

His Excellency, Sir J. P. Rodger, the Governor of the Gold Coast, has sent an important letter to the "Omanhin" of Cape Coast upon the municipal question now engaging public attention on the Cape Coast. The letter is important, because it forms the last word on the subject, as far as the local authorities are concerned. It is addressed to the "Omanhin" that is, as I am given to understand to the King paramount of Cape Coast District, since he is the official native head of the community of Cape Coast. There are circumstances in the situation which call for a little timely reflection before summarily dismissing the people's claim for a voice in the settlement of the question. An obvious anomaly consists in the fact that, whereas the Gold Coast is proudly described as a Colony, the proportion of colonists therein is hardly one in the thousand. Therefore, it becomes absolutely misleading to seek to apply foreign standards to a question which must be decided on the basis of native institutions. What is more, the leaders of the people thoroughly understand this, whereas the administrators do not appear, so far, to appreciate the situation. If the British Empire in the heart of Africa is to be a reality, then you must adopt the policy of respecting the African's point of view in matters affecting his vital interests. Whether its principle is recognised or not by the Colonial authorities may be judged from the second paragraph of the letter under discussion, which says: "The Secretary of State has laid down, and the principle is now universally recognised throughout the world that the expenses with purely local works (such as lighting, drainage, the maintenance of streets, and general sanitation) should be borne by the town concerned, and not charged against the general revenue of the Colony. The only question to decide, therefore, is as to the best method of carrying this principle into effect." It reads very well what the Colonial Minister has "laid down," and the corollary propounded by the local administrator; and when it is understood that the remaining portion of His Excellency's letter is directed to the way in which the policy of Downing Street may be carried

out, it becomes apparent that there is something grievously wrong in a system which all right-thinking men unite in condemning. But the people of the Gold Coast, as far as one can observe, from reading the local papers, are ready with a reply to the ultimatum of the Governor. They say in effect: You may enunciate what principles of political economy you like, but there are obvious facts which you cannot ignore. Years back, at our own suggestion, and to meet this very question of municipal ways and means, the Government raised the ad valorem duties to ten per cent. Instead of wharves and harbours, and water supply in the important towns, the money was unfairly spent in military expeditions, and superfluous offices were created to swallow whatever might have been saved for municipal purposes. The money came from the pockets of the people, which they know to their cost. Therefore, says the native, we judge it unfair that our towns should now be taxed without any adequate representation. The matter thus put, I must confess, appeals to one's sense of fairness. What municipality in the United Kingdom would brook for a moment the interference of Downing Street in matters municipal, in the election of members for municipal board, and in the election of the President or Chairman? If the Colonial Office must force down the throat of these people their brand new ideas of municipal Government, why not be consistent throughout and give them adequate representation and a full voice in the Government of their own towns? The sort of thing that one sees being attempted at Sekondi of constituting a few Europeans into a municipal board, and calling it the Sekondi Town Council is to play with the idea of free municipal institutions, and will be sure, in the end, to defeat itself.

The situation should be looked squarely in the face, as I have suggested, having regard to all the circumstances previously set forth in your columns. That the West African is bound, within a reasonable date from the present, to claim a full share in the administration of his country, goes without saying; and the Government will be exercising a wide discretion if, instead of opposing the tide of progress, they encourage and help the people. They cannot begin too soon in giving such help, and the present situation on the Gold Coast is a most fitting opportunity.

#### TRY IT NOW.

As the Aerated Water Syndicate has been formed why can't an Agricultural Company or Association be also formed? There is an adequate number of wealthy sons of the soil at Cape Coast Castle who can form any such Company.

Money so invested is well spent and if well worked must show up a sweet dividend.

Many want the income but are afraid to let out first. Incomes come in after outgoes.

The Wangaras are shaking up Cape Coast gentlemen—aye, why—they first start farming on many of the gentlemen's lands and the big returns drew out the landlords.—(Communicated.)

#### 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*.

Bourne House, Cophal Avenue,  
London, E. C., June 2nd 1905.

Dear Sir,—You are wrong in attributing to me—vide your issue of May 13th—the authorship of the articles on West Africa which have lately appeared in this journal. You are equally incorrect in stating, as I think you stated in a previous issue of your paper, that the writer of the articles was formerly a member of, or was in some way associated with, the "Anglo-African Argus." You may take it from me that he was never in any way connected with that enterprising but unfortunate publication. You are at liberty to publish this letter if you think fit.

Yours truly,—J. HARTLEY KNIGHT.

[The above is from the office of "The African World," and is published same with the greatest pleasure. Content noted. Ed.]

Sir—From your contemporary—the *Gold Coast Aborigine*, we learn that the Authorities are grieving, incontinently, over the loss of the case they engineered against the plucky "Leader"—which reminds me of a Verdict of Manslaughter based upon the evidence of a Somersetshire labourer (England) in a trial for Murder. Said the grammarless bucolic:—

"He'd a stick, and he'd a stick, and he hit he, and he hit he; and if he'd ha' hit he, when he hit he, he'd ha' killed he, and not he he." See?

