

# The Gold Coast Leader.

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## THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

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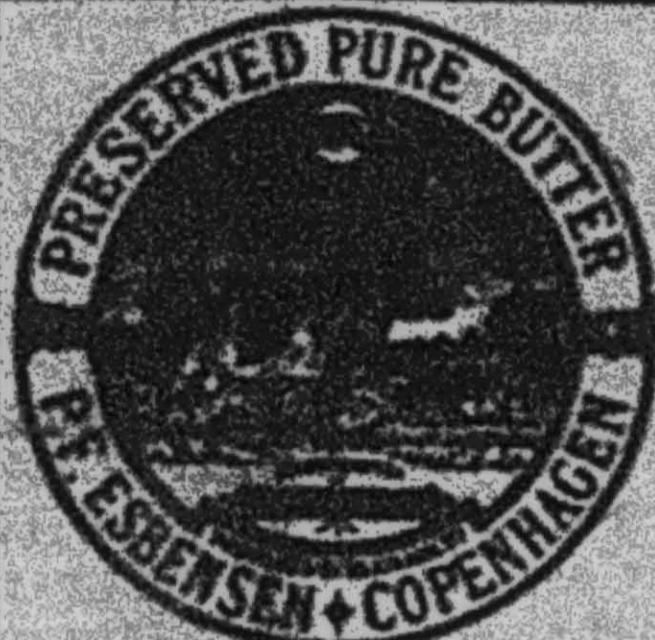
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### GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. Farley we understand is gone up to Tarkwa, and the District Commissioner in charge now of this Station is Mr. Pfonke.

Last Saturday the Templars of the English Section went up to Elmina for this quarter's District Meeting.

The Rev. Hastings Kelt passed down to Accra by the *Nigeria* last Sunday.

Bishop Hamlyn is expected out next January. We understand he will bring out with an Iron Chapel for Sekondi.

The Catholic Bishop (Bishop Klaus) arrived here last Monday, and had a grand reception from his flock, the Fathers sparing no effort to make it a success. As usual with the Catholics, the decorations were elaborate. We hope His Lordship will enjoy good health.

The Public Meeting of the Reading Club in connection with its Anniversary, through the management of Mr. Bannerman Martin came off with élan last Saturday.

Mr. W. E. Pieterse who presided, proved to be an ideal Chairman, and the speakers were Messrs. C. J. Bannerman, T. F. E. Jones, P. Awuonor Renner, T. McKenzie Skusa, and the Rev. Dr. Hayford; Rev. Frank Arthur and Dr. E. James Hayford moved and seconded votes of thanks to the Chairman and the Speakers. The speeches were excellent, but Mr. Renner's may be said to be the speech of the evening.

Songs interspersing the speeches were rendered by Messrs. G. Sagoo Blankson, Sam. P. Longdon, Downer and Harbour James, the two last giving a duet also. The Secretary of the Club (Mr. Erem Parker) presided at the Organ.

We understand the Ladies' Club through its President (Mrs. Miss Baker) wired to Lady Rodger on the knighting of His Excellency to which Her Ladyship wrote a very interesting letter in reply promising to see the President about the Club on her visit here next year.

Elder, Dempster & Co. have launched out another steamer this month, the *s. s. Adia*.

From Accra we learn that the Solicitor-General (Mr. Mc Carthy) has been pensioned off.

The C.M.S. has found a new Secretary in Bishop Ingham recently a Bishop of Sierra Leone.

In Governor Rodger we have had the 5th Governor on whom knighthood has been conferred whilst administering this Government. The others being Governor Griffith, Maxwell, Hodgson and Nathan.

"Preach to the English, rant to the French, argue with the Germans, for the Germans are philosophical, the French are excitable, and the English are always prepared to convert, or reform, everybody—but themselves."—*Truth* 27/2/04.

The Honourable J. Mensah Sarbah returned from the Council by the *Tempera* last Wednesday, the Honourable J. Peter Brown having passed on to Axim by the same steamer.

We understand the letter brought the Governor's reply to the views of this Town on the Town Council Ordinances. His Excellency is reported not to see with "the Omahin and certain inhabitants of Cape Coast" on those views.

We have not, as we go to Press seen a copy of the reply. Our readers may see it with us in due course.

Now that the Post Master General is in the Colony his attention may be called to this. Cape Coast is

by far too large to have only two carriers. We believe in economy, but not in a destructive economy. It is simply killing to have two carriers only in a town like this as all who know this place may see and if this is the edict gone forth, which cannot be recalled, may they not have bicycles given them to facilitate their work? The P.M.G. may give this his kind consideration.

The Governor has ordered that the sheds erected at the Salt Pond Road, "shall after this date" (14/11/04) "be used as a Public Market" for this Town.

We publish next week the "Order in Council" on this Public Market, with the Rules thereon which came in force on last Thursday.

Of Judicial work in District Commissioners' Courts during third-quarter of past 1904, Cape Coast had 127 civil cases (the highest number) the next Sekondi with 308; on criminal cases too, the two places stood first with 198 and 137 respectively. This, tells its own tale. We give others next issue.

The new Director of Works Captain Lees an R.E. has arrived in the Colony and assumed duty.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**F. OPTIMIST.**—We think it will be very much better to see Mr. Hy... in person, we are sure he will listen to you kindly.

**ONE OF THEM.**—We see with you, our girls in these days need be taught that more attention should be given to their studies, than to fineries. The fact is, parents in these days are woefully indulging to their daughters, which goes to spoil them, and then they turn round themselves to bemoan the results when indulgence has finished her work. It seems that Masters and Mistresses are equally indulging to their pupils in these days, discipline as lax as it can possibly be, hence a good deal of what one sees and hears. It is time also that our young ladies knew that it is most unlady-like to go to any concert or party unprotected by a father, a brother or a chaperon. Any lady who has any respect for herself, should never be seen in the streets or at parties alone. Write again.

#### SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

With a view to monopolise the trade in the interior, Messrs Swanzy Ltd are arranging to establish factories at one or two of the principal central stations up-country. Mr. Muir probably effected this arrangement. He left by the "Nigeria" for Accra last night. We understand Messrs Shaw and Clare were passengers by the same steamer for Cape Coast and Accra respectively.

Rev. Russell (Inspector of Wesleyan Schools) arrived here last week and after inspecting the school and dismissing the Headmaster left for Dixcove. From information to hand, the abrupt discharge of the schoolmaster last Wednesday morning had scarcely any sufficient cause. From what we gather Mr. Marshall has evidently been a victim to a recurrent prejudice.

The dedication of the Catholic Church to the worship of God takes place on the 11th. December next. The Society is tense with preparations against the occasion.

We know of a certain that dry fish is a distinctive article, the sale of which is prohibited in the market. A considerable number of bags containing salted fish were landed here on one of the steamers on the roads last week, and these are being sold without restraint. We hardly can define the difference between fish locally prepared and fish imported. Some one may enlighten us.

The American Section of Good Templars honoured Temperance Sunday (27th) with a procession to the Wesleyan chapel this morning; the members attended Church at the Court House this afternoon in full regalia.

#### ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The English Good Templars held their District Lodge Session here in the Wesleyan School Rooms, last Saturday night 26th. All the sister Lodges in Cape Coast were represented.

The following Sunday being a Temperance Day the Lodges (both American and English) attended divine service at the Wesleyan chapel in full regalia, followed by open air demonstrations at various quarters of the town for the promotion of the temperance work, the delegates included Bro. Chief Coker, H. R. Blankson, A. M. Wright, J. J. Kuofi, Quansah from Cape Coast and Bro. Odum from Axim.

His honour Mr. Justice Pennington closed the Assize and returned to Cape Coast last Saturday night. It is stated that the next session will be

held on February next year, when Mr. Justice Purcell will be expected to preside.

Mr. Barrister Buckle, I understand, is making arrangements to take offices here for establishing some of his practice at this place—at least, he will be between this and Cape Coast.

Mr. Buckle visited the Literary Club last Friday night 25th, where he delivered a seasonable address as to the general up-keep and advancement of the Club, to which the Vice President and some of the members responded, giving him their assurance that although the membership of the Club appears to be greatly reduced through circumstances over which they have no control as long as six of them remained in the town they were determined to uphold the Club.

Mrs. Thain arrived here from England last Sunday evening—hearty greeting. The French steamer *Stamboul* with Bishop Claus on board, touched here last Monday morning 28th, and proceeded to Cape Coast where arrangements had been made for His Lordship's reception.

Some attention ought to be devoted to the present state of the streets. There are sufficient prisoners available who can be put on such minor works without in any way depleting the local funds. Swish is easily got anywhere and where there might be any difficulty to procure it there are several disreputable ruins lying about the streets should be removed to make general surroundings appear a little respectable.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

From what our Winnebuh Correspondent writes this week, there seems to be some misunderstanding between the Omanlin and his people. We sincerely hope matters will be amicably adjusted, and that the educated class especially will use their influence to bring this about. We also hope the Omanlin will not stand on his dignity, but will listen to Reason. We have been hearing too often of late of this sort of thing which does not speak well of us as a People. These things were not known before. What must be causing all this now? We hope the D.C.'s efforts to settle things quietly will be successful.

ANDREW WHITGLIFT has been given us a series of articles on the Lawyer and Doctor's opportunities to do good, which no doubt our Readers found to be not only interesting but a useful reading. We hope some practical good will come out of them. We would call the special attention of our professionals to them for their own and the Country's sake.

We think its high time the Police authorities did something with their Kumasi Police Superintendent, we are hearing too often of him, and it is not at all safe to have such a man where we have such 'combustible materials' which can break out any day, when they think they have had enough. Kumasi of all places should never have such a Superintendent, and the Authorities should know why. Some of these officials should really be made to understand that their positions are not meant for them to bamboozle His Majesty's peaceful subjects with, but to protect them.

The Police at the Outstations are often no more officers of peace and order than the man in the moon: our Readers may have noticed what our Chama correspondent told us of another gentleman of the same cloth at that place. These things do not speak well of the Police Department on which some £28,869. 4. 2. are expended to keep order in the Country, and they reflect on the Inspector and his Assistants. They must work to educate the men to their duty and on what is expected of them. Here and there some fine gentlemen may be met in the Force but on the whole they are a bad lot, causing more disturbance than the People they are supposed to be keeping in order. Major Kitson will do well to give the subject some consideration.

We once more call the attention to the fact that whilst it is true that the convicts are usually sentenced to 'hard labour,' they are really overworked, and the Prison Authorities also will do well to keep in mind the Scriptural injunction to be merciful to their beasts. The poor people are overworked right through the week, not excepting Sunday, and underfed too, and this accounts for their misbehaviour when out, attacking people in the roads where they go to work for food. How unlike the English this is. There seems to be nothing done to reform the men although one reads of a good deal in the Prison Ordinance purported for that, and enough treatment are given to the poor men, because they are prisoners which will make Elizabeth Fry and John Howard turn in their graves.

And there is the latrine business, which has been going on for years now, and which the Authorities have now thought best to let the men remove private ones also, for which something is paid to the

Treasury by the owners—anything of course to increase the revenue, and then by the way, to tax the people as well—If the Government cannot have paid men to do it as it used to be, because there is prison labour to be had for it, we do not think it should be carried on so indiscriminately as it is being done. There should be certain crimes of which when people are convicted should be made to undergo some severe punishment.

But there are some people whose offence cannot admit of such a punishment. Many a man had been sent to Prison because the Magistrate had made up his mind to do so, or unfortunately some lawyer had determined to see him in trouble and disgraced—queer world: but is it the world which is queer or some people in it?—and there he is, where he will never have been though charged with a crime, if justice and fairplay had been done. It is really surprising how some people play at one's character, and actually take delight in seeing some one in trouble or indistress. 'Court of Justice, yer call them' said a London cabby when driving by the courts, 'courts of law yer mean'—The prison officers should use some discretion in putting the men to their hard labour.

Some one was remarking the other day, how strange it is that people are so much troubled at the Outstations by the officials, and we could no more account for it than he could except that at the Outstations, every official feels to be a little Governor or Colonial Secretary in his own way, and 'Bows' it over his subordinates and the People according to his own sweet will. Things are actually done at the Outstations which are never thought of at Headquarters, and all in the name of the Government, and they know when called to order, a despatch or two will put things right, at all events they will be backed up at Headquarters. What a consternation, there will be, if the contents of some confidential letters were to see the light?

It is not possible that this is the only Town in which the Government has properties that need fencing. It may be asked therefore if the Government properties in the other Towns also are being fenced in and with that dangerous thing barbed wire. The fencing may be all right perhaps but the barbed wire is what we consider to be dangerous, and the 'Deputy Governor' does not need any argument to convince him of this. He may for once perhaps be good enough to recommend something good for this town. The fencing at Fort William must be removed or the pathway for the People be left alone: the one in front of Miller's is quite out of place. We again appeal to the Aborigines Society on this and through it to His Excellency.

We seem to be the only Town too that have had our Beach fenced in chiefly through the efforts of a Merchant who managed to ingratiate himself into the favour of a Governor, and who makes it no secret in encompassing for the downfall (!) of this Town, and seeks to introduce all sorts of things for that end, one who is indebted to the Town too for what he is, but after he has done his very worst, he will go, and Cape Coast will remain. This may be considered personal, possibly it is but desperate disease requires desperate cure, and such things 'don't pay.' In a Colony, at least in this Colony, any one can do any thing as dictated to him by his caprice and easily justify his actions, and that's how His Majesty's subjects are ruled abroad, and they are not to complain or put up any grievance, though grievances still exist even in the "Auld Country."

#### 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, DECEMBER 3, 1904.

#### LOST STOOLS.

JUDGING from what has transpired at one or two places in connection with our native stools which threatens to be an unwholesome precedent in matters of that kind, it will not be a bad idea if all concerned would see that everything

that can possibly be done, be done for the protection of our native Rulers in these days, the safeguarding of the rights and privileges of the subjects of these Rulers as well as the preservation intact of the laws and customs in connection with matters bearing on the enstooling and destooling of our Amanhin. At this moment the most important and pressing question is, What is to be done in cases where an Omanhin or Ohin, having been deposed by his people in accordance with our customary laws and procedure, refuses to give up the stool for the installation ceremonies of his successor duly elected by the People? In these days of 'civilization' when law is brought to the very door of every person, and therefore to the deposed Ruler's as well, in these days when the civilized Power in our midst has rightly or wrongly deemed it the best thing to do, to interfere in all matters native, pure and simple, to the very abolition of some native customs in no way repugnant to 'civilized' ideas, customs, every way capable of being modelled where necessary after those known to be existing in more civilized countries, some unfortunate Rulers have taken the advantage to refuse to give up the stools when destooled, thus causing disturbance and confusion in their district, thereby giving sufficient ground for the justification of the Powers That Be to step in, to enact laws and pass Ordinances, directly and indirectly aiming at the doing away with certain customs to which we have been accustomed from time immemorial.

A case or two in point may perhaps serve to make clear what we seek to point out here. All who have some knowledge of the enstooling or destooling of the Omanhin or Ohin in the olden times, fully know that such inconveniences such as places like Sekundi and Commenda are now being put to about their stools, could never have taken place then. In those days an Omanhin destooled by the united action of the People, and in accordance with our customs could never dream of taking away the stool with him for he would know that that would cost him his life, for if the disappearance of the stool could be traced up to him without a shadow of a doubt, and he refusing to give it up, the custom was, that he was made to suffer death, and his blood daubed on the new stool that would be made, and in his death serve as a link between the departed Amanhin, who sat on the stool he had made away with, and those who will sit on the newly made one. None need be shocked at this, when it is remembered that such an act on the part of the unfortunate Ruler was tantamount to the charge of high treason in the eyes of the People (to use the language of the civilized world, which is punishable with death even in these days). But this extreme measure, cannot be resorted to now: it being so, why may not some ways and means be adopted for the people to get at their stools without any bloodshed? Why tie up their hands and force them to submit to annoyances and vexations which could never have existed in former times?

It is true that high treason is punishable still in these days with death, but it is equally true that in nearly every case this is commuted to some other punishment—to any severe punishment other than the loss of life. With the present state of affairs in the country arising from our being in contact with a civilized Power, if the how to get at a lost stool is taken from the People, then it behoves that Power, which has assumed the right to make laws for them on the destooling of their Omanhin, to enact some measures also to be used either by itself or the People to regain their stools without any difficulty where some destooled Rulers show any inclination to cause some disturbance, instead of leaving them to themselves to manage it as best they can, which often results in lawsuits.

LEST WE FORGET.

In the recent Cape Coast communication to Sir John P. Rodger about the Town Councils Ordinance mention is made of the present customs duty having been imposed at their request. To-day we publish a very important communication to Governor Winniet who was then contemplating the introduction of Customs duty in 1850. This letter as will be seen was signed by J. Bannerman and Brodie Cruikshank who held very high positions in the government of

the Merchants at the time of Maclean. They represented the opinion of the British Traders on the coast and they urged that monies collected by the Customs duties should be expended in the improvement of the country by increasing the Judicial Establishment, by the Establishment of Schools, and by public works of general utility, and not be swallowed up in the mere garrisoning of the Forts and the salaries of the officers of the Government. When one sees the large amount of our revenue spent on soldiers' arms and ammunitions and the little spent on schools and public works he ought to think.

Cape Coast, 30th April 1850.

Sir,—We have refrained from answering the communication which your Excellency made to us upon the subject of the proposition to levy duties and our ideas as to its probable success, until we had the opportunity of learning the general opinion of the merchants and traders upon the subject; without whose concurrence we felt that there would be much difficulty in successfully carrying such a scheme into operation. We have now taken the individual opinion of those, whose interests would be more particularly affected by the measure, and the impression appears to us to be general, that provided a similar scale of duties were imposed in the Dutch settlements there would be nothing objectionable in a moderate duty upon the articles proposed for taxation; but that, without the co-operation of the Dutch, the levying of any duty would be greatly injurious to the English settlements.

We regret to find however that the Dutch Government and merchants are equally hostile to the proposed duties, chiefly as it appears to, because they conceive that they have been intentionally framed to fall most heavily upon the articles not of English import. They also contemplate much greater difficulty and expense in the collection of the duty, and in the prevention of smuggling than we are willing to admit.

Our own impressions are that if general throughout the Dutch and English Settlements a Revenue of not less than £10,000 for the first year with capabilities of future increase to a considerable amount might be raised without injury to trade and without the slightest risk of driving Trade to other points of the Coast not occupied by the English. But to facilitate the collection of this Revenue, and to render the measure at all popular it will be absolutely necessary that it should be expended in the improvement of the country by increasing the Judicial Establishment, by the Establishment of Schools and by public works of general utility, and not be swallowed up in the mere garrisoning of the Forts and in the salaries of the officers of the Government.

(Sgd.) J. BANNERMAN,  
" B. CRUIKSHANK.

William Winniet.

A POOR MAN'S DIARY.

BY B. R.

III.

I remember the incident too well; for it made an indelible impression upon my mind. I had surprised the Old Man over his mid-day cup of Van Houten's Cocoa and Cigars, one sultry day! He nodded as I went in and signed me to my usual seat in the corner of his living room. After the last gulp of the invigorating beverage, Fidas exclaimed, three times: *Manihot, manihot, manihot!* with the accent strongly marked on the last syllable of the words. Taking it for granted that he was referring to the Thermometer at which he had fixed his penetrating eyes, and which, at that particular conjunction of events, registered 100 degrees in the shade, I said laconically—*Rather!* The innocuous expletive appeared to excite his risibles to an extraordinary pitch. After sustained peals of Homeric laughter, my friend transfixed me with one of his peculiarly scrutinizing gazes and shouted most encouragingly—*"Good, B.R., good! Bravo!"*

"But," he continued with ill-suppressed merriment, "I was not referring to the meteorological conditions of the day. I have only been thinking aloud, wondering why it is that your average mediocrity delights to parade his collection of garbage mis-called—'knowledge.' That is all." After this illuminating exposition of the situation, he subsided into silence, the profundity of which sufficiently indicated the incubation of some philosophical reflections. Meantime he was smoking most furiously, now and then dipping his fingers into a China bowl full of cigar-stumps and lighting one after another at a rate proportionate to their longitude.

Suddenly he burst out:—

"B.R.—you are yet in your teens. I know you have the utmost confidence in Fidas. Promise me then, that you will have nothing to do with cigars and cigarettes until you are 21 years of age! Upon physiological and ethical grounds, I ask you to do me that favour. It is not advisable to go into particulars: it is enough that I wish it. Will

you promise me—upon your honour?"

I promised. "Should you" he added, "at that time become a devotee of my Lady Nicotine, remember the advice, I am about to impart:—

*Never, let the young begin where you end. In short, never throw away your cigar-ends. You may need them when you are financially in extremis.*

*Never be ashamed of economy: you have no idea how many Pounds of the Queen's current coin, I have saved by adhering to the sound principles that underlie these sublime thoughts.*

How many of the intellectual nonentities of the age, are at this moment indulging in fat boxes of *Flor de Indigo* and exquisite *Herosas* the very aroma of which is provocative of the reminiscential delights of Better Days, and Fidas is reduced to this Bowl of odds and ends! But why should I complain? Does not *My Lady* reserve her strongest proof of affectionate regard to those who follow her to the bitter end?

Leaving *Blunderment House*, I repaired to my *Diggings* where I pressed into my service the Telegraphic and Postal arrangements of the Protectorate, with the happy result that precisely 16 hours after I had said, 'Good-bye' to my Mentor, a Registered Parcel (origin unknown)—containing One Box of well-seasoned Floridas bearing the figures 100: One Ten-Pound Note and a brand new Meerchaum Cigar-Tube properly addressed reached Fidas Achates from Elmina. It turns out that 10 minutes before my visit on the day above mentioned, he had written the following in his Diary:—

Industrial Pursuits!

It is all the rage now! The new hobby is being ridden to death. We would soon have to breakfast, dine and sup on nothing else. When Saturn was banished from Heaven, he wisely made tracks for Italy and taught the people agriculture which time is mythologically known as "The Golden Age." History repeats itself and there is Hope for the Protectorate.

How ridiculous! Now-a-days 20 Plants of Potatoes in a field of Ochroses, Tomatoes and Cassia entitle the exuberant possessor to the name and dignity of Scientific Agriculturist! especially if he is pedantic enough to attach bits of paper with unpronounceable names thereon, to the Kitchen Plants.

"Are those plants yonder Potatoes?" I asked Napoleon Ossis, this morning. "Yes," said the man of Science, "it is the *Solanum Tuberosum*. That bed contains the *Tuberosissima Cervicaria* I intend making a fence with the *Manihot Aizo* and plant some more of *Cocoe Nucifera*." After which scholarly effort, there was an abnormal expenditure of the supplemental air. Ah me! Ah me!!

He will surely deserve well of his Country who makes these things more systematic, more real and more practical; not simply take up Agriculture as an easy pedestal for the reciprocation of amiable sentiments or the inauguration of a Mutual Admiration Society, but in real earnest doing everything that may hasten Our Golden Age: and I would not be forestalled by any one, IF I WERE A MILLIONAIRE—IF."

THE MUSIC OF THE SPHERES.

(BY A BANKER.)

From very early times music has had a most potent influence upon mankind. A popular chant or song has swayed entire nations, even contributing to the overthrow of dynasties, while many a great movement, political or otherwise, has been very greatly aided by popular songs and hymns. How tiring does the soldier find a long march if there be no band, or drums and fifes, or bagpipes, to enliven its monotony, or how utterly uninteresting would a dance be without music of any kind.

Who, unless indeed his senses were benumbed into adman, could listen to, for instance, the harp duet from *I Naxos*, as it used to be sung by a Guigliini and a Procolomina, without a trembling thrill coursing through and through his veins. Or who could hear the soul stirring Garibaldi's Hymn sung by a choir and orchestra of five thousand, an audience of more than twenty thousand singing the choruses, the splendid hero himself standing there on a platform between the two, without a throbbing passion pulsating through his very soul, and inflaming him with a wild quiver of uncontrollable enthusiasm for the gallant and intrepid warrior, who stands there impassive as when on the plains of Molarno Francesco's cannon shot and bombs were hurling around him.

Of all the musical instruments ever invented, the organ must surely be the one which both for grandeur and for subtlety excels them all. To hear, for example, Beethoven's "Sturm Symphony" played upon the great Froburg organ, one of the finest in Europe, is a treat indeed. The birds are singing, the shepherd is piping, and the stream is purring and rippling. Yet in the far off distance a low muttering rumble is heard, approaching ever nearer and nearer. The birds cease their singing and a

deluge of rain commences to fall. Soon the rolling peals of reverberating thunder boom and roar, now for a moment hushed into silence, only to burst forth again and again in a roaring, crashing blast, a very organ of fury and turmoil. At length the violence of the storm moderates, the stridor of the thunder peals is less and less violent, soon slowly rolling back and becoming ever fainter and softer, until at length a solemn hush has supervened. Now again are heard the rattling trill of the song birds, the contented lowing of the herds, and the silvery harmony of the shepherd's pipe, and all nature is gay and joyous.

But if we with our instruments can produce such melodious harmony; if we can create such thrilling and soul-stirring melody, what must be the music of the celestial spheres; what the choruses of the angelic choir; what the anthems and chants of heaven. Surely these must as far surpass the finest and grandest of our efforts as the glories of the celestial realm surpass the beauties of our fair earth. Ah! and with what fervour and passionate emotion will those join in the songs of praise to their Redeemer, who in virtue of His sufferings have attained to the glory, and have escaped the dread wrath to come.

### SCRUTINEER.

I think Mr. Vidal Buckle deserves public thanks for drawing official enlightenment on the matter of the rights of the "members of the English Bar" to practise before the Chief Commissioner's Court in Ashanti, as this fact does not seem to be generally known. I am in a perfect dilemma to understand the logic why the ordinances of the Gold Coast—the Common Law, doctrines of Equity and Statutes of general application should be administered in Ashanti whilst admittance denied to practisers of the law. Well might the Government allow medicines to be sold at Ashanti without admitting doctors to dispense them professionally. "Members of the English Bar have no right of audience or of practising in the Court of the Chief Commissioner of Ashanti," and consequently "Kumasi not a legal field"! No wonder illegality and irregularity keep rivaling with each other there! I have myself no belief in litigation, and horribly detest the unscrupulousness of certain members of the Bar; but the straightforward and better class of lawyers I admire, and these are such terrors that at their presence illegality and all corrupt judicial practices flee as the hart before the hound.

I should think that the practice of shooting dogs on which licenses have not been taken is not only peculiar to this Country but is scandalous in the extreme. Why the poor animals should be so cruelly killed for the sin of their owners in omitting to pay duties on them passes my understanding. Common sense ought to have all along suggested to the authorities the advisability of disposing of those canine friends of man by public auction to any one who can afford to pay a license fee for them, and it is marvellous that at this stage of civilization there are white officials to order the perpetration of such wanton cruelty on animals.

Knowing Mr. Lawson N. Peregrine as I do I am not in any way surprised to find his persistent determination to fence Government properties with barbed-wire netting in direct opposition to the public wish. He is one of those local swells who in their zeal to serve their Government very often mistake a bad cause for a good one, lose their balance, and fall crumbling into pieces; one might think that it tends to their interest to be warned from pursuing a course that will bring them no mead of praise or any appreciation, but apparently when some men stretch sail to a wind that for the nonce appears brisk they do not for a moment entertain the possibility of a gale ahead. Mr. Peregrine's happiness lies in his doing things against the public wish, and it is a good thing for him that he is an official under a "Crown Colony" Government and no other. Whatever he gains by fencing sites in the middle of the town with this dangerous thing, inconveniencing people and endangering the lives of children thereby, it is known only to himself, and be as Mr. Lawson N. Peregrine the Provincial Commissioner of the Cape Coast District, can go on as he chooses; every dog has his day, but when his appointed time arrives go he must.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

### THE SCHOOLMASTER.

IV.

What makes the work of a Christian schoolmaster as difficult as it is important is the fact that he has to deal with two spheres, which though they have a common centre, yet greatly differ as to the area which they cover. In other words, he has to deal with the visible and the invisible world, with the temporal, earthly life and with the eternal, spiritual life. The minister of a church has a much greater task to perform in this respect. He is ex-

pected to teach his members exclusively spiritual truths, giving them only certain hints with reference to the application of those truths to their daily life. The Christian schoolmaster, on the contrary, has to instruct his pupils in the knowledge required for this world, and at the same time to train them for another. Besides, the human beings with whom he has to deal are not, as is the case with the minister, converted and regenerated members of a Christian Church, but children in whom, though the germ of the new spiritual life may be extant, yet that life has not come to development, while their natural, earthly, bodily and mental development is in full power. The difficult task of finding the true point of union between the purely human and the spiritual arises here. Here the difficult question must be answered, how to allow a child to play, to laugh to frolic, to wrestle, and to enjoy visible things to the full extent a child ought to enjoy them, and yet to keep within the limits, not only of the moral but of the spiritual and heavenly. A Christian schoolmaster must of course desire to make Christians of his pupils, but not the less is it his task to try to make men of them. On this difficult point many schoolmasters have wrecked. Some as much as was in their power have shut off the sphere of natural life, and constrained their pupils into the sphere of the spiritual exclusively. The consequence in most cases was, that their pupils became little hypocrites full of cant and totally void of knowledge. Some have made a total separation between the spiritual and the human. They limited the religious element to a certain hour and then having done with it, they allowed the rest of the time to be spent just as if there were no religion at all. Their pupils for the most part became either dead formalists or complete infidels.

There is no better safeguard against these damages than a round scriptural faith in the real incarnation of God as established in the person of our Lord. A schoolmaster who not only believes but rejoices in the fact that Christ truly became man, will learn from Him how to harmoniously unite the spiritual and the natural, the heavenly and the earthly. Christ was once a child (spoke as a child and understood as a child (or more correctly, He had child-like mind.) thought as child. With this image of his wonderful person before his mind, a Christian schoolmaster will know how to be a child with children, and yet lead them on to live for Christ with him. He will know that the means of uniting the spiritual and the natural does not exactly consist in adopting a certain religious phraseology, or in every now and then quoting a text or in setting apart certain portions of the day for religious instruction, but showing how Christ has to him completely removed the barrier which separated heaven and earth. Such an one will feel as much by the side of his beloved Saviour when he plays with the children or when he hears their lessons, as he does when reading the Bible with them or engaging with them in prayer. He will show his pupils in his conduct and conversation the difference there is between the man who is animated by the love of Christ and the man who is ruled by earthly motives, in treating the things that pertain to this life, in estimating their value, and in fixing the goal for which they should be improved. His pupils will learn from him how to the pure man everything can be pure and how to him nothing is attractive but what is true and honest and just and lovely and of good report. A bad schoolmaster will fail to show this even while he teaches from the Bible, and a good one cannot help showing it even while teaching arithmetic.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor disclaims responsibility for opinions expressed in these columns.

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

### To the Editor, Gold Coast Leader.

Sir,—I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Axim Branch of the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society to express their regret at the comments that have appeared in the "Leader" respecting the Draft Municipal Scheme.

I am to state that the said Draft Scheme was prepared by Mr. Casely Hayford by the instructions of the Committee and subsequently published at our request in the "Leader" for general information only, but was never forwarded to the Governor.

As far back as the 16th September last my committee had invited the views of the Cape Coast Committee upon the Draft Bill forwarded to them and the Omanihi. Up to the middle of October the Cape Coast Committee had not favoured them with their views, nor could they ascertain what steps were being taken at Cape Coast relative thereto; and as in the meanwhile the Ordinance was being extended to Sekondi, and, in all probability, Axim would have followed suit, my Committee deemed it expedient that no further time should be lost in placing before the public a Scheme on Aboriginal lines.

The Axim Committee would ask, at this important

crisis, that there should be no controversy, and that the Draft Scheme should be accepted in the spirit in which it was caused to be published, namely, the good of the Country and the welfare of the race.

I am, Sir,  
Your obt. Servant,—A. BISSON,  
Secretary.

### RE TELEGRAPHIC ADVICE OF MOVEMENTS OF MAIL STEAMERS.

Dear Sir,—It appears that the Mercantile Community and the general public have lately been put to very great inconvenience by the indifferent manner in which the movements of mail steamers between Sierra Leone and Lagos have been reported and complaints having reached the District Postmaster he at once communicated with Headquarters which resulted in the Correspondence that was passed round on the 31st ultimo for Merchants to note and no one regrets more than we do, the circumstances and the painful impression that it produced on all those who had opportunity of seeing the papers.

According to official admission the Postmaster General has no right to communicate with the Cable Company about the movements of Steamers leaving Lagos and Sierra Leone and that the information hitherto supplied to the Signal stations has been gleaned from messages sent to the Governor by the Cable Company but here the point arises that if by any means His Excellency has the right of receiving the information from the Cable Company we have no doubt that Sir J. P. Rodger of all Governors would only be too glad to direct the news to be flashed over the wires, if he knew that the information was useful to the Commercial towns of the Colony. We cannot presume that the news is supplied to the Governor at His Excellency's private expense and the Governor ought to be able to make some arrangements with the Cable Company if the Merchants who chiefly make up the Colonial Revenue are to be taken into any consideration at all.

A special code of flag signalling has been prepared and published in the Gazette distinguishing the movements of mail and other steamers at places between Sierra Leone and Lagos and if it is not the intention of the Government to obtain news regarding these steamers for the information of the public for which purpose the code in question was got up, we cannot understand why the trouble was taken at all. In West Africa the Gold Coast Government is the richest of all the Colonies and when one notices the questionable manner in which the Revenue has been frequently observed to be spent it is nothing short of "shameful" that such a simple matter as signalling news of the movements of mail steamers should be denied the public and even the Mercantile Community which are year by year swelling the Revenue.

And now let us ask the question that instead of the Governor having these messages delivered at Christiansborg Castle, in which case, the Post Master General does not appear to see them, why not the Cable Company be requested to hand these telegrams to the latter Officer whose duty it would be to communicate to the Governor, other Government Departments and the public?

For a long time past we have had the news regularly signalled by flags and announced by gun-fire but now it has been stopped or is being done very indifferently and on enquiry the Acting Postmaster General coolly replies "We have no right to communicate with the Cable re steamer movements" but what the intention of the Government was and how they expected to have the news to communicate to the Merchants and the public on account of which the special signal code was prepared and promulgated it is impossible to understand.

We beside us under Crown Colony system of Government wherein there is apparently a desire "to take everything and give nothing."

The public are paying for "Renter's Telegrams" and for use of "Telephones" and perhaps will now also have to pay for news regarding the movements of mail steamers. We have however too great a respect for Sir John's coolheadedness and sound judgment to continue to think we shall always have cause to grumble and embitter our feelings towards the Government. Thanking you for the favour of space.

Yours truly,  
A MERCHANT.

Cape Coast, 26th. November 1904.

### THE DRAFT SCHEME OF TOWN COUNCIL ORDINANCE AS PREPARED BY AXIM BRANCH OF THE G. C. A. R. PROTECTION SOCIETY.

Sir,—The trend of events now on the Gold Coast is such that no native, young or old should sit by his fireside unconcerned.

But pray Sir, if the Axim Branch of the A. R. P. Society is dependent on that of Cape Coast, why on earth was not that draft scheme submitted to Cape Coast Branch, but published.

If this is the way we should ponder over our affairs previous to our laying them before the Authorities, why don't we go and sit in the Legislative Council Chamber and take our deliberations there.

Axim Branch ought to submit to the charge of gross error for having that draft scheme published.—We really do not take Council in public.

Why did the Sekondi people not take Counsel with the D.C. together

By the way Sir, the Axim Society did in the days of Rev. Attoh Ahumah, its originator, consist of the Chiefs of the town—why does it eliminate them now.

Thanking you for space allowed.

Your truly,—AKEM ANYEN NKU NYIMPA.  
Dixcove, 14-11-04.

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

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Nov. 22.—Division Baltic fleet left Crete for Port Said. It is stated at St. Petersburg at the request of Britain and Russian, Emperor of Austria nominates fifth member of commission of enquiry. Britain sanctioned creation of specially designed Australian national silver coinage. Australian Premier proposes Australia shall give 25000 to Queen Victoria Memorial, London. Edward Woermann with 1200 troops for Damaraland returned to Las Palmas screw seriously damaged. Great gale raging North sea several wrecks and loss of life. Blinding snow storms in North and Midlands trains hung up telegraphs collapsed, King and Queen of Portugal snowed up at Chatsworth great misery among unemployed everywhere Oxford excepted. 24.—Five sub-marines for Japanese Navy arrived Yokohama. General Nogi reports result heavy gun cannonading buildings near Arsenal Port Arthur, ignited yesterday still burning. Baron Kodama chief staff Tokio interview emphasised difficulties Nogi's army, Japanese now recognised fortress untaken by Infantry assaults relied on strategy tactics and engineering. 25.—Reuter Canea telegraphs Russian sailors left behind now collected at Barracks. Russian detachment of occupation be embarked on squadron which expected on Friday. Russians and Gendarmarie powerless to control drunken sailors. Daily Mail Amsterdam states Kruger's fortune 750,000 sterling, left sums and all funds for support widows and orphans Boers, also bequests maintain Dutch language. Section Baltic fleet arrived Port Said. Russian Admiral visited British warship Port Said stoutly denies disturbances at Canea. Hendrik Witbooi with 250 followers attacked 200 Germans with three guns at Kub, Witboois defeated and fled. Reuter with Japanese forces Port Arthur telegraphs 22/11 only permanent forts in possession of Japanese are Panlung forts which captured last August. First portion Russian Baltic fleet has entered Suez Canal all vessels passed into Canal very quietly no incident being reported. Anglo-Russian convention provident for holding international commission of enquiry into North Sea incident signed at St. Petersburg this afternoon. Commission of enquiry into Adolf Beck case condemned City of London Records refusal to permit certain evidence being given, this flaw should have been discovered by Home Office thereby preventing miscarriage of Justice, thinks unnecessary establish court of Criminal Appeal. 28.—Division Baltic fleet 2 battleships, 3 cruisers and nine transport! anchored in Bitter Lake, Suez Canal on Friday night and left to-day. Deputation of prominent local administrations Russia waited upon Tsar 26/11 submitted recommendations for various reforms. The deputation explained their case at length and the Tsar greatly impressed. Serious political riots among sailors in barracks Sevastopol but collapsed owing imperfect organisation seditious proclamations found among them, rioters wrecked barracks also partially wrecked portion quarters of Naval division who refused join them, pickets fired on rioters wounding many and order was eventually restored. Prize court St. Petersburg confirmed confiscation British steamer Cheltenham captured last July. Dutch Foreign Minister explaining estimates this department says he proposed remains Kruger be transported to South Africa by State but Cabinet doubted whether South African authorities desired to render honours to remains. Referring Netherlands Railway, the Government had proposed Britain submit question solution of which imperceptive to arbitration Hague court. Stoessel reports Japanese attacked Port Arthur 21/11 repulsed. 29.—Commission appointed to investigate Bill introduced-French Chamber Deputies by French Premier providing for separation Church and State in France has reported against Bill by overwhelming majority. Various movements Russian troops exciting district among Afghans, Ameer ordered frontier Governors be watchful, meanwhile forces being increased in order to safe guard frontiers twenty thousand being sent Herat. Death announced Viscount Ridley who as Sir Matthew White Ridley was Home Secretary in Salisbury's administration, son's succession peerage causes vacancy in constituency Stalybridge. Four or five vessels of supplementary Baltic fleet anchored off Dover in fog Saturday believed now resumed journey. Stated Cape Town section Baltic fleet which proceeding Far East via Cape is coaling off Swakopmund King will sail to Cape immediately.

SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The death of Adj. Ammokuah at Kuntoo the mother of Rev. J. A. Assan now in Sierra Leone was reported here last Wednesday the 21st. inst. We understand Mr. A. J. Hammond of Fischer's has not been enjoying good health for the past fortnight. We wish him speedy recovery. Ohin Joseph Graham of Lower Town (Nankersil) died last Monday.

WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Simpa-Man are not, at present in good terms with "Ohin Acquah II., owing to some reproaches they say he gave them at a recent meeting. At the request of Madam Essie Assimaniwah we forward you for publication a letter she received from "The Winneba Town Association" objecting to her purchasing a certain piece of land from Ohin Acquah II. From a good source we understand Omanbia Kodwo Inkam of Oguan will shortly come down for the purpose of settling the misunderstanding between the Simpa-Man and Ohin Acquah II., we

wish him success. Ohin Acquah II. has made some complaints against the principal parties of the Winnabah Town Association for their reasons in circulating reports in Town that they would destool him. Mr. Bernaako D. C., on receiving these complaints sent for the parties concerned before himself and Ohin Acquah II, at his office and laid before them the complaints for their explanation to be forwarded to the Provincial Commissioner. Mr. Moses Arthur the Abstract Checker of the African Association Ltd. is now in the lock-up for throwing stones into Mr. C. J. Reindorf's verandah with intention to wound him. He has not been granted bail yet.

Winnebah, 12th November 1904.

Madam,—Please, take notice that in view of the existing unsatisfactory state of affairs in town any stool lands sold or granted by Ohin Acquah II, without the consent and concurrence of Chief Auobil and the Towns people shall, from date hereof be considered illegal.

- We beg to remain, (Sgd.), I. John Auobil, Chief David Gharthey, President T.S.A. L. C. Payne, Vice do. Jos. E. Gharthey, Vice do. E. W. Bortsie A. J. Quansah J. A. Anuan J. Baden Amissh W. E. Richardson R. J. Gharthey (Sec.)

To Madam Essie Assimaniwah Winnebah.

THE GOLD COAST: ITS WEALTH AND HEALTH.

THE QUAISIE GOLD MINES LIMITED.

I was personally responsible for the selection of this property. . . . .

"SCHOLARS"

These "Scholars" . . . . . what they do not know about the Gold Concession Ordinance, the drafting of leases and options, and the production, substitution, and even the "salting" of samples is perhaps not worth learning. . . . .

DARK AND DEVIIOUS . . . PATHS.

The would-be concessionaire is angled for and hooked, he is led through dark and devious jungle paths on to land which may belong to King Coffee or Tom Tiddler, and which has most likely been sold or, may be, leased half-a-dozen times over . . . . .

The "Scholar"—must be done away with, for it is he who has created and sustains the evils which I have described.

THE LAWYERS.

The lawyers charge preposterous fees. It is a case of "your money or anything short of your life." The usual fee charged by a barrister for taking an unopposed concession through the Court . . . . . is £50, and £100 for a concession which is opposed. What is easier than for opposition to a Concession to be made a matter of arrangement, and as a matter of fact, it is. And yet there is no redress. . . . .

THE HON. J. H. SARBAH.

The Hon. J. H. Sarbah is a highly distinguished native lawyer whose book "Fanti Native Law and Custom" is an admirable and almost monumental work. There is no lack of educated and experienced natives in the Colony, especially among the lawyers. . . . .

THE JUDGES.

The Judges . . . . . some of them inexperienced young English barristers, alter and amend mining leases . . . . . at their sweet will, and even without application from either side . . . . .

THE DOCTORS.

Medical Officers . . . . . the authorized charges which they make to private patients are excessive . . . . . that a sick man, who would otherwise obtain medical assistance, refrains from doing so, and serious or fatal results sometimes follow such neglect. . . . .

COLONY IN NAME.

The Gold Coast Colony is only a Colony in Name, . . . . . the lands are not the possessions of the British Crown, but are held by the Kings and Chiefs themselves. . . . .

CHIEFS AS JUDGES.

When native courts are established, presided over by the King or Chiefs, the ruling of those courts very rarely contested by an appeal to the High Court established by the white man.

NATIVE LABOUR.

Sir Frederick Hodgson strongly inclined to the view that the native of the Gold Coast will work and work well if he is properly treated. Mr. Daw goes on to say of the natives in the employment of the Corporation:—"They are

speaking as a whole, very respectful and obedient and as far as honesty is concerned can hold their own with many far more civilized nations. In proof of this I have but to mention that we have sent several thousand carriers without escort of any kind, and in each case his or her load has been delivered honestly and in good condition. . . . .

Mr. Cade the late managing director of the Corporation spoke in similar terms. I am not in entire agreement with others on the question of labour in Gold Coast Colony.

"OFFICIALISM" RAMPANT

To tell the truth mere "officialism" is rampant in Gold Coast Colony, and, moreover between the official and non-official classes of the white population "there is a great gulf fixed." The Governor is the Alpha and Omega of official and social life, and his subordinates are the remaining letters of the alphabet. . . . .

OFFICIALS AND OTHERS

The officials do not blend or mix to the extent they might and should with other sections of the community, who are largely increasing in numbers, intelligence and importance. The former are prone to look down upon the latter, and the latter certainly do not look up to the former.

LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER CLERKS

The old coaster was rather a terrible fellow . . . . . the old coasters . . . . . were replaced by a number of raw and inexperienced Liverpool and Manchester clerks, who made up in "pushfulness" and assumption what they lacked in savoir faire and knowledge of the world . . . . . these are . . . . . being replaced by older wiser and better men.

VENUS NIGRA

By some it is contended that but for "sin and gin" the Gold Coast would be both habitable and healthy. . . . . If the Coaster is wise, and if he wishes to live long in the land, he will shun the cocktail as if it were a Borgian draught, protect "brain and cerebellum too" with the stoutest taper made, avoid the blandishments of Venus Nigra, sleep nightly beneath a mosquito net. . . . .

TEETOTALLESS.

The total abstainer withstands the climate and conditions almost as badly as he who indulges in alcoholic excess.

THE MOSQUITO.

It is undoubtedly the Mosquito which imbibes, hatches, conveys and plants the germs of Malaria.

WATER.

Water supply . . . . . insufficient and impure at Accra, as indeed it is in every other Coast town, notably Cape Coast.

"TICKY."

At present the coin of the lowest denomination on the Coast is the threepenny-bit, or "ticky" as the natives call it.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The Legislative Council . . . . . at present the official members are in excess of the unofficial, and it seems desirable that there should now be an Executive as well as Legislative Council, the Governor, of course, presiding over the former while the latter should have an increased representative element—although the nominated system cannot be dispensed with.

NATIVE BAKERS.

The method of bread-making by the native bakers is often the reverse of appetising . . . . . Expeditions should be well provisioned with biscuits . . . . . none better than Spratt's . . . . . Flaxman biscuits . . . . . "Veda" . . . . .

GIN AND WHISKEY.