Now, the *Leader* had its quiver full of facts and figures; the *Powers* stored theirs with squibs, squirts, crackers and the like. Each party put its whole fighting force in the field. If the *Powers* had

had the superior armament of the *Leader*, the *Powers* would have scored and not the *Leader*. When two men wrestle, one of the darlings is sure to "kiss mother Earth", even if they both employ the Japanese trick of *Jujitsu*. Congratulations to you, Sir!

Sincerely yours,—WHITE ELEPHANT.

June 19.

#### JOHN BULL'S WITTY NOTIONS.

Sir,—Wonders will never cease; and the sudden shock I received this morning, is my excellent excuse for making a few remarks, under your pardon, although in doing so, I run the risk of being branded an "irresponsible scribbler," a "fifth-rate correspondent" and what not by the proud Protector and avenger of Native Press.

In the last issue of your esteemed weekly, a Mr. John Bull of questionable patriotic antecedents sought, for all he was worth, to compromise others "outside your colour and country"; but I am not having any, if you take me. How on earth any one, not coloured, could let himself go in that gushing manner, as evidenced in his much belauded spittle, knocks me clean into the proverbial cock-hat. We may not all, White and Black, agree with certain regrettable phases of the well-boomed "Leader Trial," but I really fail to see why "J. B." should think it at all healthy to spite his face by savagely slashing at his own nose. Whitmonday—the date of the offending communication—was however a *Dies Non*—a hot one at that—and accountable for much. I, for one, can readily appraise at their proper value any profanities perpetrated on that Open Day. I do not, for a moment, insinuate that your pushful correspondent was anywhere near my own condition on the 12th inst., I should not be surprised, if he was, though—with such a congenial climate on! Anyhow, I cannot reconcile myself to the fact, that because the paramount Authorities, in the ordinary course of events, brought an unsuccessful suit against the intrepid Proprietors of a native Print, therefore, they necessarily "made a sorry exhibition of themselves &c. &c."

Mind you, I am not finding fault with or attempting to roast any native—not I; but I must say that some reverence or respect is justly due to those who rule the roost in a British Colony, and I am horribly disappointed that John Bull who, by all the tests, ought to know better does not set example of loyalty and moderation in tone and temper to fellow-subjects "outside his colour and Country."

The Schoolmaster is undoubtedly abroad, when an overconfident correspondent can so coolly give points to a full-fledged Editor—if even a native—in JOURNALISM BY MAIL.

Well, Sir, should you decide to "incorporate within the columns" of your proposed pamphlet, John Bull's Witty notions, I hope you would do myself and other Bulls simple Justice by giving this letter an equal mark of high distinction.

Yours respectfully,—ANOTHER BULL.

19/9/1905.

P. S.—Do book me a Baker's dozen of the prospective pamphlet, please. Would come in handy, as a sort of mild relaxation to the Johnnies up country. This is material assistance! What price John Bull's "moral support?"—A. B.

#### NO DISCOVERY IS NEW.

Dear Sir,—I here beg to thank you most sincerely for the columns occupied afore and would crave for their indulgence.

I have been spoken to by one or two gentlemen of this town as well as some from other towns that I should inform the public of the Occult Science which I have had the privilege of mastering at New York and which they say would be a boon to the public, both sick and well.

It is necessary I think, that I give a few brief remarks regarding this Science. Personal Magnetism has seriously occupied and is most seriously occupying the minds of the most learned and deep thinking men all over the civilized and go forward world:—America, India, France, Germany, England, Scotland, Ireland, Russian &c.

This Science was given to the world clearly by the Greatest Physician and Leader of the christian world when He healed the Leper, the Sick of the Palsy, and the woman with issue of blood. The last named case was one of the most striking on sacred history.

Profane History bears testimony to the very wide use of this Science by our Saviour and His Followers.

To write what I would on this Science I would have to violate the injunctions on page 4 of the "Leader" therefore I cut short and say many have suffered and been put aside as incurables while many are suffering from nervous disorders and would be, I believe too willing to be cured which disorders can be permanently cured by Personal Magnetism, Suggestive Therapeutics or Vitisopathy. The disorders may be briefly put down as follows:—Neuralgia, Headache, Rheumatism, Excessive and Abetruasive flooding, weak memory, nervousness, bad habits, i.e. drinking and smoking to excess &c.

These very limited few will give an idea of the many things which can thus be cured.

Am willing to cure free of cost any first (2) two applicants providing they apply within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this article and that to the Editor of this Paper who will give my address and other necessary information.

Students can also apply—male or female—Beth patients and students will have special attention. Personal application saves time.

DORON.