A good dry gin is a very useful diuretic and stimulant, and there is certainly none better than Coates' dry Plymouth Gin; while Greenaloe's Whiskey is by far the best of the many brands of this popular spirit. Price of Hart's Annual for 1904, 5/- net.

SELF-CULTURE.

One person cannot produce more beautiful colours than another, or, indeed, perform any task more efficiently than it is ordinarily performed, without mixing brains with the other ingredients necessary to the form of accomplishment he has undertaken, and the keen observer is the one who is the most likely to do this. A story is told of a number of shepherds in Brazil, who, weary of their occupation, made up their mind that gold-digging offered a much shorter route to fortune. Like many persons who consider themselves much wiser than these humble herdsmen, they believe that success must be almost anywhere rather than in the locality they were familiar with. Accordingly they set out for the "digging" in California, carrying with them a number of bright pebbles they were accustomed to play checkers with. But few of these pebbles were left when they

reached San Francisco, the others having been lost. Judge of their chagrin when they were informed that these "pebbles" were diamonds. Naturally, they hastened to retrace their steps, but the opportunity they had let slip through their fingers was ever out of their reach. The mine from whence they had been taken had passed into the hands of the Government before they again stood on Brazilian soil.

Diarsali says, "the secret of success in life is for a man to be ready for his opportunity when it comes," and his career amply verify these words. Employed as errand boy by a law firm, at the age of seventeen, he made such good use of his spare time that his father was advised to educate him for the Bar. His "Vivian Grey" was published when he was but twenty years of age, and was one of the most remarkable books ever produced by so young an author. Literary fame did not satisfy the aspiring Diarsali, however. His first essay upon entering the thorny paths of statesmanship was unsuccessful, and Lord Melbourne, at that time Home Secretary, would have assisted him, but when the young man was asked what he desired to do, he replied, "I want to be Prime Minister." His audacity, together with his independent speeches and manners, led to various reports that he was of unsound mind, but while others laughed he worked and watched opportunities, and he was finally able to grasp one that was led to better things. After being defeated three times in the contest for the Borough of High Wycombe, and once for Taunton, he was finally returned for the Borough of Maidstone. His entrance into Parliament was not of the triumphant sort. His appearance and freely expressed opinions were against him, and his maiden speech was received with scoffs and sneers that drowned the tones of his voice effectually. Before sitting down he made himself heard in the words that have been remembered through all of the intervening years. "I am not surprised," he said, "at the reception I have experienced. I have begun several things many times, and I have often succeeded at last. I shall sit down now, but the time will come when you will hear me." Two years later the truth of his words began to be realized. He spoke freely and independently, and, of course, was rewarded with taunts and accusations, but, none the less, his words were remembered. Twelve years from the time of his first failure he was the LEADER of the Opposition; three years later still, Chancellor of the Exchequer and Leader of the House, and a speaker who carried all before him. Every weapon known to the successful statesman and orator were his to command: irony, pathos, humor, satire, and irresistible eloquence compelled the hearing he had declared he would one day receive.

It is altogether unsafe to trust to appearances. The man, who, in the estimation of his friends, has been one of the "lucky ones," may have striven and struggled while his admirers were sleeping and feasting. He may have reached the verge of despair before the first foothold was gained by which he might climb upward, instead of being drawn slowly from all light and life to the darkness and death that await the man who allows himself to venture upon the quicksands of idleness. Emerson says: "the world is no clay, but rather iron in the hands of its workers, and men have got to hammer out a place for themselves by steady and rugged blows." This is so true that only he who is ready to wield the hammer right manfully, can hope to look upon his life as a worthy one. All men are not alike. Every aspiring youth cannot hope to be a Washington, a Napoleon, a Caesar, a Socrates; yet may reasonably expect to be great through the accomplishment of work, no one of these great men could have done as well.

THE CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHER.

NO. 1. INTRODUCTION.

In the works of the great Jehovah, harmony is a leading characteristic; each part illustrates and beautifies the whole; and all unite to proclaim his glory. The traces of that wisdom, power, and love, which his blessed gospel displays in their full lustre, are to be seen shining, with comparative faintness, in the works of Nature.

The spacious earth and spreading flood  
Proclaim the wise and powerful God;  
And thy rich glories from afar,  
Sparkle in every rolling star!

The Book of Nature may be read with advantage, when we hold in our hand the Book of Revelation, and view it in this divine light. Philosophy is so natural an enemy to Religion; but a mighty incentive to it, when properly used. We find the inspired writers frequently directing our attention to the works of Nature. To illustrate the greatness of His power, our God is represented as measuring the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meting out the Heavens with a span; as weighing the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance. The Heavens declare His glory in silent but forcible language; a language which may be heard and understood throughout all the earth, by men of every colour and of every tongue. When the prophets would illustrate those infinite resources of wisdom and knowledge that guide His conduct, they tell us "That as the Heavens are higher than the earth, so are His ways higher than our ways, and His thoughts than our thoughts."

Objects, beautiful or sublime in the world of Nature, are alternately borrowed as similes to express the glories of God, manifest in the flesh:—The sun shining in his strength, resembles the splendour of His countenance; the whiteness of snow, the colour of His hair; and the roar of many waters, the

sound of His voice. And though we know that the whole realm of Nature would be examined in vain, to find a metaphor that would completely express "His worth, His glory or His grace," yet these similitudes afford some faint ideas of his greatness; and are adapted to the littleness of creature-minds. Just views of the works of God in creation, while they teach the glory of Divine Architect, are calculated to impress our minds with a lively idea of the weakness and insignificance of man. We are told, that, "The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein." It is also said, "Remember that thou magnify His work, which men behold;" It is our intention, in a few occasional Essays, to attempt a religious improvement of those discoveries which have been made in the works of Nature. Philosophy has often been made subservient to the purposes of Infidelity; and modern Deists have asserted, "That the only Revelation the great Creator ever made, is in the book of Nature."

It is hoped, that the subsequent papers will show that here is a perfect harmony between the word of God, and His works; and that Philosophy, when not perverted from its proper object, leads us to the admiration, and love of Him, whose wisdom, power, and goodness appear in the most minute, as well as the most magnificent of His works.

THE MUNICIPAL SCHEME.

Sir,—It appears from a paragraph in the *Editorial Notes* of your issue of the 29th October last, as also from the sub-editorial in the issue of November 5th, and a letter signed "A Resident" in the issue of the 12th November current, that the public are under the impression that the Axim Committee of the "Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society" did not place before the Cape Coast Branch of the Society the Draft Municipal Scheme before its publication in the *Leader*.

In the interests of truth, allow me to show that this is not so.

Your readers will remember the telegrams from Axim dated 24th August last and published in your issue of September 17 last.

They will bear reprinting at this stage:

"To Secretary.

"Aborigines Society Cape Coast

Understand scheme re Town Council in preparation by you to be laid before Governor. Please await views of Axim Branch of Society.

"Biscoe,—Secretary"

"To Adam Biscoe, Axim.

"Your information not correct.

Secretary Martin, Aborigines Society,

It follows from the above telegrams that, as a matter of fact, as far back as August last, the Axim Committee, were anxious to co-operate with the Cape Coast Committee, as to any fresh scheme that might be laid before His Excellency the Governor.

No further communication passed between the two Committees until the 16th of September last, when it had become common knowledge that the Government really intended extending the Town Councils Ordinance to other Towns of the Gold Coast. Upon that date, the Axim Committee caused to be forwarded to the Cape Coast Committee and the Ombudsman the Draft scheme that was published in these columns. It is not necessary now to publish the correspondence relative thereto, suffice it to say, that the Axim Committee once more intimated their wish to co-operate with the Cape Coast Committee, the latter intimating in reply that they were one with the Axim Committee.

In the meanwhile, the Axim Committee anxiously awaited the criticisms (if any) of the Draft scheme with a view to united action. Upon the 30th of Sept. last, the Cape Coast Committee were reminded that the Axim Branch anxiously awaited the result of their deliberations; and from what appeared in the public press from time to time, it was evident that the Cape Coast Committee had done nothing. Under these circumstances, the Draft Scheme was published for the general information of the public upon the 22nd of October last; and it was not until November 15th current, that the Cape Coast Committee favored the Axim Committee with their "Notes" upon the "municipal question at Cape Coast Castle." I have studied the "notes" carefully, and I fail to see that there is any material difference between the scheme foreshadowed therein and the one suggested by the Axim committee.

Now, there is no need for misunderstanding. There is no split between the Cape Coast and the Axim committees. They have in the past worked together, and will in the future do the same. The *Rumors* (complaint) of the Axim Branch is the dilatoriness that has marked the movement of the Cape Coast Branch in this matter, and their having failed to invite full and ample discussion of the contents of the "notes," with a view to united action, before laying same before His Excellency the Governor.

And, in this connection, it may be desirable to clear the air once for all, in as far as it may be possible for one to do so.

In the opinion of most intelligent people of the country, public opinion therein has attained sufficient maturity to make it necessary to give up the old methods of discussion and adopt the new. The old reckoned it the exclusive privilege of A. or B. to give the last word in any given subject of discussion. It is a remnant of the patriarchal age; and, though it will die hard, die it must. The new method insists upon free discussion and corporate action, however much such a course may wound the susceptibilities of our honoured and respected ones. And, in the advocacy of this new method, perhaps, none has worked more strenuously, in recent days, than yourself.

We bespeak a spirit of toleration on the part of our

Administrators, while we criticise their actions. Shall we belittle our own souls, and smother our national development, by being intolerant of criticism and of points of view other than our own?

Now, I have stated before that the Committee, whom I have the honour of representing, have no intention of forcing their views upon the Municipal question down the throat of the country. But, while this is so, I dare say there is no sane man in the country who will say that they are not entitled to express an opinion, and that such opinion, when expressed, is no entitled to fair and serious consideration.

The only criticism of the Axim scheme worth consideration so far as regards the payment of a sum not of 2/6, but not exceeding 2/6 by males under certain circumstances for municipal purposes, it being urged that it does not say when and how often. The critic who puts the matter this way has not grasped the spirit of the provision in this regard. Without entering upon a general defence of the scheme, I might say briefly here, in this connection, that before such contribution could be called for, you must have constituted a municipality whose members had been elected by the people. It is by an extraordinary resolution of that body alone that contributions can be called for, when there is occasion for them. Since several other provisions are made for the obtaining of necessary revenue, such occasion may never arise. And if it did arise, who is there to say that there will be any difference between the principle of such a collection, and that of raising contributions from the people to defray the cost of a petition, let us say, re the Town Councils Ordinance? In the latter case, the Companies, by their representatives, say: "A national crisis has arisen, demanding our putting our hands into our pockets, and so we will." In the former case, the people and the Companies, by their Municipal representatives, say: "A Municipal necessity has arisen, requiring us to make a personal sacrifice, and so we will."

It is a far different thing, in either case, from saying: "I will assess your houses for national or municipal purposes, with certain consequences in default, which is repugnant to aboriginal ideas.

Still, we insist upon nothing. We are prepared to give and take. We merely ask for free discussion; and, if need be, the representatives of Axim will be ready to meet those of Cape Coast and other centres with a view to united action.

Yours faithfully,—CASELY. HAYFORD.

Axim, 23/11/1904

WHAT TO TEACH YOUR DAUGHTERS.

Teach them to cook and prepare the food for the household.

Teach them to wash, to iron, to darn stockings and sew dresses.

Teach them to make bread, and that a good kitchen lessens the doctor's accounts.

Teach them that he only lays up money whose expenses are less than his income, and that all grow poor who have to spend more than they receive.

Teach them that a calico dress paid for fits better than a silken one until paid for.

Teach them to purchase and see that the accounts correspond with the purchase.

Teach them good common-sense, self-help and industry.

Teach them that an honest mechanic in his working dress will suit better for a husband than a dozen haughty, finely-dressed idlers.

Teach them that happiness of matrimony depends neither on external appearances nor wealth, but on the man's character.

*The Living Chronicle* (Cape Palmas).

Rev. Austin (Assistant Chaplain) arrived here from Accra by the "Zungeru" last Wednesday.

Report comes from Elmina of the execution of the two men sentenced at the last Criminal Assizes, on Thursday.

The Conversazione in connection with the Reading Club Anniversary took place on Thursday last at the D.C.'s Court (The Castle) under the Patronage of L. N. Peregrine Esq. (C. C. P.). The Attendance was very large, amongst those present may be mentioned Mr. D. C. and Mrs. Ffoulkes, H. B. W. Russell Esq. C. M. G., Barristers Renner and Bannerman, Dr. Hayford, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Hayford, Rev. Frank Arthur, Mr. T. Addaqua, Mr. T. F. E. and Miss Jones, Messrs. Mc. Kenzie Skues, J. W. de Graft Johnson, Mrs. Sackey, Misses Rose, Mends, Mason, Acquah, Mr. and Mrs. Aful &c. &c. &c.

The Elmina Club was represented by Messrs da Costa and Braneton Johnson; the "Lion Soldiers" Band was in attendance: the gathering promised well but the Programme was greatly at fault.

JOKE, on Bishop Klaus's reception appears next week.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

Due at Cape Coast

*Jebba	S. C. Express Service No. 2.	Dec. 5
Warri	Opobo Service	" 7
Accra	Brass Service	" 12
*Burutu	Lagos Express Service	" 12
Nyanga	Opobo Service	" 21
Bataaga	Southern Windward Service	" 25
Orou	Brass Service	" 26

HOMEWARDS.

*Leopoldville	Congo Boat	Dec. 3
*Sokoto	S. C. Express Service	" 6
Bonny	Brass Service	" 12
*Nigeria	Lagos Express Service	" 14
*Lacie	Wormann Cam. Acc. Service	" 14
Aacobra	Opobo Service	" 16

\*With mails and passengers only.

# The Gold Coast Leader.

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Price 5d.  
Including postage 4d.

## THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

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(Payable in advance.)

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Quarter...	3/-	4/-

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AT AXIM,

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## ADVERTISEMENTS.

### THE Wesleyan-Methodist Church

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SISTER ETHEL WORTHINGTON.

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	History	
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Orders received at the Wesleyan Book Depot, Cape Coast Castle.

## GENERAL NEWS.

The Bentsir-Intia case came on again at the High Court before Mr. Justice Pennington, who had to dismiss the case, we understand on some technical point.

Chief R. A. Harrison returned home last Sunday by the *Jebba* from his long visit to Europe.

The Honourable J. P. Brown and Mr. Moses-Spio also arrived from Axim by the same steamer.

The *West African Mail* suggests that for the next five years at any rate, the British Cotton Growing Association should drop spending money in the Niger Delta, Sierra Leone, and the Gold Coast and concentrate expenditure and effort in Lagos and Northern Nigeria, and along the banks of the Niger river from Asaba upwards.

"We were very much surprised to read" says the *Lagos Standard* just to hand, "in the Gold Coast papers that news was received from here that Doctor Randall is dead. Whoever wrote that canard must have meant to perpetrate a huge joke perhaps, but the want of taste is apparent in the face of it. We are in a position to state however that the good Doctor is very much alive and is doing as usual his best to cheat death of many would-be victims."

We are very much pleased indeed to learn that the doctor is still alive, the report of whose death appeared in the *Advocate* of Nov. 12th last, which we called for our issue of the following Saturday.

Our contemporary the *Advocate* pleads earnestly for the establishment of a branch of the Aborigines Society at Accra. We sincerely hope our friends on the other side of the Sakum will overcome every difficulty (?) or obstacle in the way to response to this appeal in the interest of the Country and for the welfare of the Race.

In a few weeks hence Christmas will be on us and yet how lifeless the Town looks.

Let us sing the same old refrain "Trade is dull," this will let the *Soloists* sing more heartily perhaps.

Who must have been the Engineer who designed the Plan for the Market Sheds, and did he submit it to the Head of his Department? The sheds are so bad that even the poor illiterate women will not go into them on that account. If those who built them had only condescended to consult those who know this place some hundreds of pounds at least would have been saved, but our

misfortune is, nearly all our officials are stamped with infallibility.

We publish elsewhere a letter to His Excellency from the Aborigines Society on the receipt of his reply to the Town's "Notes" sent the other day for his consideration.

Our young people who are showing some interest in our political affairs should give the articles we have been publishing under "Less we Forget" a close and careful reading.—*Perk. Sep.*

President Roosevelt has been elected with a popular majority of about two millions over Mr. Parker, the other candidate a good many of us—the coloured (?) race—rejoice in that.

Mr. Joe Addagay, the third son of Mr. T. Addagay of Bird's Eye View, is to be married to Miss Grace Moses-Spio, eldest daughter of Mr. A. Nagoe Moses-Spio of Axim next Thursday (15th) at the Wesley Church.

A Royal Charter has been granted to the British Cotton Growing Association.

The Honourable Mr. Mair is in Town.

## AXIM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A great faction seems to exist between Nos. 1 and 2 Companies over an emblem belonging to No. 2 Company which seems to have been appropriated by No. 1 Company; a legal action to that effect has been instituted despite the efforts of the Omanhin with the assistance of Messrs. Saroom and Minsanz.

We report with deep regret the death of Mr. Acquah, a native of Anamaboe which took place last Thursday. The bereaved family have our sincere sympathy.

At a cricket match played on the parade ground last Saturday, a young girl Miss Cobbinah by name encountered a severe accident. A ball hit by Mr. Holmes hit her on the head and after her return home from Hospital, whether she had been carried for medical treatment she fainted for a considerable length of time despite all medical skill.

Sunday the 27th November was observed as a "Temperance Sunday." In addition to the Morning Services, all the Temperance Lodges and Sunday School children assembled at 3 p.m. in the St. James' Church, where addresses expressive and to the point were delivered by Messrs. S. R. Wood, W. E. D. Acquah, D. K. Broma and Charles E. Moses. On the whole the meeting was a success.

## ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The community was somewhat startled by the news of the death of Mrs. Anna Sophia Hutchinson, of Mount Pleasant, which took place on Saturday night 3rd inst. Although the deceased was advanced in years in some degree, nevertheless the sudden collapse bordering upon senile decay, which had attended her general health of late, came on rather too early, considering that there are still some ladies of her class, and, by far her seniors, who are yet as hale and sound of mind and limb as can be expected more or less. Her marital re-

males were interred in the Newman's Hill Cemetery on Sunday evening, hard by the side of her late daughter Mrs. Sapara Williams—Rev. R. M. Acquash officiating. The English section of the Good Templars were in attendance amongst whom were representatives from the Cape Coast Lodges in the persons of Bros. Chief Coker, H. R. Blankson, J. J. Kool & Co. The Coffin which was of English manufacture, was of polish oak of the "Aboukir" type with nickled fittings.

Bishop Klaus is expected here this week to administer the Benediction in connection with the feast of the Immaculate Conception which falls on Thursday 8th. The members of the Catholic Society here are in preparations to accord His Lordship a warm reception.

Mr. George Schaper representing the Firm of Messrs. Busselmann & Co. of Hamburg has arrived in Town.

The marriage is announced to take place between Mr. J. W. Fritz Egbert and Miss Comfort Gerarr (both of this place) at the Wesleyan Church on Saturday evening the 10th.

### SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Hugh Randall of Millers Limited sails for England on leave of absence early next year, and a Mr. Carl Sher has since arrived to relieve him. The managing of the business during Mr. Randall's management has been very successful.

Mr. James A. Dudson of the Treasury has been ordered to proceed on to Sekundi to be relieved by another officer from Accra, who has just arrived. Mr. Dudson was entertained by the Free Gardeners at their Lodge Room last Sunday at a Knife and Fork Tea, in honour of his intended departure.

Mr. Bannerman of the Telegraph Department has also been transferred to Cape Coast.

It is rumoured that members of the Saltpond Mutual and Improvement Club are contemplating to hold a church parade on or before the 18th inst. in native dress. If the report is correct that the proposed concert to be had at Christmas has been postponed we trust they will lose no time to arrange for athletic sports.

The Cocoa Season has shown an improvement this year as seen in the constant supply from the interior to the town.

### WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The s.s. *Khalif* homeward bound for Hamburg which arrived here on the 25th ulto. took away the following produce for the following firms viz.—Messrs. Millers Ltd. 403 bags cocoa, 33 bags of palm kernels, 10 casks palm oil and 8 bags kola nuts; for F & A. Swanzy Ltd. 145 bags cocoa, 375 bags palm kernels, and 16 batts palm oil, and for J. J. Fisher & Co. 152 bags cocoa, and 112 bags palm kernels.

On Sunday the 27th the Good Templars (English and American) in full regalia worshipped at the Wesleyan Chapel at the special request of the Rev. J. O. Hammond when he addressed them on Acts xxiv. 25. At the evening service the following Gentlemen were also asked to address them viz.—Messrs. Chief Isaac J. Anobill, Samuel Mensah, and Joseph E. Gharrey. It was an interesting evening.

On the 28th ulto. a girl who went about a mile from the town for medicinal purposes, was arrested by a scavenger for nuisance: resisting to go with him to the lock-up, the man gave her a blow, which made her faint, he then carried her to the Fort. We beg to call the D.C.'s attention to this. Is it right for scavengers to be treating the People like this?

Mr. Marcus Clarke the Supervisor of Customs is in our midst again, he arrived here from Accra on the 28th ulto.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

It may be pointed out that as a site for a Public Market the present one is most unsuitable for the purpose, to say nothing of its unhealthiness: those from this Town abroad, may see with us, when they are told that it is *Afa* of all places which our Government chose for a Public Market place: only a few yards from the sea, and the spray from it is sure to damage the cloths and the handkerchiefs of the women for sale with their other wares, which in the end will effect the Merchant also, as well as "articles sold by the Syrians."

In matters of this kind the P. W. D. or whoever it was recommended that site, should have consulted the Omanhin or the Aborigines Society, no harm in doing that: as it is, a site has been chosen, such sheds have been erected, to stand as another prove for our complaints

of how carelessly public works are done, and how wrecklessly the Revenue is spent.

At the Market just destroyed, it was seen by all, that those who sat in the open to sell were by far and away more than those who used the Sheds, and yet no provision has been made for these. When we went round last week to see for ourselves what is being done, we met men digging away the earth, probably to make room for them; which means that the place is not ready for the bush folk who come down every morning to sell. The accommodation is distressingly poor, no stall or table is to be seen anywhere. And there is the Police always smart in doing such things, (for they evidently take a delight in them,) driving away the women over there, to go to find no place to sit to sell and naturally, a good many will keep away, and this would mean our starvation.

It does not seem that our Masters take any pains to think about these points. Why should they? We must note this also. At Accra for instance, where we have a splendid Market Place—splendid enough for the Gold Coast—the women still use the *Salaga*. Bukom close to this *Salaga* was filled up, and the Building erected on it: this leaves *Salaga* still open to be used: but it is not so here, the new sheds are erected some distance away, because the place is wanted for the Park.

The eight small sheds erected, can be easily filled, and more than filled by the women of this Town *alone*, who go there to sell. When one comes to think about all this, the ways of our Government become really mysterious to him. The Crown Colony System may be bad enough, but some times the men in its employment are—shall we say, worse; or they may be good business men themselves but It helps to make them undergo some manipulations which turns them so.

The upshot of all this is, things having been so badly, unskillfully managed, and the expression "error in judgment" is never to be heard of in the language of our Government, or the word "mistake" to be met with in their vocabulary, the People are to be compelled with force, to use the place, *volens volens*, which brings on dissatisfaction and all who would speak are nothing but inveterate grumblers and fault-finders always dissatisfied and so they with their grievances must not be taken notice of. But here, we may remark in passing that great injustice is done us, for we too, can see and appreciate men and things, where they deserve it.

At the opening of the Market in 1857 referred to elsewhere, not only the neighbouring Amanhin and Ahinfa with their people were invited to attend the ceremonies, but even the Governor of Elmina (Governor Naghtlas) was also invited, and the soldiers were there for a *feu de joie*. It was every way a grand affair. Contrast that with what one sees now: the Commissioner sits in his office and gives orders to the Police to drive the women like cattle to the would-be Market Place. When one comes to think of the officials of the past days, (and for the matter of that, of the social life of days gone by) and compare them to what they are now, he may well have his qualms whether this Country has been advancing or retrograding in the path of Civilization.

As we only recently made a suggestion of the kind, this coming from Mr. Hart as an expert Miner, may carry some weight with those concerned—"What the Colony greatly needs is, Mr. Swift contends, a mining department, with a practical head and a competent staff, and in this opinion I must cordially agree; in fact I suggested the same thing in 1901 to Sir Matthew Nathan, then Governor of the Colony. Certainly the administration of the mining laws should not be left in the hands of a few, for the most part, inexperienced judges, whose views of the Concessions Ordinances and the regulations necessary for controlling mining are as arbitrary and contradictory as they are often absurd."

### 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, DECEMBER 10, 1904.

### THE NEW (?) MARKET.

We publish elsewhere the Rules made in connection with the Public Market, and it is not for us to make any comments thereon, the public will judge for themselves. What we wish to point out is, the unjustifiableness of these Rules, they are altogether uncalled for: but such an assertion must be proved, and we trust the Powers That Be will be considerate and manly enough to see with us.

Before proceeding to prove the above assertion, it will be necessary for us to say something concerning the erroneous idea that prevails in certain sections of the community, which has even extended to some quarters abroad, and which has somehow or other given birth to an unremediable prejudice against all our just complaints and grievances making us the sufferers we are, and "croaking" our chronic disease. As we have often pointed out, our Government, whenever it feels the necessity that certain things must be done, usually do them in a way to justify its actions, whilst forcing us to complain, and then we are put down to be full of nothing but grievances. No one who has any idea of what a Public Market should be would take those sheds at Saltpond Road, of which so much noise is made in the "Gazette" to be anything like it. Anything perhaps will do for Cape Coast or the Blackman though thousands of pounds of the Revenue may be squandered on it. It is this same Government which built the Accra Market—that splendid Building. Here is an evidence that there is a marked difference between the engineers and Foremen of Works of a few years ago and those of the present day. It is better to have men who know their work and pay them well, than to have any body with poor wages.

Now for our grounds in saying that the Rules are not justifiable. As a matter of fact the Authorities have not given us any new market in the true sense of the term, and "The Towns Ordinance, 1892" which has empowered the Governor to make these Rules apply only to New Markets. On the laying of the foundation stone of the present market which is being demolished, there was a ceremony performed by the Freemasons: Mr. Robert Hutchison laid the foundation stone as the Worshipful Master in the presence of all our Amanhin and Ahinfa who were invited for the occasion as well as the Representatives of all the artisans and the people: at the opening of the Market too the Omanhin and the principal Ahinfa with the People were all there. This was in 1857. None of these things have been done on this occasion.

Then there is this also to be pointed out, it is the Government which wanted the present market for the Victoria Park and to have it they gave the People a substitute; the Public Market then, to which the poor women have been driven to by the Police since last week is nothing but a substitute for the one they have been using then.

If therefore, there was no ceremony observed in the present instance either at the laying of the foundation stone, or at the opening of same does it not show that there is no NEW market in the proper sense of the word, nor can it be called a new market as the word is understood in "The Towns Ordinance, 1892" to justify the enacting of any Rules for it? And if this Saltpond Road Market is nothing but a substitute for the present one, and as such it has

not been thought advisable to have any ceremony in its stone laying or opening *these having been done already as shown by their own action*, it only stands to reason to infer that as there were no charges in connection with the one for which this is a substitute—a replacement, there should be none with it also. No one who has seen this Market would say if even this were a new market there has been nothing done to justify the fees that are now being taken from the People for the use of the place. Those who may be inclined to say that this charging for stalls at Market places is no new thing and gives no ground for any complaint will do well to see for themselves, this market, and compare it to what they know. How is it possible for any enlightened government to build such sheds for a Public Market?

### THE HOUSE TAX UNNECESSARY AND UNWARRANTABLE

BY LIBRA

It is deplorable how very lacking in information about the Country and People, our laws, Customs and Native institutions, are those appointed to rule over us.

Each time there is a new move by the Government or occasion for a New Measure for the Colony, there has been displayed this pitiable lack of knowledge of the Country, our Customs and People.

In other places the rule is, an appointment is made on the condition that the candidate has a fair knowledge of the laws &c. of the country in which he is appointed to work; here it seems to be otherwise, and in fact, it is not considered essential for a Government official to be well informed in matters relating to the Country, although he may be an "Old Coaster;" he has therefore very frequently to resort for information to his subordinate Native Official, who, it need not be mentioned, in nine cases out of ten is not sufficiently educated or intelligent enough to understand the situation, but who considers he is in duty bound to say something. In this manner the official as a rule is stuffed with incorrect and unreliable information, the result of which as it effects individual towns and the country as a whole is only too apparent.

It is incomprehensible why the Government will persist in placing so many officials without necessary qualifications in responsible positions, while the Mercantile houses carefully select the best and most intelligent in the land.

It is disgraceful and worse than cruel to think that this disease of appointing unsuitable and incapable men has infected even the judicial department of the Colony. At the law Courts one has often been astounded at the very poor and incorrect interpretation.

Any one with the slightest show of reason and common sense would think, Courts of Justice of all places should be supplied with interpreters having the best education, a fair knowledge of the law, and who can best render in the language of the country the proceedings of the court. There is not the least trouble taken to find out whether each court interpreter understands and can so much as speak intelligibly the language of the country. The reason for this state of affairs is not because suitable men are wanting. The Government have only to make it worth their while and they are certain to have all the responsible positions filled with capable men. If the Mercantile houses can employ them, the Government ought more easily to secure their services, for there is always a great deal more work in the Merchant's office than in any department of the Government service.

This recklessness on the part of the Government in selecting men—both white and black—to fill responsible positions coupled with their want of knowledge of the affairs of the Colony, has resulted in the wretched plight the Country is in.

The Public revenue is wasted; things are done over and over again where they should be done once with the right men to handle them; Ordinances are passed without the knowledge or consent of the people, and in direct contravention of the customs and institutions of the country; a wide and unfordable gulf exists between the Government and the People, and disorder and discontent in chaos reign supreme.

What would have been more business-like, sensible, and made matters more easy and encouraging for Capitalists who were bringing money to develop the Mineral resources of the country, if before attempting to legislate upon Concessions granted, the Government had first made a survey of the whole Colony? What amount of trouble, and how many thousands in money would have been saved?

Capital would not have been scared out of the country, and our financial status would have been very much different to what it is at the present day.

The episode of the white elephant—the Sekondi Kumasi Railway—is a blot that will be handed down to posterity equally with the imprudent utter-

ances of the late Governor on the gold mining possibilities of the Colony, no doubt, based upon wrong information.

The matter of Towns Councils Ordinance engages the attention of the people of the Colony. While every native agrees that the measure is not suitable and the people are united in their unequivocal protest against it, there is just cause to congratulate ourselves upon the fortunate circumstance of having Sir John Pickersgill Rodger as Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Colony and at the head of affairs. This reflection of the fact strips the "Might beat Right" policy which our people, not unduly apprehend, of all its terrors; for we are confident that the measure, or any other, will not be driven down our throats with brute force, but ample opportunity will be given us to state our views and opinions before it becomes law.

The Honourable Mr. Brown who was charged with that duty has handed our notes on the Town Councils Ordinance to His Excellency for his consideration.

If it is the wish of the Authorities to place in our hands the management of our affairs, they need not be afraid this is anything new to us.

The People quite understand what a municipality in the true sense of the word means. The Town Councils Ordinance, as is in force at Accra they certainly do not understand.

A municipal institution in the town will only bring out the happy and organised state of affairs that existed before disruption; the expenditure in connection with Sanitary and public works would be greatly minimized, and the country will no longer groan under the depressing heavy load of financial embarrassment.

Now, the question which His Excellency puts to us is: How do we propose to raise the necessary funds to keep up this municipal institution, suitable to our people, and to carry on the Sanitary and public works? Our reply is: Give us what money, is usually set apart for sanitation and public works. Give us the license fees: Make us subvention of, at the very least, one per centum from the general public revenue, and when more money is required it will be for us to decide as to the best mode of raising funds.

There is the company service system: and inhabitants not members of any town company and who do not take part in personal services rendered by the company could be taxed. Every intelligent, in fact, every native by experience knows how much of the public revenue can be saved by this company service system, are we not therefore correct in our view that this iniquitous house tax is unnecessary and unwarrantable.

It is beyond any doubt that if the Authorities, the Government officials, and all concerned knew, or cared to know, a little about the people, the customs and institutions of the country there would not have been any attempt at this measure.

The views of the public as to other ways and means of raising funds would no doubt assist the honourable members at their next interview with His Excellency, and it is hoped, they will be freely expressed. This will also help to prove to the Authorities the absolute uselessness of the House tax called Town Councils Ordinance that is sought to be introduced.

### BETWEEN OURSELVES.

(BY DICK CARNIS.)

#### CHAPTER V. (Continued.)

#### DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Sudden! The blue-flecked sky o'er cast. Flash after flash of vivid light blazing, forked and flamed like slithering swords of fire. Peal after peal of thunder boomed, and roaring rolled along, subservient to the stern behest of edic and elective volts. Tempests in passion broke with fierce cyclonic virulence, until the timorous Earth convulsive quaked, seamed with fissures everywhere; and rayless night the sphere of light obscuring, spread funeral pall o'er all the threatened land, while universal panic seized the frenzied populace and fear, dumb-founded government administered. From out the elemental throes a voice of true paternity resounded, vibrant midst deafening detonations, as if evolved from crash and fury; and lo! a giant frame, towering o'er the affrighted host—tense drawn—that on the greenward lay prone, cacophonous—of clear, consistent speech bereft. At last upborne upon the stifled and sulphurous air burst forth voluminous shouts of late recovered energy.

*The People.*—Saman! Apafra! Katawir!—No! No! a ghost! Our sprout, ancestral spirit! Hail, Nana, Indulgent father, Hall!

*The Guardian Spirit.*—Degenerate Race that once were demigods! Prate ye thus, glib of tongue, of liberty and peace? What reck ye for Freedom whose illiberal souls are bound, naft for thought for vision and for calm reflection? Discreditable Crew! ye that—with streams of bitter tears we own—are worse than apocryphic slaves, of slaves the most abject! Spring ye from loins of prehistoric Chieftains Bold, who now encumbered, vouch in

parious plight like pusillanimous minions or savage menials? Or else why hide diminished heads before the keen unblinking gaze of your Ancestor's suprasensual counterpart—their Guardian Spirit and yours? One hundred years, two hundred years succeeded wherein upon our lap we nursed immortal men—Heroes that in their cold simplicity no age could hold in righteous scorn, whose varied qualities no blatant voice could trumpet forth—great children of unaffected nature, amphibious progeny—half gods half men—who prised their primal Freedom far beyond all human computation, grander deeds achieved, in measured correspondence with contemporary light, adorning hearts and home in peace and restful harmony. There was no lack of disinterested patriots upon whose comprehensive breast reliant, the untutored manikin, safe, reclined. In native wit and wisdom steeped, with eyes that thoroughly swept the distant scenes that were to be, EACH FOOT OF LAND in odorous sanctity was held, which ye from love of foreign greed, by thirst insatiate accurst, have dared to vend or lease to THOSE WITHIN THE GAYAS, exploiting every rood of golden ground, fouled with the price of shame. Oh, whence this strain of dark... Iberian blood that now remorseless holds no bond with brother-man—this individualism wrapt, rampant and diabolic? Why is the strength of aliens now predominant, who should in justice stoop below the line of high-born heirs? What then are ye, but petted creatures that serf-like accept or freely take the strange and barbarous names of other lands, your own in blisful ignorance discarding—the sign manual of some esoteric knowledge dimly understood? Call this Freedom's widening course? Where are the magic words that spelled power to the weak and wealth pecunial to those in need—the names wherein close-sheltered all the story and romance of ancient times survived? In those triumphant days were we admired by mightier men who chanced upon these silent shores. Clean, scrupulously clean was our traffic then; our gold without alloy, our flocks and herds incomparable. We tilled and delved, not once ashamed to glory in the growth of hands with hearts nor yet to praise the ALL IN ALL, THE CENTRE AND CIRCUMFERENCE OF LIFE'S MINUTEST POINT. 'Twas He who taught Himself, the unpractised arm the mysteries of TELUS' TREASURE HOUSE AND HIDDEN STORES, and changed to independent, self-respecting men and women too, the clans or tribes of each commune. Happy Days! Delightful Times! Gone, almost gone are the gear that crowned colossal heads, the healthy sandals and the flowing toga and with their *casas* are gone alike the long continuous ease of north-provoking life. What poor exchange! The elusive insubstantial shades for regnant, vital forms. Phenomenal loss! Regrettable Degradation.

Why pose as all things knowing, when ye scarce can read, indite or speak with fitness the pure mellifluous mother tongue?

Nor is the impeachment yet complete which counting all excludes the surly cast upon the CUSTOMS, LAWS and harmless institutions that made your Fathers what they were. How may we hail you who want so much of spine and brain and bright red blood your forbears richly so possessed. Ye are not yourselves: come to those first Things—the eternal Principals or die and be forgot.

Honour to you, all honour to the men who still retain their sense of due proportion, pride for natural worth and growth national gifts and love for SWEET MOTHERLAND!

Behold the MIGHTY BERTHOE-KING! Who true of heart and great of soul here claims friendship with such groundlings as ye are, behold! and grasp His outstretched hand with grip of steel and be submissive to the clarion call. What in you is lowly, He comes to raise, support, what is dark to illumine! 'Tis yours His love to deepen more and more by being firm and loyal to yourselves. Sons of MY SOVEREIGN LOVE! Adise! the gods have fled! Dead irrevocably dead are all our tutelary deities. Apafra! heareth not! Katawir is no more! Lift up inexorable hand to the ALL IN ALL. Seek Him the everlasting Dependable, the Immortal Cerampon.

(To be Continued.)

### THE FANTASIES OF DREAMLAND.

(BY A BANKER.)

Casting off the trammels of earth, in a reverie of the night we bound upwards into the ether, and, after curvetting and gambolling in mid-air, now swooping down as an osprey about to strike its prey, now again soaring to the skies as an eagle, or now circling and disporting with a buoyant, vivacious glee and joyous exhilaration, we at length alight on a mountain summit whence we survey the kingdoms of the earth spread out beneath us like an outstretched map.

Pausing for a time to admire the wondrous panorama of pines and forests, river and ocean, city and scattered hamlet, in the fantasies of the imagination we again vault into the stars of the firmament, and

ble for a far-off glittering ocean, and with the rapidity of thought we are amongst its rolling breakers, sailing for a moment beneath the arched curve of a great foam-crested wave, skimming along the wind-swept hollow troughs, side by side with petrels and sea swallows, or gaily sporting amidst the ever advancing and receding surges.

And now we are exploring some of the lovely flower-bedecked coombs which in some far off age have been cleft by the hand of nature in the lofty buttressed cliffs which guard the land from the perpetual onslaughts of the great ocean. Here is a long winding valley, clothed almost to the summit of the rocks, which slope abruptly on each side, with flowering shrubs and forest trees; while in the centre a purling stream plashes and gurgles down the declivity over rounded boulders and through narrow rifts and clefts, until at length it merges with the sea. Here and there are parterres of wild flowers; spikes of purple fox-glove or of the brilliant golden rod, bright clumps of forget-me-nots or of some belated yellow iris, or bushes of gorse or whin, now in all their glory; while from time to time may be seen the beautiful pendant fronds of bracken or the handsome erect "flowering" spikes and upright pinnate fronds of the rarer royal fern.

And then, with an exultant cry of jubilation at our newly found powers we again range at will over hill and over dale, over rolling down and over coombs and hollow, vaulting over forest trees and over rivers and brooks, until at length with a start we suddenly awake,—and behold, it was all but a dream.

Ah! but although but a fantasy of the night, yet the recollection of a thrilling dream like this endures for a lifetime, never forgotten, never effaced from the memory. And how delightful will it be, when, really released from our earth-trammels we shall be able to roam on angel wing over the whole creation of God, over the varied array of universes, over all those stellar wonders of the midnight skies. For this great privilege will surely be the inheritance of those who have laid their sins on their Divine Redeemer, and who through His expiation inherit the glory and become like unto the angels. But how bitterly will they who are shut out from it all rue their inordinate folly.

### SCRUTINEER.

The negro may appear tardy by nature (as far as the European standpoint is concerned); but he too does not for one moment doubt that his brother the European is generally speaking impulsive by nature and is thereby apt to draw wrong conclusions and act accordingly on a given occasion without taking the least precaution to consider seriously whether a certain venture to be pursued will bring a lasting desirable result or prove to be only momentary. When I visited Sekondi a couple of years back and witnessed the unusual rapidity with which events were developing themselves there and the pell-mell rush people were making to that place—the white-men of course leading—I had my scruples; for it occurred to me that a thing that was growing so unusually fast and dense might possibly be ephemeral, and turn to weeds, if not to wither, like the historical gourd of Jonah. But upon all this I do not believe that events would set in so soon if the Europeans have satisfied themselves with negotiating on the Coast leaving the Hinterlanders to come down to sell and buy without running after them with their merchandise. The avarice of the white-man, however, is hard to be restrained, and in his vaunted civilization he does not seem to follow the logic that if he opens shops up-country for the same people for whom chiefly he has stores on the Coast, selling off under the same prices in both places, the Coast trade must, as a natural sequence suffer; he does not seem to believe that he cannot drain the fountain-head and have a good supply at the base, and that he shall have to close either of the two places and stick to one.

We may appear anything to the European and to European civilization but as owners of the soil we can affirm that we know much more of ourselves, our Country, and adjoining territories peopled by creatures of our temperaments, than it will take European a life time to learn. We know that the venture of establishing trading stores all over Wassaw and Ashanti will only prove a momentary result, however satisfactory it may be, but that in the flow of time the venturers must regret the venture. Such a step may be successful in Europe, America or even in Asia but it will never do because Africa is Africa and no other. The Wassaws or the Ashantis are not great producers and consequently lack stable purchasing ability. Their main occupation is buying and selling—buying on the Coast with the proceeds of produce, mainly rubber ivory, kernels, cocoa, palm oil, and selling in their Country to caravans who carry them further inland—and of course some of the wares are distributed locally. Let me give you an example. Before the advent of "stores" in Kumasi, the system

is for a chief, or any influential Ashanti, to send to the Coast a caravan of about 30 or 50 men with produce, generally rubber, coupled with gold dust, for such stuffs as cotton goods, salt, tobacco &c. On the return of this caravan to Kumasi, some of the goods are disposed of locally and some are taken over by caravans from the deserts who in turn dispose of them to tribes further inland. It is remarkable here that even the negro believes in the truth of the saying "live and let live," for the man from the deserts does not prefer to come down to the Coast himself; he is quite satisfied in taking over from the Ashanti who comes to the Coast for them. Since the opening up of "houses" in Kumasi this method of native carrying trade has stopped and the Ashanti is as incapacitated as his cousin the Coastman. This is the strong arm of Civilization and way of doing things which without solicitation is bent on directing our destiny, and we must bend if we must not be broken.

There is a split in the tie that used to bind up the spiritual interests of the native converts in Methodism with those of the missionary that is remarkable. There may be exceptions, but the European missionaries of this Church that have lately been out in the Country have all along appeared to me to be something like amateurs in their profession than men sent out to convert the natives. There is a tendency on their part to keep aloof from the people as far as possible, and since people cannot be converted without coming in contact with them it is no wonder that Methodism does not move rapidly among us as it should, judging from the length of time it has been in the Country. Not only this. There seems to be so many things in connection with the organization of the local church that appear to me to impede its onward progress and the two cases I can for the present mention are old-fashionedness and impartiality in connection with church administration.

It has been reported to me that the practice now prevails of locking up the carriage-doors of the trains plying between Kumasi and Sekondi. Apart from the question of inconvenience caused to passengers who may occasionally alight at a station in the route to attend to nature's call &c. it is quite unsafe to lock up these doors and disallow passengers a chance of descending, as in case of accident it will mean sudden death to all the passengers. I call the General Manager's attention to this. The question of the prohibition of smoking which is being rigidly enforced at the expense of natives alone seems to be creating a great deal of annoyance. The journey between Sekondi and any other place by the crawling line is long enough and with us who enjoy tobacco there will always be an irresistible inclination to "pull" awhile just to relieve the tediousness of the journey; for the masters of the railway to forbid dear smoking is to deny something indeed to a great many. And are the carriage materials so ignitable for a smoker to endanger them by a gentle pipe or cigar? I think not, and I hope I could persuade the manager to revoke the rule, since smoking by white-men does not endanger anything.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

### VIEWS AND REVIEWS.

Africa and the Africans. (London: C. M. Phillips, 23, Southampton Buildings, W. C.) This is a most useful little volume of some 70 pages, which Mr. Casely Hayford, of the Inner Temple, Author of "Gold Coast Native Institutions," has sent us on for review. It consists in the main of the official records, so to speak, of the very important and interesting proceedings on the occasion of the banquet given at the Holborn Restaurant in August of last year to Dr. Blyden by West Africans in London. A prefatory note by the Rev. Mark C. Hayford, D.D. author of "West Africa and Christianity," quotes considerably as well as courteously from the *Anglo-African Argus* special account of the dinner in question. The Introduction by Mr. Casely Hayford is luminous and well framed and contains a most apt tribute to Dr. Blyden's great work in Africa for the Africans. Truly does Mr. Hayford remark that Dr. Blyden is the greatest living exponent of the true spirit of African Nationality and manhood. "In the African School of thought represented by Dr. Blyden the black man is engaged upon the discovery of his true place in creation upon national and rational lines." Dr. Blyden has taught that the African peoples should be developed along their own lines of thought, and should be allowed to observe and preserve those national customs which are innocent and useful. That has been the policy in Natal, and it has been markedly successful. It is notable, also, that Dr. Blyden distinctly declares that "the gift of the African does not lie in the direction of political aggrandisement. His sphere is the Church, the School, the farm, the Work shop. Let the new rulers of the Transvaal take heed of

this sound verity. As Mr. Casely Hayford also so well puts it, "The African and Caucasian races move to a certain extent on parallel lines, and along these lines may (?) can never meet."—(*Anglo-African Argus* Sept. 10, 1904.)

### 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*.

### A BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLE.

The news of the conduct of the European, in the holy edifice at Sekondi, who attempted to stop the Singing Band from practice, as recorded in your issue of the 8th October, 1904, reached me as a thunderbolt from the skies.

As we have been taught by our European masters that we should take off our hats when we enter a house as an indication of respect, I consider that gentleman not only very rude, but highly disrespectful to God. This puts me in mind of an Officer under whom I served in the year 1900, who, in his utter rudeness, went so far as to damn Jesus Christ. I blush for shame to relate this of a European whose example we are supposed to copy, but it is the truth—a fact.

The poor man, however, has since gone the way of all the world to receive the due reward of his labours.

One is at a loss to find that in almost all the West African Colonies and Protectorates, there is some lack of fairplay in matters affecting the interest of the Native. The ordinary observer will find "Might beats Right" or "A White man's prestige must be kept up" printed in bold golden letters at the entrances of the Mercantile, Governmental and other Departments of life; it is a pity that it should find room in the Ecclesiastical World, also. It is a deplorable case to find it tapping the spiritual vitality of the Church Militant—especially amongst those who have come out as Missionaries to teach and lead us unto righteousness. Ministers of to-day, do you mean that Might beats Right with Jehovah? Is there Colour and Race prejudice with Him, is there creed, wealth or poverty in the Celestial City? What was your object in coming out to Africa? Was it to uphold the Whiteman's prestige, to seek for wealth, fame, or prominence or to preach Christ in His Beauty? The latter purpose is conspicuous for its obscurity. The traffic in hypocrites, winking at wickedness and "Might beats Right" by the European Missionaries in Africa, is worse than the past days traffic in the sale of indulgence. No doubt, the Sekondi gentleman, labouring under the painfully fantastic impression that as there is difference in colour, so there is a Black God as well as a White God, and that the God in Sekondi was a black One who had no prestige to be kept up, and so thought he could behave anyhow in the Church. What a noble example! Our colour—black, which in my opinion, is due to mere climatic accident is considered (a sin) a bane. It seems that our masters are now teaching us to wander from the paths of rectitude and acquire everything diabolical. They teach one thing and practise another, forgetting that "example is better than precept". Oh you who are being taught! beware of what you learn, for "all is not gold that glitters". By the doctrine of "Might beats Right" the poor man loses every advantage, his rights forfeited. A contrivance in the shape of the oppressive Town Councils Ordinance disguised in a handsomely-designed robe of municipality is now on foot, by which our land too might be taken; for when one is unable to pay his taxes, his house will be sold and the last resort will be to leave his home. It is high time that we roused ourselves from the lethargic state of indifference and want of concern of purpose into a full sense of our responsibility and duty, cultivating such noble habits as will enable us to maintain and defend our rights.

Can any of your readers who have been long resident in England enlighten me as to whether the Whiteman At Home, an account of whose philanthropic disposition reaches us every now and again, is the same Whiteman Abroad, or whether he leaves behind him all his culture and modesty, and dons the garment of Colour prejudice, as he embarks for the West Coast of Africa. Is there none of His Majesty's most loyal subjects who could rid him of these negro-phobical firebrands and give us rulers (as rulers we must have) who are in touch with the Native whom they use as instruments to gain their ends, and whose actions are in perfect harmony with the dictates of a reasonable conscience, so that the sublimest cadence of their useful life may be re-echoed in the realms of the God whom they profess to know and worship.

Yours faithfully,—IDEAL.

Nigeria, Nov. 1904.

Printed at the office of the GOLD COAST LEADER  
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## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

No. 30:—Kuropatkin reports fighting Teinkhechou more extensive scale than hitherto Japanese driven off after several hours hard fighting afterwards Russians collected 250 Japanese dead also captured quantity rifles, ammunition and entrenching tools.

Officially stated Tokio to-night Japanese result latest attack Port Arthur now bold Crests counterscarps abutting defences of Sungshuan forts also of other forts to eastward but time not yet come for final charge.

Earl of Hardwicke Under Secretary for India died suddenly.

General Kaulbars with staff left Odessa will arrive Mukden 1/12.

Dec. 1:—Two sub-marines despatched yesterday from St. Petersburg to Vladivostok.

Admiral Dewey declined to serve North Sea commission because as senior officer he will be compelled to give decisions possible distasteful to either party.

Wireless telegraphic communication restored Chifu and Port Arthur, messages have been sent reply received.

At Tokio, Mikado to-day opened Japanese Diet, in speech from the throne said profoundly delighted Japanese relations with all friendly Powers increasingly amicable.

Dec. 2:—Reuter Tokio official Japanese forts attacked 203 metre at Port Arthur, advanced at ten yesterday from the trenches previously occupied and now struggling to obtain possession of South eastern portion of fort on summit hill, fierce battle raging at seven yesterday evening when telegram despatched.

Russian Government informed American Government that while approving of the proposal to hold second Peace Conference it considers moment inopportune, suggests postponement till the conclusion of war.

Reuter Tokio telegraphing 1/12 says Japanese captured and hold 202 metre hill, bombardment of hill began at dawn 30/11, several charges failed; by night entire fort on summit fell into Japanese hands, Russians left heaps of corpses eastern side of hill.

Understood at Washington as result of replies from the Powers, Roosevelt will delay further steps for second Hague conference until war Far East enters final stage.

3:—Reuter Tangier reports supplementary vessels of the Baltic fleet anchored there.

Simultaneously with storming 203 metre hill Japanese threatened Elulung and Kikwan forts of eastern ridge. Stated Chifu Japanese casualties fifteen thousand last twenty four hours, believed attacks planned extreme till 18/12 when Japanese sanguine they capture fortress completed.

Reuter Tokio, Russians in force attempted to retake 203 metre hill, determinedly swimming up slopes but repulsed with heavy loss.

Reuter Tangier to-day mountaineers made determined attempt to capture Harris the Times correspondent last night, rushed his house which however guarded attempt failed. British Minister lodged vigorous protest with the Moroccan authorities.

St. Louis exhibition broken, all attendance records twenty million people passed turnstiles.

F. C. Fuller, Assistant Secretary to the Governor of Malta has been appointed Chief Commissioner Ashanti.

4:—Standard correspondent Odessa wires it is stated Admiralty staff at St. Petersburg possess intelligence printing to intention Togo will engage Balticers before they reach Yellow Sea.

Foreign Office late Saturday night instructed Cardiff authorities to prohibit German steamer Capt. W. Mensell taking another cargo of coal, Government having received proof previous cargo delivered to Balticers; Government investigating case of other steamer which loading coal. Understood British and German Government conferring to prevent coaling Russian fleet with British coal by German ships.

Obituary Adeline Sergent well known Novelist.

5:—Six hours armistice Port Arthur first since siege began, Russian fleet evidently intends sortie directly harbour becomes untenable, most of the ships heavily damaged and unfit for service but some still intact.

Earl Roberts and family arrived England from South Africa to-day.

Fighting at Port Arthur unabated since the capture of 203 metre hill most sanguinary every indication, Russians made repeated heroic attempts to retake hill, hesitating at no sacrifice owing to vital importance this position. Armistice took place on Friday, Russians with flags of truce approaching Japanese left asking temporary cessation of hostilities in order to clear ground, fighting recommenced at four same afternoon.

International conference whereat Russia represented occurs at Hague 13/12 to consider status Hospital ships in war time.

Foelkersabmo squadron arrived at Jubilat, Grippenburgh commanding. Second Manchurian army arrived Harbin.

7:—Reuter Mukden four days artillery duel centre and right of position Shaho failed to alter the general position.

Messrs Sennett, Yarrow and Hon'ble Roche summoned to appear on Monday at Bow Street in connection delivery of destroyer from Thames to Russians.

Japanese now fully utilizing occupation metre hill subjecting Russian fleet most destructive fire, fleets position becoming unbearable.

8:—Reuter Tokio noon officially announced Poltava sunk, Retvisan seriously damaged at Port Arthur, cruiser Bayan stranded. Another five hours armistice Port Arthur to enable Russians remove their dead.

Fire from 203 metre hill compelled Russians evacuate Akasak hill, Japanese immediately occupied hill subsequently occupied two other hills.

Russian Press agitation for Black Sea fleet to join the Baltic fleet, continues object not clear as Russian Government definitely informed by Britain at beginning of war passage of warships through Dardanelles not to be tolerated under any circumstances.

Hills captured by Japanese are near Ixshan fort.

## LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Honourable, Major H. Bryan,  
Colonial Secretary, Accra.

Sir—A copy of your letter dated the 28th. day of November 1904 addressed to the Omanhin of Cape

Coast Castle relative to the Town Councils Ordinance has been forwarded to the Society by the Honourable J. P. Brown who is at present at Axim.

The members have carefully thought over and considered the letter as well as the correspondence therein referred to and they take this opportunity to thank His Excellency the Governor for the great pains he has taken in the study of the history of local municipal government from 1858 to the present and also for making known to the public for the first time the reply of Her late Majesty's Government to the Town's Memorial of 1889.

While the Omanhin and people of this town are no doubt giving proper attention to your letter of 28th. November above referred to, we beg most respectfully to bring to His Excellency's notice an aspect of the question which the Society thinks is of public importance and this is done because in the recent letter of the Omanhin and people prominence in our opinion was not given to it although it was not passed over in the notes accompanying such letter, in which the Omanhin and the other signatories stated "we do wish to say too much."

We referred to the position of the Omanhin of a town in which the said Ordinance is in force.

The Towns Ordinance 1894 provides for the Chief captains and inhabitants of a town undertaking certain public duties when so ordered by the Governor. It has been usual for the orders of the Governor to be communicated by him personally direct to our natural rulers in the course of his tour through the Colony when our natural rulers invariably have audience with him. When the Governor is at headquarters his wishes are conveyed by the District Commissioner of the town who is generally known as his representative or Deputy.

By the Town Councils Ordinance we find that the powers of the Governor are to be exercised by the Town Council in the constitution of which no mention is made of the Omanhin of the town nor any of those representatives of the inhabitants from whom the Governor usually receives assistance and co-operation in public administration.

When the Chief of a town is about to take his office for the first time he invariably swears to his people to perform certain acts not the least of which is to look after the well-being of the town in every particular, and the headmen, councillors and the senior captain of each town company in turn swear to render true, faithful and prompt obedience to the Chief's commands.

We are not aware that the Manche of Accra is a member of the Town Council of that place, and the impression on the public mind is that a Town Council ignores the Omanhin of a town and his Headmen who are however bound to obey the behests of such Town Council.

The people of Sekondi have already communicated with us. From what we know of our people, there exists the feeling in all the towns that a Town Council of the kind in force at Accra is an English institution which puts aside or an end to Chief's position and authority and releases the mass of the people from their municipal obligations to their natural rulers.

Whether this view is correct or not we cannot say, but we think this is a matter which we ought to bring before His Excellency, so that the public may be wisely guided by knowing his opinion or decision thereon. To put it briefly and clearly may we respectfully ask: where a Town Council is established, "where does the Chief of the town come in? Is he to be nominated by the Governor or is he to seek election at the hands of the general electors like any ordinary person?"

Assuring His Excellency of not only our keen interest but also sincere hope and anxiety that his efforts to place municipal matters on sound basis may be successful and with due respects.

We are,  
Your obedient servants,  
(Sgd.) W. E. PIETSEN,  
Vice President,  
" BANNERMAN MARTIN,  
Secretary.

Cape Coast Castle, 3rd. December 1904.

THE RECEPTION OF BISHOP T. KLAUS  
CAPE COAST.

(BY JOEL)

The anxiety of the Catholics in the expectation of a Bishop in succession to His Lordship the late Bishop Albert (of affectionate memory) has come to an end. About nine in the morning the peals of bells reverberating all over the town from the Catholic Mission station announced the sight of the steamer bringing the Bishop. The rush to the beach need no description. Already a procession of the Catholics had been formed most of them carrying palm branches and bannerettes. The procession one of the longest of its kind, it is said, included some few members from the other stations. Starting at the foot of the hill with the Independent Brass Band and the Amagics it passed through Jackson Street up from the Commercial Road to Tantri, and up to the front of the Castle. Here the members in a long row arranged

themselves to receive and welcome the Bishop. His Lordship, having landed, was taken to the castle where he was to dress himself. A little later it was announced that the Bishop was in readiness to appear; the police under Superintendent Downer having filed themselves in the line. At last the object of the immense crowd collected at the Castle gate was to make his appearance. First in order came a couple of police, then about a dozen boys in surplice two of whom bearing the Mitre and the Crossier; last of all came the Bishop very dignified followed by a train of Fathers. Immediately, on his appearance the senior Father fell before the Bishop for his blessing, and rising embraced him with kisses on both cheeks. (A very solemn and touching scene it was indeed.) The choir sang a welcome song, which the Amagic Band took up; Mr. Sarahj with his cornet rendered very laudable service.

Amid the cheers of an immense crowd of spectators the procession started homeward; the Bishop blessing alternately all along the way.

The school room which is used for service on church days was crowded to its utmost capacity. The Bishop after praying on the altar took his seat there to listen to an address from Father Oge, in the course of which the speaker referred to the death of Bishop Albert; that at the moment when his prospects were becoming brighter he was seized with sickness and the cruel hand of Death set in. Great was the sorrow of the devoted children he left behind to mourn his loss; but this sorrow was not without hope and in their mourning a voice came from Rome, full of consolation, saying "I shall no more leave you orphans." The promise is now fulfilled that to-day they are welcoming and moving into their midst a successor to their late Pastor, who is to dry up their tears and to relieve the Church from her widowhood. His Lordship briefly responded by expressing his sincere thanks and gratitude for the grand reception accorded him and prayed for Christian zeal and spirit as becomes his dignity to minister unto them as his predecessor had done before him; in conclusion he could not in any other way express his gratitude better than to impart to them his first blessing as Bishop. The Benediction was given, and way having been cleared for His Lordship to retire, who in the act of blessing passed away, the dense crowd dispersed; thus came to a close the grand affair.

Long may he be spared to live with us.

## DAY DREAMS.

Winged with delusive hope in the attainments  
Of untried possibilities, the busy thoughts of  
Idle moments, by the restraint of useful  
Argument unfettered, soar far into an atmosphere  
Of congenial achievements and grandeur till  
Through want of material support of existent  
Realities they become pregnant with the delusion  
Of fitful day-dreams. As the amber hue of an  
Evening twilight of ethereal richness full and  
Rare, melts into the approaching night so  
The phantasm of wealth or fame, deep in  
The conception of plausible deed, enchanted by  
The sublime assurance of devices and aspirations  
Unparalleled, vanishes into the certainty of  
Noonday visions.

The mind, goaded by the paralysis of adverse  
Circumstances or the indifference of relentless  
Fortuna finds sweetness in the dream of  
Belief however doubtful and remote.  
Futurity hangs life's problems with undetermined  
Capabilities, spell-bound by the shadow of  
Success apparent and unreal; while of happy  
Solutions and profitable, they encounter  
But little experience.

It is not uncommon in sober youth so much of  
Passions less developed, immature; or of the  
Rugged paths of life's struggle untried,  
Undiscovered.

Youth laughs at the realities of anxiety,  
Chequered hope, disappointment, regret and  
Dreams without reflection of the felicities  
And magnificence—born of successful manhood.

'Tis as the early flowers  
At morning twilight, still wet with refreshing  
Dew, profuse with fragrance that fills  
The surrounding atmosphere, and of unalloyed  
Beauty boast not little; yet careless of the  
Gentle rays of the rising sun that shall at  
Noon fill the heavens with excessive light  
And heat against which few of the morning  
Blossoms can themselves defend.  
The mind seeks recreation and relief more in  
Day-dreams than in its incomputable light  
Nocturnal when it with manners and scenes  
Inconstant the sleeping hours beguiles. In  
Sorest pain or ill the day-dream is some  
Resort for moribund passions or despair.

Perchance a poor  
Mariner wrecked on the shoreless main, tossed  
By the listless wind from billow to billow,  
With many a weary mile of wasted water  
Between him and the nearest coast or  
Land mark unknown; for thirst or hunger  
Or pain cares he not much if but the  
Fruitless hope of uncertain help on the  
Morrow his troubled mind invest.  
At early morn in vain he strains his eyes to  
See but the empty horizon with the speck  
Or sail of his luckless vision.  
Often has helpless or impetuous humanity  
Regaled itself with an imaginary repast,  
Charmed only with the softness of  
Such sumptuous likelihood.

It is wisdom to grapple  
With life's stern and conventional realities  
Rather than aspire to the creations of  
Fanciful hope or empty day-dreams.

A. E. SEWELL.

OUR SCRAP BOOK.

"It is well for a man to respect his own vocation, whatever it is, and to think himself bound to uphold it, and to claim for it the respect it deserves."—*Dickens.*

He who knows where to stop, never stumbles or falls.

Snakes may have fine colours, and yet have deadly stings.

Think when you speak, but speak not all you think. Drink when you thirst, but thirst not after drink.

THEY "NEVER HAD A CHANCE."

Probably nine out of ten men past middle life, if asked how it happens that they are to-day only earning their living, would tell you that they "never had a chance," that they were kept back, that circumstances were against them, that they had no opportunities, such as other boys around them had, or that they did not have the proper schooling, or else plead some similar excuse.

The probabilities are that opportunity did visit every one of these men more than once in their youth or early manhood, but that they did not see that all good chances consisted in doing everything they undertook cheerfully, promptly, and just as well as it could be done. As boys they did not look upon every strand as a chance to be polite, prompt, energetic, on every lesson in school as a foundation stone in their success-structure. They did not think that the demoralizing hours of idleness and shiftlessness which they were weaving into the web of their lives would mar the fabric for ever, and reproach them through all time. They did not realize that the impatient reply to their employer, the carelessness and indifference which they slipped into their tasks would come out as ghosts, in the future, to mar their happiness and success. They looked upon every duty shirked, the minutes they cut off from each end of the day, as so much gain. They did not realize that these things, which seemed so innocent, would grow into giant defects which would mar their future success.

They did not think their slipshod methods, their careless attire, and their aggressive manners, would lie as great bars across the path of their future success and keep them back from the goal of their ambitions.

They do not think that all these things were the real causes of their being fixtures at small salaries.

They did not think that these seeming trifles in youth would doom them to be perpetual janitors, clerks, or farm hands, and that it would be almost impossible in maturity to outgrow the defects of their youth.—*Success.*

THERE IS A STRING TO EVERY PROPOSITION.

(BY T. S.)

Whenever a stranger comes to you and offers to do things for you, to let you in on the ground floor, or assures you he is working for your interest, you may be sure there's a string to his proposition.

Don't bite at a chance where you are to get something for nothing. Remember that usually every one is working for his interest and not yours. Don't decide on important matters too quickly. Don't get tied up in big contracts with strangers until you have found the string. Don't seem suspicious, but hunt for the string. Sometimes the string is legitimate, and the other fellow and yourself may be mutually interested. Don't think that everyone who comes to you with a proposition is trying to take advantage of you, but put this down as a truth that there is a string to every proposition and it behoves you to find the string before you close a deal.

NUMBER OF SHEDS WITH ARTICLES TO BE SOLD IN THEM

1. MEAT MARKET.

Beef, Mutton, Pork, Game and dead poultry only.

2. MEAT AND POULTRY MARKET.

Meat and live poultry.

3. GRAIN AND VEGETABLE MARKET.

Palm Wipe, Indian Corn, Rice and other grains, Cassava, Cocon, Potatoes, Yams, Okros, Pepper, Garden Eggs, Chalcis, Tomatoes and similar articles.

4. OIL AND SALT MARKET.

Palm Oil, Nut Oil, Kerolin, Shea-butter, Common Salts, Marine Salt, Lubi or Crude Potash and similar articles.

5. FRESH FISH, FRUIT AND PREPARED FOOD MARKET.

Fresh Fish, Fruit, Kenki, Agidi, Akass, Akara, Abuboi, Apulemyi and similar articles.

6. GENERAL MARKET.

Bread, Sugar, Biscuits, Soap and Tobacco.

7. GENERAL MARKET.

8. GENERAL MARKET.

Articles sold by the Syrians and other Peddlers.

RULES FOR THE PUBLIC MARKET, (CAPE COAST.)

Articles not named in this rule may be sold in such shed as the Health Officer may direct or with the Health Officer's consent.

2. The Market shall be open to the public on Sundays from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. and on week days from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and at no other time.

3. No person shall be permitted to make use of any stall table or place in either of the eight sheds except Sheds Nos. 3 and 5 until he has in manner hereinafter provided paid into the Treasury for such stall table, or place at the following rates.

If for a period less than one month, per day 3d.

If for a month or longer period per month 2/6.

4. Applications for allotment of a stall, table or place shall be made to the Health Officer or to such other person as the Governor may for that purpose appoint, and the Health Officer or such other person shall upon payment to him of the rent, for which a receipt must be given from a counterfoil receipt book, allot available places in the shed to applications in priority of their application, provided that an allotment may be refused to any person who has previously been guilty of such misbehaviour or misconduct in or about the market as, in the opinion of the officer having power to allot, justifies such refusal, and in the event of allotment being refused under this proviso any rent paid in advance shall be returned to the applicant. The period for which rent has been paid shall run from and include the day of allotment.

5. Every occupier of a stall, table or place in the market shall on every day on which he shall use such stall, table, or place, keep the same in a perfectly clean state and at the close of every day's selling and before leaving, brush, sweep and clean away all dirt and rubbish from the stall or table occupied, and thoroughly wash and cleanse and wipe dry the same so that no blood, water, dirt or rubbish shall be left thereon and shall also sweep and clear away all dirt and rubbish from the unoccupied space adjoining such stall, table or place as may be fixed by the officer having power to allot as his fair portion to keep clean of the unoccupied space, common to all in the said sheds, and shall deposit all such dirt rubbish and sweeping in such place as may be appointed by the Health Officer.

6. No person shall bring or cause to be brought into the Market or have therein the Offal of any animal, or the skin of any animal unless such skin shall be dry or properly cured.

7. No "stink fish" shall be sold in the said market.

8. These rules should come into force on the 1st December 1904.

L. W. BRISTOWE,

Clerk of Councils.

Sir—In the issue before last of your contemporary, the "Aborigines," there appeared in the Correspondence Column, an article signed by an *Old High School Boy* criticising the higher educational policy of the Wesleyans since the days of Revd. Kemp and eulogising the present chairman for his energy, zeal and activity in trying to undo the mischief of the past. If *Old High School Boy*, had rest satisfied with this, he might have fared better; but he must needs go forward, and of course, the result was to show himself, possessed of no judgment whatever, and malevolent where the Centenary School is concerned. For after alluding to the Collegiate and Girls' Schools in a somewhat flattering manner, he went on to say the Centenary School was going to the dogs as fast as possible.—Never did a man make a worse misrepresentation. One is shocked, to think that a person who styles himself an *Old High School Boy* and who hereby brings himself in the category of those brilliant scholars who were blessed with such tutors as Revds. Mountford and Cannell could so far debase himself as to unblushingly utter so glaring an untruth. How is the Centenary School going to the dogs? In what way? O. H. S. B. simply asserts, he never proves. It is a wonder that a school which we understand has 500 scholars with an average attendance of 456; received the highest grant given to assisted schools at the recent examination for good work done, inspected, examined and eulogised for work done by His Excellency Sir J. P. Rodger when he visited here last should now be termed a "going to the dogs" school.

Assuming even, that the assertion were true would it not have been better and wiser on the part of O. H. S. B. with his intuitive power, to have visited and seen really where the land lay, rather than sit at home, and whether from hearsay imagination, or heaven know what, make his malevolent assertion?

Perhaps O. H. S. B. was predicting. Well, he may be a very good prophet, but in this case he

Copies of the "Leader" may be obtained only from the Stores of Messrs. H. V. Solomon and R. F. Wood at Jackson Street and Ashanti Road respectively.

over-reaches himself; for be it known to him and such as he, that the Centenary School will never go to the dogs.

O. H. S. B. is also wanting in that great characteristic of Manhood, Boldness. He could not face the School Committee to point out to them an irregularity which he in his own conceit, had found out in the School; but must needs resort to the steps he has taken. O. H. S. B. should try his best to make himself really useful to the Community by criticising fairly; and not allowing spitefulness and ill-feeling to overshadow his otherwise fairly balanced mind.

Thanking you sir for space allowed.

Yours faithfully,

OBSERVER.

Cape Coast, 5th. December 1904.

Dear Mr. Editor—In your issue of 2nd. January last the remarks made by *Pro Bono Publico*, about the "Leader" is what I wish to repeat to some of our Saltpond friends; and is that, it is rather disgraceful and scandalous for some of them who feel it irksome and expensive to subscribe to this important local paper to be seen borrowing from others to read. Why can't they also so anxious to have a read, subscribe for themselves, and thereby assist the Press.

Thanking you for space allowed.

Yours sincerely,

AMPAN.

Saltpond, 30th. November 1904.

NEWS

Cases tried in District Commissioners' Courts during third quarter of year 1904 for Accra 177 civil, 153 criminal; Axim 139 civil, 99 criminal; Elmina 123 civil, 53 criminal; Saltpond 145 civil, 33 criminal; Winnaba 149 civil 123 criminal; Dixcove 63 civil, 30 criminal.

The report of the execution at Elmina which appeared in the last issue should read *one* instead of *two* executed.

Mr. J. L. Minnow left by the *Teneriffe* yesterday for Dixcove we learn to act as the D. C. whilst Mr. Thompson goes down to Accra as the Acting Chief Registrar.

OFFICIALS IN SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

*Janus* writes in the *Lagos Standard* of Nov. 30th.—*Apropos* of applications and appointments to the Civil Service, my attention has been called to the partiality which seems to characterize the appointment of Natives to the Civil Service in Southern Nigeria, where the best posts are all filled by Natives of the Gold Coast, and where I have been told, it is next to impossible for a Native of any other Colony in West Africa to get an appointment of any worth. I have myself observed that the Native Assistant Colonial Secretary is a Gold Coastian. The Assistant Treasurer, the Chief Registrar, and the Chief Clerk in the Governor's Office are also all Natives of the Gold Coast. Complaint is further made that applications for promotion, except from favourites, seldom reach their destination, and that whenever a vacancy occurs, men who have been in service for years and are eligible for promotion, are passed over, while a new man is sent for from the Gold Coast to take up the vacant post.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

OUTWARDS.

Due at Cape Coast.

Accra Brass Service	12
*Burutu Lagos Express Service	12
Nyanga Obopo Service	21
Bataaga Southern Windward Service	25
Orou Brass Service	26

HOMERWARDS.

Bonny Brass Service	12
*Nigeria Lagos Express Service	14
*Lucie Wærmann Cam Acc. Service	14
Ancobra Opoho Service	16

\*With mails and passengers only.

NOTICE.

I the undersigned hereby give the public Notice that I own all that piece or parcel of land situate at Freetown Road which was once the property of the Late Aggrey Fynn alias Quow Agill and bounded on one side by the Merry-go-Round (Miss Ferguson's land) on one side by Freetown Road on one side by Kofi Amerohia's property on one side by property unknown. Which said piece or parcel of land was bought by my late brother Quaceo Duah the papers of which land are now in my possession and that any person or persons trespassing on the said property or any part or parts thereof will be dealt with according to Law.

JAMES COBBINA

Kumasi, 1st December 1904.

# The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. III.  
No. 130.

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1904.

Price 3d.  
Including postage 4d.

## THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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

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

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(Payable in advance.)

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Additional line ...	-/6
Birth, Death or Marriage ...	2/6

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

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

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MR. H. SOLOMON, Jackson Street, and  
MR. R. F. WOOD, Ashanti Road, (W. E. Sam's.)

AT SEKUNDI

From the store of Mr. Jas. E. Arthur, Poassi Road, New Town.

AT AXIM,

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

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

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

### THE Wesleyan-Methodist Church

Girls' High School & Training Institution, CAPE COAST.

By arrangement with the District Synod and the Missionary Committee, this Institution is now under the Management of Sisters of the Wesley Deaconess Order, assisted by an Efficient Staff.

Deaconesses in Residence—

SISTER ANNIE McVICKER,  
SISTER ETHEL WORTHINGTON.

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CLASS SUBJECTS	Arithmetic	Needlework
	Composition and Letter-Writing	Reading
	Fanti	Spelling
	Geography	Scripture
	History	
SPECIAL SUBJECTS.	Algebra	Laundry-work
	Cooking	Map-drawing
	Drawing	Object-Lessons
	Drill	Singing (Tonic-Sol-Fa)
EXTRA SUBJECTS.	French.	Music.

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Including Tuition, Board, Lodging, and use of Books. £3 10 0, per Quarter.

Sisters admitted at a reduction of 10/- each girl.

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Extra Subjects, 7/6 to 10/6 per Quarter.

ALL FEES MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

THE BOARDING DEPARTMENT will re-open after the Christmas Holidays.

Girls living in the House are under the Personal Supervision of the Deaconesses.

For Prospectus and further particulars, apply to the Lady Principals.



PRESERVED PURE BUTTER  
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## ESBENSEN'S BUTTER.

IN TINS WITH PATENT OPENERS.  
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### JUST PUBLISHED FANTI CUSTOMARY LAWS BY J. M. SARBAH.

SECOND EDITION REVISED.

Price 21/- nett, in cloth.

Limited number bound in half calf with Fanti Law Report containing Sixty Eight new cases  
35/- nett.

Published and sold by  
WM. CLOWES & SONS, LTD., 7 Fleet Street, LONDON.

Orders received at the Wesleyan Book Depot, Cape Coast Castle.

### NOTICE.

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JAMES COBBINA

Kumasi, 1st December 1904.

### FIRE WORKS, Xmas and New Year Cards

AT

## Griffith's

ASHANTI ROAD.

### NOTICE.

#### AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

A Public Meeting will be held in the Court House, Victoriaborg Accra on Monday the 2nd proximo, at 8 p.m., when His Excellency the Governor will give an address, and an Executive Committee will be formed to carry out all arrangements in connection with an Agricultural Show, which it has been decided shall be held at Accra in 1905, with the object of encouraging and promoting the Industry of Agriculture in the Colony.

By Command.

(Sgd.) C. RIBY WILLIAMS,  
Actg. Colonial Secretary.

9th Dec. 1904.

### SPROCK RAZORS R. F. WOOD'S STORE.

### GENERAL NEWS.

The West African section of the Liverpool Museum has been enriched by the recent acquisition of many interesting objects from various parts of the Coast presented by King Amonoo of Anamaboo, King Oudjoe Abadio of Accra, Prince Tackie of Accra and Chief Oeloo, Kwitta per Mr. A. Bidyard, of the steamship "Nyanga."—*W. A. Mail*

Mr. W. S. Jones ("Professor" Jones) died from lock-jaw last Monday at his residence, Gygyana; he was buried at the Tanti Cemetery, Rev. Hayford officiated. Being one of the Founders of the Society, the Oddfellows attended the funeral. The Templars also attended.

Mr. Crawford, Secretary for Elder, Dempster & Co. who has been out on inspection left here last week by the *Toweriff* for Sekondi.

We understand the Prospectus for the Fanti Public Schools, Ltd. has come, and the first School for the Company is to be opened next month.

Messrs. ELDER DEMPSTER & Co. propose to employ and train on the Coast young West African natives as engineers, and boiler-makers and blacksmiths. Their idea is to start by taking 50 of these young men in their shop at Lagos, where they will be taught the trades mentioned, with the view of later on board steamers, railways &c. They will be engaged on three years apprenticeship, and their parents or friends will have to guarantee £2, which will be forfeited if they fail to carry out their agreement. Sir Alfred is personally interested in the scheme, as he thinks it will be much better for West African natives to study engineering in their own country than for him to bring them, as he does now, to England, where the climatic conditions are against them. With this object in view, Sir Alfred is establishing the Lagos Engineering Company—*Anglo-African Argus*.

Commenting on the intention of returning to the use of dust bins by the Wandsworth Council (England) after Jan. 1st next, the *Morning Leader* says, "A system more unsightly or more insanitary it would be difficult to devise" and these are what must be given us who are being taught S-a-n-i-t-a-r-i-o-n.

The condition of the latrines for the past few days has been simply indescribable. The places (not the pans) have been more than filled, and the sight, and stench dreadful and all this in these days when so much fuss is made over the sanitation of the Town.

D. Pitt, left here by the *Nigeria* which sailed north last Wednesday, for "home sweet home." The doctor by his genial ways made many friends whilst he was with us. Our good wishes follow him.

On the 7th of this month a portrait of the late President Mrs. Sapara Williams got out by the members of the Ladies' Recreation Club of Lagos was unveiled at the Glover Memorial Hall.

A European Gaoler to take charge of our Prison Department has now arrived on the scene. We may look for some improvement, and for radical changes in that Department. We should.

The Honourable C. Riby Williams C.M.G. is the Acting Colonial Secretary, Major Bryan having gone home on leave by the "Sokoto" last week.

Evening Continuation Classes in connection with the Accra Grammar School were opened last week at the Grammar School Hall.

Mr. C. F. Hesthison has arrived at Accra from England to survey some mines.

At a meeting of the Council on Tuesday the 28th November last a Bill to prevent the illegal detention of stool Property was read a first time.

"The Wine and Beer License Ordinance, 1904" shall come into force on the 1st January next.

The Singing Band gives a concert at the Jubilee Memorial Chapel next Thursday the 22nd.

The Daily Mail has just started an over-seas Edition of eight pages. A copy just to hand shows it to be very readable and interesting, just the paper for the Colonist. We wish our new contemporary a wide circulation.

Mr. P. F. Crompton of the firm of Messrs J. J. Kiecher & Co. died last Thursday evening at the Colonial Hospital.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"ANOTHER CHECKS," (Kumasi): In our opinion we have had enough of this seemingly incorrigible Quiet, nor do we think the man should be blamed for his reprehensible conduct over which you decant so much for he is, we fear, rather encouraged by his Seniors in his reign over you. No doubt they find no fault in the man. Let him reign then, he may pay dearly for it some day.

L. E. F. A., (Chama) complains bitterly of an individual who befriends himself to people for the purpose of telling tales about them and reporting them to their Masters or Employers: no doubt he lives by that, poor fellow. Such characters are to be seen everywhere, and what you should do is, to shun his company as you would a viper, and be honest and straightforward in your transactions, and you leave him to himself, truth will out, and in the end you will see who will be the sufferer.

#### DIXCOVE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Perhaps it is not generally known that the agents of the "Combined" Firms of Messrs Swaney and Millers of this place are doing well,—that of Millers is at the same time a Leader in the Wesleyan church, Sunday School Superintendent and Chief Templar.

It is true that better men could not be detailed out here, we would only recommend "consistency and true union."

The buildings of the above Firms add greatly to the appearance of this town and Mr. Micah especially deserves some credit for the masterly way he has built up his new stores.

A secret snip-snap is said to be brewing between the two divisions of this town on account of Chief Agyimman of big town refusing to be recognised as such to Chief Dakye of "Dog Town."

The men of the Big-Town division are opposed, it is said, to the imposition on them only, by D.C. Mr. Kinnis, the penalty for the recent stone fight between them and the Dog-Town division. It is also said that but for the supineness of their Chief Agyimman they would ere now, have memorialized the Governor on this state of affairs.

Consequent upon this the two Chiefs could not jointly apply for a pass for the last Koonoom festival—the result was that the high glee and increase of trade which were anticipated then were not realized; and it is feared that this sort of fracas will remain so except the positions of the two chiefs are well defined and peace restored between them.

The "old rusty iron rod which passes for a bell" at the fort here has not as yet been dispensed with; when revenue at this end will be sufficient as to justify the purchase of a proper bell, goodness only knows!

We report with regret the death of Mr. John Stephen Lino Smith from a protracted illness on the 12th ultimo; his remains were interred in the Wesleyan cemetery amongst a large company of mourners.

Mr. J. L. Minnow of the Customs Department has arrived here, it is said as a District Commissioner.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

Few days ago, we had the pleasure of having an interview with one of the principle traders at Kumasi Anu, a place right beyond Sewhi, where formerly a good many traders were doing a brisk trade with the Coast; from this trader we gather these facts: that, because the traders from that part experience great difficulties in coming down now, they have all stopped coming to the Coast, he himself has not been able to come down for a good many years. This town is a populous one, with a good many traders, who used to come to the Coast to buy things and sell to others coming from further

inland, and in this way a very brisk trade was carried on with the Coast.

He is of the opinion that if the following difficulties were to be removed, a good trade will be carried on despite all that has happened from want of tact and diplomacy to ruin the trade of the country. The difficulties are, that right from Jukwa, a few miles from here, and all along, on the British territory men are posted, to search their loads to see if they had any powder with them, and as far as he knew never at any time had they found any, and in nearly every case moneys are extorted from them and some of their things bought taken from them, and all these things tend to scare away the "bush" people who as a rule, hold "Government men" or these who post as such in great dread.

Apart from this, duty on the goods which they have bought from stores at the Coast Towns is taken from them. This is how they are treated on British grounds, and as it might be expected they fare worse in the French territory. Everywhere, both on English and French grounds, fines are imposed on traders, what for, they don't know, duties are imposed on their articles bought, and goods are confiscated. The poor traders are bantered, harassed, beaten about, at times their very lives threatened, for no offence but that they are coming down to the Coast to trade, and now much as they are anxious to trade, they will not come down. At some places in the French territory they can only pass at nights with much danger, no one daring to pass there during the day, and with the French all who may be coming down to the Coast, must be compelled to go to the French Coast: or they must stand the consequence.

This is what is going on, all over the Hinterland, and no one would think such doings would tend to encourage traders, and so we on the Coast with our Merchants are perpetually singing dirges on the Badness of the Times, but would not so much as lift a finger to see the cause or causes of the dullness of our trade removed.

Now, for a friendly word with our Merchants: a good deal is talked about, "after dinner," all to the detriment of the native clerk, as if he were the cause of the dullness of trade, knowing or pretending not to know, that he suffers alike with them at the present state of affairs. We see our merchants striving strenuously against the present condition of our trade, and we give them credit for that: we see clerks dismissed here and there to lessen expenses as alleged; there must be some combinations, for good business, a thousand other things all very well in their own way perhaps, but its time, some attention were given to the causes which produce these ruinous effects.

In the matter of trade, our Government must take the Merchant—black or white—into its confidence, not individually but as a body: the Government must give ear to him, if for no other reason, at least for the fact, that by far the larger portion of the Revenue comes from him. Our Chambers of Commerce must be in reality what these institutions are meant to be, and not a cover to serve other ends, and as such, the Authorities should listen to them.

Our Merchants should see that our Government comes to some arrangement with the French Government with regards to our bush traders: they should see that this "double" duty, which savours of oppression, and even of cheat, to those of us who are unacquainted with the intricacies of the ways of a Government and ignorant of its devices, and which must tend to stultify trade, at least as it is carried out here: they should see that some effective step is taken to stop those "Government men" and impostors who ill-use and rob the traders in the bush. Let our Merchants if they will condescend to take a suggestion from us in the interest of trade see that something is done on the lines here indicated, leaving alone what seems to have engrossed all their attention now, to wit, the clerk, and see if things will not take a new turn, or if the present state of things will not be improved upon.

A Reader was reminding us in reference to

our last week's Notes on the Market Sheds; that our "belated complaints" in reference to them, will do no good; we might have called the attention of the Authorities to them while they were being erected and a spot too might have been suggested to them by us if not by the Aborigines Society. We may remind our reader that both things were done but they treated as they always do with suggestions and recommendations from the Natives. At times we think, suggestions from the People have better consideration, comparatively speaking from Headquarters than from the Outstations.

Now with reference to the site for the Sheds some Gentlemen from the Aborigines Society took the trouble to go all over the Town for a suitable spot they found what they wanted, and recommended same to the Government, of course they were "politely" received, and nothing more heard about them. And the sheds, when they were being erected, the Gold Coast Aborigines pointed out the faults about them, but no, the Engineer at work knew better, and there they are, monuments of Folly and Extravagance to say nothing of the disrepute it brings to the British Workman.

#### 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, DECEMBER 17, 1904.

### THE GOVERNOR AND THE PEOPLE'S PETITION.

It may be safely said, that since the question of the application of the Town Councils Ordinance to this Town was mooted all that could be said to show that the inhabitants of this Town are not against the principles involved in that Ordinance which are, that the People should have the management of their own affairs, as far as this is practicable, and to find the ways and means to do it have been said: they are not against it, because it is no new thing to them, it has been part and parcel of their administration. This much has been made clear. All that the People have been in excitement about is, the attempt to make them do it in a way, altogether foreign and even repugnant to their ideas about such matters. We have said this a dozen times, and we must needs repeat it again that the principle of municipal government, which the Town Councils Ordinance of 1894, seeks to inculcate is as old as the hills with us, but what "certain inhabitants" of this Town with their Omanhin, respectfully refuse to undertake is the formation of a corporation under this Ordinance because they are of the opinion that no system of municipal government will succeed in this country which is not based on popular lines. In saying so, we are aware that the application of the Ordinance to Accra, would be pointed out to us, but we know that this Ordinance is not on a sound basis and therefore will not work despite the glowing accounts some kind friends feel disposed to give of it, and the credence given to it by those abroad. If they can only see for themselves.

Now, if this is so, if the object of the Government in introducing this Ordinance, is simply to let the People have a hand in the management of their own affairs, at least as far as sanitation goes, if it is the desire now, of our Government in accordance with a Parliamentary Report of some years ago, to train the People to manage their own affairs, if the wish expressed by Her late Majesty Victoria the Good in connection with the Lands Bill in reply to a cablegram from the People, that there should be co-operation by Her Representatives with the People still holds good, how does this difficulty over the municipality come in? Are we to take it that the Government has some-

motives other than what is openly avowed? A slight acquaintance with official documents some of which we see in the Appendix to SARBAH'S "Fanti Customary Laws," and some of which also must be seen in our Secretariat (Victoria-borg.) will show "clauses enjoining attention to the happiness of His Majesty's subjects and to the administration of justice." We do not forget that we are living in the "light of modern society" which calls for certain legislations calculated to bring us within the pale of civilization, but it must be remembered that in dealing with us, to avoid conflict and protest as MR. LEE-WARNER C.S.I. in his *Protected Princes of India* points out, that, "in proportion as increased efforts are made to provide for the wants of a progressive society, so must the co-operation of the rulers of Native States become more essential to success." "In 1832" says the same writer "SIR JOHN MALCOLM testified to the general impression that our sovereignty is incompatible with the maintenance of Native Princes and Chiefs." This being so, it would show to some advantage the administrator, who with this "sovereignty" coming in contact with a Native State would with diplomacy, skill, tact and in a true Imperial spirit, respecting the native laws, customs and manners, maintain the British dignity.

SIR PICKERSGILL RODGER in his reply to the Petition of the Omanhin and his people, to which some "Notes" delineating the history of the municipal question in connection with this Town were attached, shows a close and careful study of the subject from its very commencement to the present day. His Excellency did not find that the People at any time objected to a municipality *per se*, but certainly to the way in which it was sought to be given them. The Municipalities Ordinance was passed in April 9th 1889, and the People raised objection to the taxation in it. This was repealed by the Town Councils Ordinance of 1894, and this time no chance was given to the People for its consideration. As shown in Parag. 9 of the "Notes," read first time 16th October 1894, published in Gazette printed 30th of same month. Read second and third time 14th November 1894, but minutes of Council published in Gazette of January 31st 1895. It seems the Public had no intimation of what was done the Press of that period absolutely silent about it probably on account of Crown Lands Bill. Certainly no effort was made to ascertain public views on the new law." This speaks for itself.

One of the difficulties which His Excellency seems to meet with in assenting to the wishes of the People is their request for a subvention from the Revenue. Nor ought this to be if justice were to be done to the People. The article "Lest we Forget" which appeared in our issue of December 3rd last shows the origin of the Customs duty from which the larger portion of the Revenue is derived. Messrs. J. BANNERMAN and B. CRUIKSHANK in reply to Governor WINNIETT'S communication on the subject after consulting those interested, wrote that it might be done, but "to render the measure at all popular it will be absolutely necessary that it be expended in the improvement of the country by increasing the Judicial Establishment, by the Establishment of Schools AND BY PUBLIC WORKS OF GENERAL UTILITY, AND NOT BE SWALLOWED UP IN THE MERE GARRISONING OF THE FORTS AND IN THE SALARIES OF THE OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNMENT." Can there be anything plainer? And how far this condition has been fulfilled, let the Authorities themselves say. During SIR BRANDFORD GRIFFITH'S administration when an attempt was made to tax the people, for the improvement of the country Cape Coast objected and asked that the *ad valorem* duty should be increased: this was done, ten per cent *ad valorem* duties were imposed, as the people were told for works of public utility and the establishment of Schools but instead of these there were no end of punitive expeditions, creation of new posts and loans from this Government, here and there, the same occurring in subsequent administrations and, here we are! These things being so where is the necessity to tax the People again? Where is the difficulty for a subvention from the Public Revenue?

But we are reminded that instructions from Lord Knutsford in 1889 stated that no grant in aid should be given from the general revenue for municipal purposes. This was in December

1889 and we hear of it for the first time in December 1904! And if the noble Lord knew of the facts, we have pointed out here, would it have been fair and just for him to have given such instructions?

#### DIRECT TAXATION WEST IN AFRICA.

Direct taxation upon primitive peoples is always a delicate and dangerous undertaking. When no recurring impost is known in native law, or custom, it must be obvious that the inauguration by an alien race of a direct tax should be received by the taxpayers with distrust and dislike, which may develop into armed opposition if it be sought to impose that tax hastily, and roughly, without any regard for the views of the people. Such an imposition is, in any case, thoroughly unjustifiable morally, and profoundly short-sighted, unless the alien race has conferred, not in theory but in fact, some tangible benefits upon those whom it considers should, at a given notice, bear their share of the financial burden which the conferring of those benefits has involved. In West Africa, our first attempt at direct taxation was made in the Gambia. It was successful. Our second attempt was made in Sierra Leone, and was disastrous, although it was a very small tax. Having once been imposed, it was considered necessary to "prestige" to maintain: and advantages have since been conferred upon the natives which did not exist when it was first imposed: but the mess which was made of the whole affair has at least taught wisdom, and further experiments of the kind have been made in other parts of our West African Empire. In the Gambia the configuration of the country for one thing, but much more the fact that its people are either Mohammedan, or have undergone conquest and assimilation by Mohammedan invaders of their own race, and were consequently familiarised with direct taxation, accounted for the absence of opposition to direct taxation by the British. In Sierra Leone, the conditions were utterly different. The vast majority of the people were Pagans who had never been invaded by Islam; who had indeed, driven back Islamic influence over and over again. Blunders marked our proceedings throughout, and finally we had an outbreak. The French have imposed direct taxation in certain parts of Senegal, of the Western Soudan, in French Guinea and in French Dahomey. In the three former, where the status of indigenous civilisation is comparatively high—where the people, that is to say, can only be called primitive in a relative sense—and where Islam is firmly established, direct taxation has been imposed with little difficulty. In Dahomey, although the people are Pagan, they had been subjected for several centuries to forced tribute of a very onerous kind by the kingdom of Dahomey: one of those exceptional instances where the native State form possessed the attributes of an absolute monarchy. The direct tax inaugurated by the French seven years after the liberation of the people from Dahomeyan bondage was not, therefore, resented, especially as it was concurrent with the construction of a railway which would directly enrich them by tapping produce centres hitherto inaccessible to the European markets.—*West African Mail*, Nov. 25, 1904.

#### BETWEEN OURSELVES.

(BY DICK CARNIS.)

##### CHAPTER V. (Continued).

##### DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

THE CIAMI.—Princes and ye Nobles! Countrymen!—Free as the circumambient air we breathe, yet so have we come short of the ancient watermark, that e'en our Guardian here, within the ears of friends and foes, in cruel candour doth condemn our base and ignoble career, despises and disowns his sempiternal charge. But courage all! for whom the immortal gods would wholly save, they timely warn of perils nigh and ruin close at hand. This day doth watch our greater Freedom dawn. A-sleep, we wake; and dead, we live—a new and blest creation.

We've hearkened to the charming voice of Syrens and we've missed the nobler lays of Angel Bands! A nation reared upon the strength and grace of mighty Chiefs, we now present but congeries independent-states and Provinces with various aims in marvellous conflict now opposed. So had we sunk until he spoke—our Nana venue for his inmost feelings, ages unexpressed hath found. No grander impulse than the bitter words still echoing through the halls of memory, calling back to strenuous life the moribund thoughts of long ago. Rouse ye to action, rouse; Join hand to hand—cemented into compact phalanx—and with united front, go forth to battle for the nation and posterity. Oh! let the thermic force that runs through earth and heaven operative, fuse diverse wills and minds in this emprise to make us what we fain would be.

Nana! We know the strange, unaccustomed interposition whereby ten thousand ventures proved

abortive—and thou knowest! 'Twas by a Power Relentless, the Golden Fowls and Glowing Dogs, in secret flight, betrayed the hollows of thousand labouring mines when alien tools so rudely wakened Fickle Fortune from her fitful slumbers. Thou didst not deem us worthy to assume possession of our treasure trove until we've learnt the meaning of our destiny—to work our own salvation; and in years to come our children's children shall be thankful for the unlucky chance that left the land of our inheritance adensumbered through the grievous failures of their Sires. But ere thou dost return or disappear, grant us—

THE PEOPLE.—A boon! a boon, Nana! One Boon! Restore to us the talisman wherewith our fathers many wonders wrought.—

The Ciami.—The Golden Strand is dry and barren: make it solvent. There are stones for eggs and where we look for fish, behold the scorpions! and all do groan beneath the cares and burdens of hearth. The times are hard. Forgive, Dread Spirit, Forgive! Remember now the seed who may thy fragrant deeds preserve before the nations of the Earth. How could this arduous task of self-respect—the knowledge and control of Higher Selves,—be done, unless thou dost once more upon our Country smile! Command, in rich abundance the staff of life to all famished hosts or else they starve and die upon the straight and narrow way!

The Guardian Spirit.—Enough! Granted. By the healing nimbus of the westering sun that ratifies the solemn pledge of calm, repentant souls, the Sovereign of the Circle wherein we move, living or dead, the Golden Strand, the Fruitful Land will yet arise; a Phoenix from its ashes, shake itself and draw the wealth of nations from each generation: Cheer ye and hope! Be loyal to the MAN of MEN who comes the bleeding land to save; be animate, instinct with the spirit of sure advance and all along the panting line; work for what is to be.

Think of the homestead—each of his and not his neighbour's and by the changeless law of SOLIDARITY, his own shall suffer worst of all throughout the destined march of progress and renown. And, ponder well the hidden truth:—

THE MYSTERY OF A GREAT RENUNCIATION DOETH CONCEAL THE GOLDEN KEY TO NATIONAL PROSPERITY; FOR DEATH IS BUT THE COMMON DOOR TO PERFECT LIFE.

Hark! thou weary heart! mount aloft—not alone—cry, Excelsior! rise with the race and Heaven shall make the worker's home perpetual bliss a mint of concrete Joyance evermore. Be spent, by day as well by night, to solve the vexed problems of the Realm-within, without: unravel each the tangled skein of social life; let Cosmos out Chaos come and light from darkness shed abroad to guide the people's way and thine.

Beware, beware! for angels oft to test the value of a man, the stranger's mien endure. Be warned! bear half thy brother's load and other's; for who can tell if with his distant life is bound thine own—his death the immediate call for thine, however guarded. Ye men are links in one interminable chain whose ends within the Centre of a Broad Circumference meet—all one interdependent. Enough, enough.

The Potentates.—He's vanished! Gone! Grateful thanks, undying love belong to all the mighty dead! and now ye people, to YOUR FEET! the Suzerain passes by: salute and bid—Farewell!

The People.—Farewell! Majesty, Farewell! Long live the Paramount Lord! Adieu! Adieu!

#### THE TREE OF DEATH.

(BY A BANKER.)

Probably the most deadly and venomous product of the vegetable world which this earth produces is the poisonous Upas tree of Java, around which have clustered so many myths and legends, and of which so many extravagant travellers' tales and mendacious fables have been from time to time disseminated.

According to the voracious explorers of a bygone age the lethal tree grew in a weird and terrible district known as the valley of death; a veritable charnel ground, encumbered with the whitened bones of men and women, horses and cattle, birds and reptiles. Here the bones of a horse intermingled with those of its rider, both having simultaneously dropped dead under the influence of the fatal miasma; here the remains of a herd of animals which had incautiously ventured within the fatal zone, or of a flock of birds, whose coming within range of the pestiferous vapours, fell suffocated to the ground; and here, all around the deadly tree, piles of bones of condemned slaves, sent thither to collect the poisonous juice of the tree, with a promise of freedom if they succeeded in returning.

But all this is mostly fable; for although, if the milky venomous juice with which the tree is saturated—roots, trunks, boughs, and leaves—be injected into man or animal, or even accidentally touches a scratch, death may ensue in a few minutes, the natives therefore employing it to poison the harbs of their arrows, yet the lurid descriptions of this dismal valley of death, this parched and arid

wilderness, are pictures drawn entirely from the imagination. For the valley is a very paradise of beauty, clothed in luxuriant verdure, adorned with many of the lovely flowers and graceful palms and ferns of the tropics, and the home of innumerable brilliantly plumaged birds and of resplendent, glittering butterflies.

Strange to say, another tree of the same family (*Azadirachta*) is the priceless bread fruit tree, a tree which provides nourishing sustenance to multitudes of the human race; the one therefore being literally a tree of death, the other a tree of life; the fruit of the one, a virulent and baneful destroyer of life, the fruit of the other a valuable and nutritious sustainer of life.

And is there not, too, in the spiritual world a simile to all this? For those who have been poisoned by the deadly Upas tree of sin, and who know for certain that unless the venom is purged from them they cannot by any possibility whatever inherit the glory land, must press towards the symbolical "tree of life" which is in the midst of the Paradise of God; in other words must cry earnestly for the never refused aid of the Holy Spirit of God to enable them to grasp the great fact that the Son of God paid the penalty due by them to Divine Justice, and that through His stripes they may, if they will, be healed.

### SCRUTINEER.

The state of what they call "prison discipline" in this country has really reached a scandalous extremity that forcibly calls for serious public attention, for the hearts of us who are supposed to be savages even grow cold over the treatment that is meted out to these unfortunate people whose sins have found them out and brought them within the confines of the prison-yard of this civilized and christian Government. I believe there are few places on this globe where prisoners are treated with such abject contempt and disdain as on the Gold Coast. I do not contend that people who create diabolical disorders in the moral strain of society should not be brought to learn the evil of their ways, but I maintain that man, as a corrupt agent himself, should not proceed beyond fair and reasonable means in undertaking the worthy task of correcting the faults of a fellow man—sins that he is capable of committing himself and probably commits without being found out; and we certainly incur the displeasure of Heaven by treating those whose crimes have betrayed them out as if theirs were singular and peculiar. In this world it is not a sin to sin; it only becomes a sin when your sins have been betrayed out; but in the sight of God it is as equally a sin whether detected or not. There are so many thieves, liars, rogues, adulterers, extortioners, murderers, covetous persons and traitors stalking about not only in ordinary fancy prints but in immaculate collars and frock coats, even in deep clerical habiliments and clerical lines with ermine, who continue to be free men because of their perpetrations being undetected.

It has been expected that the aim of a government, although it may hold sway over Negroes, would be to endeavour as best as it could to discourage criminality by putting those who infringe the public laws into a course of probation that would reclaim them and make others blush to commit crimes. But the attitude of the government does not show that they have such object in view, nor to my thinking could it be interpreted to mean that the state does not delight in the multiplication of criminals. Apart from the fact that most of the latter day judges seem to believe in long-measured sentences which invariably render those inflicted desperate and prison-proof (the judges evidently thinking that it takes so many years to correct a man; and apart from the fact that two-thirds of the magistracy of the country are so muddled-minded as not to understand that the average mind is often prejudiced and made to despair of doing right through going to jail by unjust decision and an unjust sentence, the recent tendency of putting prisoners to harsh and unconscionable treatment making them lead lives a little better than those of the oxen in the field, only ends in making any visitor to the yard an incorrigible member of the community.

Do the government believe that in debasing men by using them *inter alia* as latrine cleaners and hiring them out to private houses for such purposes which is practically trading with the prisoners, a way of reforming these unfortunate men? I do not think a strong band of Robin Hood could entice into the pale of criminality more easily than the methods of the government.

A pretty illustration of the ways of the Crown Colony Government and the means of spending away public funds had been afforded by the discarded Government House at Accra as all my readers are well aware. Old Christiansborg Castle has for years offered suitable cover to Governors of the Gold Coast with convenient apartments. But

when Sir Frederick Hodgson—the man who knew more than he knew, came to the gubernatorial throne the Ancient Castle transpired into a most unhealthy residence, a pestilential place and one not to be tolerated.—And who may doubt it when it is considered that the fanciful unhealthiness of the Castle might have given him the first attack of a delirium to sit on a Golden Stool. Accordingly elegant despatches were hastened home to recommend the erection of a Government House in the shape of a bungalow. No sooner were the despatches handed home than sanction was given and votes and supplementary votes made to finish the Bungalow-Government-House of the Gold Coast. Do not forget that the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain was at the Colonial Office in London. Governor Hodgson was succeeded by Governor Sir Matthew Nathan who having more respect for himself and the people over whom he had assumed rule gratified public opinion by returning to old Christiansborg Castle, thus discarding the "bungalow"—of course, he also made his despatches and was granted sums to repair the old fort. And, please, don't forget, that the same Mr. Chamberlain was still in Downing Street! Fickle indeed must be the mind of the directors of the destiny, of the British Colonial dependencies, in London, and marvellous indeed must be the convincing and influencing properties of these preparations known as "despatches" which could make a Secretary of State as powerless as to agree to the recommendation of a thing to whose disrecommutation he himself yielded the other day. Thus are the public funds spent.

What is Mr. Coxens-Hardy's position in the Railway works? This is a simple question and I shall be obliged if any of my numerous readers at Sekondi or thereabouts can let me know. I am curious to know because I knew this gentleman in this town as a civil engineer, but I understand he is now doing a little business in the line of travelling up and down the railway, directing the planting of flowers, bananas &c. in Kumasi and other railway stations. I shall also be delighted to know the specific work in the civil-engineering line that keeps him there, for I know all the stations and other edifices have been erected long ago.

Yours faithfully,—ATTOO.

### OUR EDUCATED YOUNG MEN.

BY LIBRA

It is gratifying to note that the educated young men of Cape Coast are taking some interest in the affairs of the Town. They are giving their support to the proposed Fanti Public Schools and have been doing what they can to assist the Aborigines Society and the Omsahin in their endeavour to point out to the Authorities the mischief the Town Councils Ordinance, as at present in force at Accra, is bound to work in the country, they are by subscriptions and correspondence encouraging the managers of local organs,—the mouth piece of the country—and it is said arrangements are on foot to place this on sounder financial basis, and a Reading Club has been formed which seems already very promising.

To any of these young men contributing articles to the local organs my advice is: the correspondent should always express himself plainly and freely if he is certain of what he writes about, instead of simply casting insinuations, but if he is not quite sure of his subjects, he should not write at all; for he does the public no service by mere insinuations.

For some considerable time there have been appearing in the local papers articles practically imputing the principal and other Masters of the Wesleyan School of immoral habits. Such an important subject should have been dealt with in a manner that was sure to have resulted in an enquiry being instituted by the head of the Society. The last of these remarks appears in an article in the Aborigines newspaper of the 26th. Nov. by "An Old High School Boy" to this effect: "The Wesleyan Centenary School is going to the dogs as fast as possible; why, the School Committee ought to know." The Wesleyan Society have done much good by the religious training which they have made a point in imparting to their youths under their care since they established schools in the country, through their school masters, ministers, and all their men entrusted with the management of schools: these have been always pious, respectable and religious men and to them most of the respectable men of the day owe what they are morally and socially.

The wish of every member of the community is that the school master should continue to influence the school children for good, by their good behaviour and pious religious lives. If therefore there is any truth in the many insinuations that the Wesleyan school masters are not what they should be, all who have been writing on the subject should come forward and place whatever information they have at the disposal of the Revd. Mr. Bartrop and thus assist him to do his duty and a good service to the country, by instituting inquiries into the con-

duct of any school master who may be at fault and so purge the school of the scandal that at present overhangs it. In this suggested investigation the School Committee, before whom it is alleged serious charges of immorality have been brought against these school masters, should assist the Rev. Gentleman if they do not consider it their duty to institute one themselves. But should there happen to be no truth in what is imputed to these school masters, whoever the correspondents are, are doing all concerned a most grievous wrong and must refrain from casting any further cruel slur on their characters.

The School Committee ought to so arrange it, that the public would be satisfied their children are being brought up as young christians, especially as, in the case of several boys and girls, the school room is the only place where they can have the advantage of any religious training.

The Reading Club has certainly been doing good work. The public meeting in connection with its first anniversary passed off pleasantly on the evening of 25th. ultimo. It is hoped the public whenever appealed to will give all the assistance necessary to render the institution permanent and more useful. The society has done creditably towards the establishment of the proposed Fanti Public Schools. They should be careful to make the Club a Society of gentlemen and make such rules as would make the admission of questionable characters impossible; and last, but not least, they should assist the Temperance Societies by their influence and example, in their noble efforts to rescue the lives of many reckless youths from the curse of the country—DRINK—and from ruin.

### 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,—The case of Ostner & Bartsch v. Charles Ferguson in which Messrs. Peter Smith and Richard Graves are being involved as sureties is one that should be a standing warning to future sureties or guarantors. Sometime in February last Mr. Ferguson secured an employment with Messrs. Ostner & Bartsch as a Commission Agent at Sekondi for which Messrs. Smith & Graves secured him. Mr. Ferguson proceeded to Sekondi and assumed work as above stated. It will surprise the reader to learn that nothing was heard of him up to May when the Agent went to take his stock of goods and discovered a deficiency of £141. 5. 1½ against him being the total amount of stock delivered to him of which he could not give any good account. The firm as in duty bound proceeded against him but Mr. Ferguson could not be got to come down to Cape Coast despite the persuasions and remonstrances of the unfortunate sureties. He eventually swore an affidavit to the effect that other business which he could not avoid claimed his presence at Sekondi. Some time elapsed until his passage and other expenses having been paid by one of the sureties Mr. Smith, Mr. Ferguson came. The case came before Justice Pennington and Mr. Ferguson as before could not say anything which could be calculated to giving account of the precocious deficiency. He babbled and falsified and prevaricated. The Judge suggested that he should be arrested and charged with misconduct but some how or the other Ferguson was left at large for a time until the chance palled on him and he found the means to decamp, and to the present day his whereabouts are not known to any one save perhaps to those who ought to know. The sureties however sought to come to terms to dispose of the debt by paying an instalment of £3 or thereabouts per month: but they were refused, the Firm claiming £50 to be paid down in advance before the instalment would be considered. The sureties failed and the tragedy of it all is that a writ of *fi fa* has been issued against them. One of the sureties Mr. Smith has been the pioneer sufferer. His personal effects were seized and conveyed to the Court house and have since been sold by public auction. Nothing has transpired with reference to Mr. Graves whose house, we understand, has also been attacked. The insincerity and deception displayed by Mr. Ferguson in the brief space of time of his engagement justify the severe narratives that are being hurled on him by all classes of people. Mr. Ferguson, it cannot be denied at the time he was receiving the goods was influenced by malicious intentions which have developed in disgrace to himself and injury to his sureties.

If these are the facts connected with the case, the treatment accorded to the sureties by the Firm of refusing payment by instalment cannot be said to be of a kind to call forth commendations, though wise-creeps may urge that this display of imprudence and thoughtlessness is a necessary feature of seeking the interest of business. Messrs. Smith and Graves really deserve sympathy. Many thanks for space allowed.

Yours truly,—SYMPATHIZER.

Cape Coast, 6th Dec. 1904.

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

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Dec. 9.—Strong movement started at Canada to urge Dominion Government to substitute Canadian for British garrisons.

Austria presented Turkey with ultimatum owing to detention of mails at Bentari, threatened send fleet to Levant, Porto yielded incident closed.

Bombardment from Metre hill continues furiously, Retvisan apparently sunk, Pobleda and Peresviet sunk mining Amur sinking began burning fiercely, Sevastopol sunk, all districts lying in shallow water. Togo with four battleships, three cruisers and ten torpedoers waiting off entrance of the harbour to prevent remnant escaping.

10.—Third Russian squadron starts for Far East on the eighth or ninth January.

Investigation into the circumstances where under Yar-row, destroyer reached Russia has been indefinitely postponed.

Newspaper in South Africa states Government decided to reduce the troops in South Africa considerably.

12.—In the debate in Reichstag Count Von Buelow declared that Germany's attitude to Russia is one of complete loyal neutrality in consonance with traditional relations, repudiated the assertion the secret treaty between Germany and Russia.

King of Portugal left London this evening, the King and Prince of Wales saw him off.

Reuter's correspondent Tokio reports Japanese cruiser Saiyen struck mine 30/11 sank, cruiser Akagi hastened to rescue picked up 190, captain with 38 others drowned.

Admiralty announces re-organisation of British Navy home fleet henceforward be called Channel fleet and become senior in command in the Navy, Channel fleet henceforward called Atlantic fleet with base at Gibraltar, other squadron be divided into three groups, Eastern comprising China, Australia and East Indies; Western comprising North American, West Indian; third group be the Cape.

Reuter St. Petersburg 11/12 great rioting there to-day large number of students including many females marched down Nevsky prospect shouting down with autoeracy to stop the war, police charged driving demonstrators to pavements many arrested, estimated fifty wounded order was restored at the end of four hours.

13.—In connection with the Naval re-organisation scheme the following appointments announced Admiral Seymour appointed Admiral of the Fleet, Vice Admiral Beaumont, Superintendent of the Devonport Dockyard; Prince Louis of Battenberg, Commander second cruiser squadron.

General Nogi reports Japanese completely disabled Russian warships they now concentrating bombardment on the city which being greatly damaged.

14.—First meeting North Sea inquiry commission at Paris 20/12 after deciding procedure adjourned until New Year.

Twenty one vessels Baltic fleet under Rozhdiestvensky arrived Mosanmedes.

Donald Currie has given £25,000 to Edinburgh University.

Sir George White accepted Governorship at Chelsea Hospital.

## SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Before Dr. Webbe (Actg. Commissioner) on the 25th. ult., Mr. James Gregory, a sailor, was convicted for assaulting the Captain of the "Dabonny", and was sentenced to seven days imprisonment. It is alleged that with very great difficulty, he was put on board the "Zunguru" after his discharge on the 30th. ult.

A scuffle nearly took place on the 1st. instant during the burial of J. W. Ephraim a carpenter between the members of the American Templars and the company to which the deceased belonged. With a view to obtain a redress, we learn that the Society has instituted action against the family of the deceased in the native Court.

## LOSS.

The loss last week by Madam Yarwah of twelve pounds sterling with some valuable trinkets was the source of some excitement in Accra town. After a diligent unsuccessful search, the assistance of idolatrous "seers" was summoned, but the "got" fell on nobody. Subsequently an Axim native who was residing in the house but who took no part in the "paganic search" was detected to be the scoundrel. He, however, realizing that grave suspicions have been set against him ament this affair, packed up his effects and secretly bolted away with the "Zunguru" then lying at anchorage.

Another loss was sustained last Thursday night by one Abbah Mensah who was a passenger from Tarkwa by that evening's train. A clue to this loss has been discovered by the police, but the culprit could not be traced. The value of the loss is estimated at £40 sterling.

## PRISONS.

A convict prisoner Quasie Assaidoo who was serving his time in Fort Orange Gaol ingeniously effected his escape for the second time last Sunday morning. In the afternoon however, he was recaptured and has since had his term of imprisonment increased by four months.

Attributable to the hard work the Prison Officers here have to cope with, two warders, viz.—R. Q. Abbey and Tovee Zohunu abandoned their uniforms on the 30th ult. Mr. Abbey leaves for Accra by to-day's boat to take apprenticeship in the Basel Mission's Industrial Workshop at Christiansborg.

## LAW AND POLICE.

In reference to the Tarkwa December Assizes, the following circular has been issued for general information—His Honour Mr. Justice Porcell will open the December Assizes at Tarkwa on Tuesday 28th. at 9 o'clock in the forenoon. Both criminal

and civil business will be taken at these Assizes; for the information of the Bar and also litigants, the Judge desires to state:—

(1) That no civil business will be taken before Tuesday the 28th. day of December at 2 o'clock in the afternoon in order to enable persons having business before the court to travel by train to Tarkwa on that date.

(2) In order to facilitate the hearing of all civil actions at these Assizes, the Judge has authorized the Provincial Commissioner at Sekondi and the Acting District Commissioner at Tarkwa to sign on his behalf all writs of summons.

(3) In as much as it is desirable that all civil actions should as far as possible be dealt with at these Assizes, litigants are reminded that it is imperative that they should be ready with their witnesses at the Court House, Government Hill, Tarkwa at 2. P. M. on Tuesday the 28th. day of December."

One Jessie (Sierra Leonian) has been arrested and put to custody for committing a young girl. The police under Superintendent Coppin are improving in discipline and manners.

The Cape Coast innovation—fencing of public roads with barbed wires—has been introduced here with boorish uncharitableness; the chorus of indignation sung to this "Peregrinian craze" is beyond description. We have only one convenient road leading to Low Town which has now been fenced up. The idea that a public road is blocked up in this way, manifests the sheer blindness of conscience of whoever ordered the work to be done.

Behind the Lighterage Company's offices on the beach is a tank of water for the Company's employees; for some reason we are at a discount to assign, this tank has been emptied and refilled with kerosine. Mild exasperation towards this step is expressed on every hand, and the fact that this selfish act was performed by a European, precludes the necessity of our given it an abnormal qualification.

## THE MINES.

From the Mines we are apprised of the following intelligence:—Owing to the enormous outlay in connection with the construction of the tramway to the Fura Junction, it has been incumbent upon the Prestea Mining Company to summarily dispense with the services of several of their employees. According to our intimation, the labour is at present done by contract which is considered as being most economical. The expenditure of the construction is tuned approximately at £1,700. There are large engines already at Fura which will run from and to the Mines. When the tramway is completed, there is no doubt that the Prestea Company will lay claim to a high reputation in respect of transport facility and the wealth of their Mines. We wish the manager of this work every success.

Broomassie has not been idle, in its Manager Mr. Buckett, we find a man with sanguine disposition and indomitable energy. The new stamping appliance is crushing richly.

The aspect of affairs at the Obuassie goldfields seems to be favourable. The gold leakage has come to an effectual stop and all access to ruinous contrivances having been secluded, it may be safe to say that some confidence may be placed in the Mines yielding paying result hereafter. Messrs. Acquah Brothers of Cape Coast have taken up the contract for the boarding of European employees, and the stores of the Corporation have been transferred to a new Syndicate of which Mr. Dorning is the Manager.

The Bibiani Goldfields are shipping to England large quantities of bullion regularly every month. If a branch of railway which has long been proposed is constructed from Dunkwa to Bibiani, the transport work of this Company will be greatly facilitated. In as much as the Government do not become losers of the money expended on behalf of such profitable ventures, and the Company is willing to advance sufficient means and assistance, it is needless to say that the operation should be immediately proceeded with.

In place of Mr. S. D. Mensah who was discharged by Mr. Erbe a fortnight ago for not being indebted to Messrs. Swanzy or the firm not indebted to him on account of wages, a woman has been entrusted with the charge on the Commission Store of Messrs Swanzy at the market. Other clerks not condescending to take low wages have been discharged from the service of the firm since November 30th. Is not this scandalous?

News of the Sento Craze has been circulated at this end in dreadful tones. It will be remembered that when there were no railways, the seat of the Government of this province was in Chama. Facts to hand, lay stress on how Mr. Therson (Officer in Charge, Chama) is involved in the perpetration of the various crimes headed by Sento. A general report on these atrocities has been forwarded to the District Supervisor and the Provincial Commissioner of Sekondi by a native merchant.

Since the summary dismissal Ladipo Lateju, the post of Inspector of Nuisances has been efficiently held by Mr. J. H. Arkun. There is a striking difference in regard to sanitary appearance of the town between the period of Lateju and Arkun, the re-

markable improvement at this time, recommends the zeal and assiduousness with which Mr. Arkun has been working. If only an official dress be given to this Officer, he will appear more of the man in that capacity.

An assistance in the taking of religious appointments has been proffered by Mr. Edwin. G. Gannell. The Church is indebted to him.

Actuated by the energies of Messrs. Fred. Sam, Gorman, Mensah and others, the English section of the Good Templars has been reconstituted. We trust the Society will now work hard.

A lecture on Hypnotism was given last night at Kofi Ansa's Hall, Accra Town by Professor Sam. A. W. Bruce. Mr. Bruce is the first man we have come across dealing professionally on this science.

## CHAMA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The members of the English Section of Good Templars went out on picnic last Saturday. The School choir also intend giving a concert during the coming season.

A fire broke out last Wednesday night which raged so furiously that serious damage would have resulted if opportune checking had not been effected. Two houses were derooted to prevent catching fire.

An organ landed here ex the "Teneriffe" was dedicated on the 3rd instant. The instrument was built by Messrs. Alexander Pare & Sons of Paris and was presented to the Church by Mr. Chas. M. Acquah of Anamaboe now working with Messrs. Millers Ltd., Tarkwa. During the year the Society has been presented with a bell by Mr. J. A. Mensah value £49, a hearse by Mr. Yankah value £70 and an Organ by Mr. Acquah value nearly £33. Much gratitude is due to the donors.

Accompanied by Revs. Riggall and Jas. Edge from Sekondi, Rev. Inspector Russell arrived here on Tuesday the 22nd ulto. unexpectedly. There is no knowing why this visit was effect unawares. There was a special thanksgiving service held last Sunday on behalf of the newly installed Omankin. At about quarter past ten the Chapel was beautified by the presence of Quaw Franko in state, his wife, the Olin of the Seven Companies, and persons of the Royal household. Rev. Sackey—the Minister officiating—took for his text I. Chron. 30. 6 which made a deep impression on the hearts of the congregation. Under the conductorship of Mrs. Sackey, the Singing Band rendered a harmonious Anthem "Gone" and after the singing of "God Save the King," the service was brought to a close.

In regard to the Sento craze, recent circumstantial evidences prove beyond doubt that Mr. Therson, the Officer in Charge leads the scandal. The intensity of public feeling has rather been heavy with the unsophisticated and appalling authority assumed by Therson and his colleagues. As we hope to publish next week genuine report of matters connected with this despotic sway which has this day been addressed to the District Supervisor of Customs and the Provincial Commissioner of Sekondi, we hardly desire to furnish any information.

It is a downright scandal admitting of no comparison that the streets in this town are not kept clean owing to want of scavengers. Pity!

The women folk who travel occasionally from Ashieme by train for up country for the purpose of trade, have been giving complaints after complaints with regard to the treatment they receive from the Railway Officer at Ashieme Station. From facts to hand, we realize that, that man has been committing the most heinous of crimes. We refrain from saying anything in connection with this matter at present, as we hope Mr. Nimrod (the station-master referred to) will take the benefit of this hint.

## ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

## THE SANITATION OF THE TOWN.

In these days when the question of sanitation is engaging the attention of everybody, when every town appears to be vying with each other to take the front seat, and great efforts are being made to study the latest improvements and precautionary measures to be adopted to ensure the safety of the whitesman on the Coast—it might not, perhaps be taken amiss if I venture upon suggesting to Dr. Thain, as Health Officer, to devote some of his time to personally initiating our people into the mysteries of preserving health. Elmina has always been looked upon and depicted by some foreigners—at least by those class of Europeans of many-years experience on the coast, whose affairs correspondence on the West African Climate has always done more harm than good—as a very unhealthy place, although some better authorities have contradicted such statements, but it will never reflect credit on ourselves if we prefer to remain at our ease and look complacently on the present state of things without moving for their betterment.

The amount of annoyance that the fisherwomen cause to the public on "sherring days" can scarcely be described. At almost every point and quarter of the town and within a few inches of the public thoroughfares

one can see a woman here, cleaning and laying out fish in the sun to dry—there, another poring over a smoking fish oven—on one place some women are frying, salting and grilling fish—at another some fishermen just returning from the day's haul mending their nets and tackle—the fumes and efforts of the surrounding atmosphere which smell some of smelling, being quite the reverse of appealing.

I do not however purport to lay the whole trouble at the door of health officer, at any rate our big folk who profess to be the very essence of fitness should use some of their influence by preaching to the rank and file to have some respect for the public health.

We have from time to time been made to labour under the day dream of imaginary railways, harbours, streets, drains, &c., but I am of opinion that a town whose population pays no regard to its sanitation and would delight in seeing fish lying about the streets can never be worth its salt. I should humbly suggest that the Health Officer organize a Sanitation Committee to consist of about half a dozen of the notables of the town who would have to personally look after the affairs of the place from a sanitary stand point—with the Governor's approval.

**BISHOP ISIDORE CLAUS.**

If ever there was a prize offered for the best hands of decorations and organizing reception *for*, the Catholics would have certainly stood first to take it in every case.

The day before the arrival of the Bishop (Wednesday) Feb. some half a dozen arches bearing appropriate inscriptions of welcome, were thrown across the main street from Cape Coast Road to the corner of Wesleyan Chapel and through Buiton Bast and on to the foot of St. Joseph's Hill at Lime Street. Two other elaborately contrived arches with hunting and other devices were erected at each end of the Mission House leading to St. Joseph's Chapel. The next morning, Thursday 8th, it was publicly announced by a *gong-gong* that His Lordship Bishop Isidore Klaus was arriving that day at 6 p.m. and that every one was expected to contribute towards the success of his reception.

At about 3 p.m. a large procession consisting of the school children, all clad in surplice of scarlet and white overalls and capes, with banners and palm leaves—and the Members of the Church proceeded to the end of the road leading to Cape Coast accompanied by the Omanhin with retinue and the *clite* of the Town. At about 4.30 p.m. His Lordship arrived, when he was received by the Fathers who were in waiting, and conducted to Mr. deVeer's House to be dressed for the procession. About 15 minutes later, His Lordship attended by Fathers Oge, Burg, Dumoulin and Mc. Caffrey, issued from the house—and having been introduced to the Omanhin who had stationed himself outside the house by the road—joined the train, placing himself under a canopy borne by four men. The Band of the Catholic Truth Society struck up "See the Conquering Hero comes" and the procession moved homeward.

On reaching St. Joseph's Chapel the Benediction was said after which His Lordship was conducted to His apartments, where he held a short levee. Mr. and Mrs. Thain also arrived to pay him respects. On the whole, the arrangement was a complete success, as far as the Catholic community was concerned.

But there was one error which I had to remark with growing grief. It has always become the habit of some of our notables to disregard all decorum at such occasions. I do not know whether this is attributed to over-refinement or ignorance. They believe in no programme or plan of action of any form which would appear to show exactly, every man to his right place—what ought and ought not to be done. For an instance, I noticed that the gentlemen who were specially invited to take part in the affair, and upon whom the success of the whole thing largely depended, were all huddled up pell-mell at de Veer's front room, carelessly smoking their pipes and cigars and with their hats on, regardless of the presence of the Bishop, thereby usurping the rights of the Omanhin by being the first to be introduced to His Lordship; when virtually, they should have waited down below by the side of Omanhin. His Lordship, it appears, mistook somebody for the Omanhin. But for Mr. J. C. A. Bahie, he (the Omanhin) might have completely been at the back ground.

The next evening 9th the Bishop visited the Omanhin and later, was entertained by the Infant School.

On Sunday morning 11th His Lordship held his first High Mass. The service was very imposing. Father McCaffrey, as clerk of the ceremonies, conducting the proceedings with the utmost precision.

**THE DEDICATION.**

In the evening, before the Benediction, two large Bells which had lately arrived for the use of the Church were duly consecrated. Outside the Chapel the Bells were rigged up and tastefully decorated on trestles. Close by, a dais was raised for the Bishop's Chair. His Lordship arriving in due course was received by the Fathers at the entrance of the Chapel and conducted through the aisle to the altar from whence, after an interval, he emerged, fully robed in all the vestments of the bishopric, with the pastoral crook; and with a stately gait attended as usual by the priests and the mass waiters, advanced towards the dais and took his seat.

His Lordship opened the ceremony and began by leading the first verse of the chant *Miserere Mei Deus*, which was taken up by the priests at the conclusion of which a prayer was said and the Bishop moving towards the bells, crossed them several times with holy water and also anointed them. Another prayer was said and with further ceremonies, his Lordship advanced again towards the Bells and taking the ribbons tied to the tongue, pulled them one after the other followed by all the fathers in succession; then the godmothers and others who were invited, and for nearly 5 minutes the congregation was treated to the music of chiming bells.

The ceremony ending the Bishop entered the Chapel followed by the whole concourse of people, there they were addressed by father Oge who mentioned that the bells were the gifts of the Fathers on the coast, and de-

icated to the glory of God.

A tower is going to be erected for the bells according to plans suggested by Mr. Foreman of Works Jardine, some time ago.

It is further stated that the present school houses are going to be demolished to make place for better buildings. That the Sisters' quarters are to be renovated and the Fathers' house will also have to undergo extensive improvements.

On the night of Sunday 11th, the feast of the "Immaculate Conception" which was put off from the 8th inst, was duly observed by the display of fireworks and candle light at the mission station. The Bishop left on Tuesday morning for Cape Coast where he is to take a steamer to Sekondi for the Consecration of the new Church. A large number of the members with the Catholic Truth Society's Band have preceded his Lordship, overland, to arrange about his reception there. He is however expected to return in time for the Christmas festivities.

Mr. J. L. Minnow passed here on the 10th inst. on-board the steamer *Fenriffe* for Dixcove, where he is to relieve Mr. A. W. Thompson, as District Commissioner. The latter having been transferred to the Judicial Department at Accra as Chief Registrar. Another feather in our cap!

On dit, that the castle and St. Jago Prison will soon be placed within telephonic communication.

Sisters Annie and Ethel of the Wesleyan Methodist Girls Training Home arrived here from Cape Coast on Monday night 12th when they were met by the people in the Wesleyan Chapel. Rev. R. M. Acquash having introduced the ladies to the congregation, Sister Annie first addressed them by explaining the plans of their work, seconded by Sister Ethel and impressed upon the parents and guardians the advisability of sending their daughters to the Homes for training.

**SALT POND.**

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Gin Trade is very brisk in the Market. Some 10,000 cases have been sold off. This will yield about £3870. 0. 0. and our immediate requirements still stand unattended to.

The Public may like to know something of the collection made in aid of Omanhin Essandor's Commenda stool case.

Marriage is announced to take place next month between Mr. J. S. Wood and Mrs. Christian, widow of the late Mr. John Christian of Cape Coast.

A steady arrangement is under progress for sports, Regatta and Ball on Christmas Eve and New Year's Day. This was brought out by our genial D.C. Mr. Grimshaw at a meeting held at the Court hall last Saturday evening the 10th inst. himself presiding. The Officers and Committee of Management appointed were as follows:—Mr. Grimshaw, President, Hugh Randall, Vice President, R. E. Turkson and J. A. Korsah, Secretaries, A. J. Hammond, T. B. Beny, A. W. Appiah and J. S. Wood, Regatta Committee, J. A. Sutton, M. Sagoo Crentsil, S. A. Winfall, R. E. Ellis, and J. D. Biney, Subscription Committee, Dr. Horn, A. R. M. Korsah, S. A. Quainou and J. A. Korsah, Bicycle Committee, J. A. Quagrainie with others: the meeting was postponed till Friday next.

We understand also that the local Singing Band will be giving a concert to be followed by an Anniversary with the Sunday School on Christmas and New Year's day.

The Wesleyan Chapel is under renovation and its choristers are sparing no time practising selected anthems to be sung during the Christmas season.

**THE AGRICULTURE PROBLEM.**

BY AGYIMANK.

While not sharing the belief that the salvation of the Gold Coast depends solely upon a return to the soil—for it also depends upon a thorough reform in the Government, I am of the opinion that a return to the soil would tend very much to the prosperity of our dear country.

In these days when everybody is talking about Agriculture and the wonderful blessings it would bestow upon us it is not a bit surprising to find that nothing really is being done by the people.

Some people there are who besides joining the common talk of the day do not intend to do anything; but some there are, especially the young who would do much if they only had the means and knew how to put their hands to the plough and it is for the latter that I write these few lines in the hope that they would be of some use to them.

The majority of our young men are clerks in merchants' offices some of them holding good posts, a good many of them are married and some of them again have a deal of responsibilities resting on their shoulders. They have not as yet made money, any how what with incidental expenses and keeping up appearances many of them are not worth anything till pay-day.

There can be no doubt but that no farming business will begin to pay before the end of the sixth month of starting and under the circumstances it would not be wise to counsel any of these young men to leave off his work and return to mother Earth, since it would mean utter starvation for six months with the possibility of the venture proving a failure;

besides without money much cannot be done and then one has to compete as well with our existing farmers.

If we cannot get these young men I am afraid much cannot be done with the Agriculture project, and yet it is necessary something should be done. But if we cannot get these young men to leave their work can we not devise any means by which we can get them to take up this business without necessarily leaving their businesses? A single word appears to save the situation and that word is Co-operation. Ah yes! Co-operation, if we had only known in time what that word meant.

Very many people live in this world for no other purpose than to accumulate wealth. They spend their lives at this task often grinding the faces of their poor brethren in order that they may die and leave a name. If they were content to amass these riches and let others alone it would not matter much; but these two-legged beetles wish to be the only ones rich and consequently they malign their friends and do all sorts of mean things. Every knowledge they have is a secret which must be made to yield money and if they find they cannot personally benefit by it they let it perish with them although they may know fully well it would benefit others. This is selfishness, and it is selfishness that has stunted our growth as a people and made us the pigmies that we are.

After all what can one man do? Which of our so called rich men can launch a steam boat and keep it up for a year? We have many a time had object lessons of the folly of selfishness but we have refused to profit by them. A case in point is the recent gold concessions mania; everybody wanted to be rich and each wanted to be the richest of the lot, the result has been that the thing has been killed in its infancy and many a one has come to grief. Of course some of them, poor honest folk, meant well by it, all they wanted was competence and nothing more and these have my sympathies and my prayers.

Compared to the English we have no money. Our richest man cannot own a quarter of what the ordinary middle-class Englishman has. Look at the A. G. C. and the other large mining Companies, the amount of labour they employ and the quantity of gold they export; are these the work of one man? Every week steamers cross our seas laden with goods and merchandize are these the work of one man? and yet are there not scores of men in England each of whom can do all this if he only thought it was prudent so to do.

Co-operation means working together. And the greatest and best that have ever been done have been done by men clubbing together and working for their common weal.

If we are to make any progress then the last enemy to be conquered is this monster Selfishness. Yes, let us kill it, knock it hard on the head, and bury it deep so its ghost may not rise up and disturb our waking thoughts. Having slain this monster, let us aim at competency, band together and work not caring whether we are richer than our next door neighbours or vice versa and soon there will be cheerful voices heard in our streets and we shall yet know much of happiness in our own home and at our own fireside.

**BARBED WIRE FENCING.**

Sir,—I hope I am not late to catch your paper for to-morrow. "Better late than never."

I have crossed the Bay half-dozen times to and from England—but in all my experience in England I never heard or saw a barbed wire fence there. I was rather told in the train once by a passenger that barbed wires are only in use in America but considered as cruelty to animals in England. I defy any English man to inform me if barbed wire is used in England. If not, why in Cape Coast streets?

Yours truly,—QUIASIE MENSAH.

Dec. 15.

**MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.**

**OUTWARDS.**

Due at Cape Coast.

*Biafra	S. C. Express Service No. 1.	Dec. 19
Nyanga	Obobo Service	" 21
Batauga	Southern Windward Service	" 25
Oron	Brass Service	" 26
*Akabo	Lagos Express Service	" 26
*Aro	S. C. Express Service No. 2.	Jan. 2
Boulama	Opobo Service	" 4
Muraji	Brass Service	" 9
*Tarquah	Lagos Express Service	" 9
*Sabo	S. C. Express Service No. 1.	" 16
Zaria	Opobo Service	" 18
Benin	Southern Windward Service	" 22
Oleuda	Brass Service	" 23

**HOMEWARDS.**

Ancobra	Opobo Service	Dec. 16
*Bornu	S. C. Express Service No. 1.	" 21
Carl Werrmans	Gold Coast Service	" 24
*Philippeville	Congo Boat	" 24
Dahomey	Brass Service	" 26
*Burutu	Lagos Express Service	" 28
Warri	Opobo Service	" 30
*Fantes	S. C. Express Service No. 1.	Jan. 4

\*With mails and passengers only.

# The Gold Coast Leader.

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For copies of the paper please apply to

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

AT SEKUNDI

From the store of Mr. Jas. E. Arthur, Poassi Road, New Town.

AT AXIM,

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

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## ADVERTISEMENTS.

### JUST PUBLISHED

## FANTI CUSTOMARY LAWS

BY J. M. SARBAH.

SECOND EDITION REVISED.

Price 21/- nett, in cloth.

Limited number bound in half calf with Fanti Law Report containing Sixty Eight new cases 35/- nett.

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Orders received at the Wesleyan Book Depot, Cape Coast Castle.

## NOTICE.

### AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

A Public Meeting will be held in the Court House, Victoriaborg Accra on Monday the 2nd proximo, at 3 p.m., when His Excellency the Governor will give an address, and an Executive Committee will be formed to carry out all arrangements in connection with an Agricultural Show, which it has been decided shall be held at Accra in 1905, with the object of encouraging and promoting the Industry of Agriculture in the Colony.

By Command.

(Sgd.) C. RIBY WILLIAMS,  
Acty. Colonial Secretary.

9th Dec. 1904.

## KROPP RAZORS

R. F. WOOD'S STORE.



PURE.—NOURISHING.

## ESBENSEN'S BUTTER.

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

## NOTICE.

I the undersigned hereby give the public Notice that I own all that piece or parcel of land situate at Freetown Road which was once the property of the Late Aggrey Fynn alias Quow Agill and bounded on one side by the Merry-go-Round. (Miss Ferguson's land) on one side by Freetown Road on one side by Kofi Amerehia's property on one side by property unknown. Which said piece or parcel of land was bought by my late brother Quacoe Daah the papers of which land are now in my possession and that any person or persons trespassing on the said property or any part or parts thereof will be dealt with according to Law.

JAMES COBBINA

Kumasi, 1st December 1904.

## GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. Whitaker of Fischer's arrived from Sekondi, this week.

The Government and Wesleyan Centenary Schools closed last week Friday for their Christmas holidays; the Collegiate, and Grammar Schools also closed on Thursday the 22nd.

The Smoking Concert in aid of the Victoria Park, last Friday night came off with an *ecclat*. It was one of the best attended concerts we have ever seen for a number of years. And the artistic taste of those to whom the decoration of the Room was entrusted was in good evidence. Under the chairmanship of Mr. Peregrine, with Messrs Parker and Graves at the Piano and with good performers, everything passed off satisfactorily. It is always difficult to say which is which, where all did their best, but it may be said that Dr. Savage singing *Ora pro nobis*, Mr. Palk, *Out of the Deep* and particularly his *Miner*, Mr. St Johns, *the Midshipman*, Mr. O'Hanlon, *The Holy City* and Mr. Renner *The Honey Suckle*, brought down the House. And what shall we say of the Trio Selections by Messrs Bradenberger, Enke and Redeker on the violin, flute and (somebody tell us the other instrument)? Superb Dr. Garland as the Secretary, must have steered hard to bring about such a success. Mr. Skues managed the refreshment part excellently, in fact all who took part in this concert are to be congratulated. This is encouraging, why not another?

The local Singing Band under the management of the Rev. Brodie Graham, gave a grand concert last Thursday (22nd.) at the Jubilee Memorial Chapel, with the Rev. F. Egyir-Asaana, in the chair

A certain young girl in a state of pregnancy died at *Intoto* last Thursday.

We understand the Association have instituted a criminal action against Mr. W. C. deGraft sometime their store keeper.

An Elmina girl, stealing a barrel of beef, at Kawanupada, when caught was made to roll it back, through the town.

Rev. G. T. R. Bartrop is in town.

The Ninth Annual Sports of the City Club will take place at the Parade Ground on the 29th inst.

There will be a Grand Ball at Beula Road on the 29th by the Members of the Mutual Association Dancing Club.

The Cape Coast Independent Brass Band will also give a Daylight Ball on the 29th and 30th Dec. and 2nd. January at Kotekraba.

It is with the profoundest regret to report the sad death of Miss Amelia de Graft alias Madan Adjuaah Mansah, sister of Mrs. Sarah Flecher, Cousin to Mr. J. W. deGraft Johnson, daughter of the late John Coleman de Graft (a native) Captain of the Gold Coast Volunteers which took place at her residence on Friday the 16th inst after a struggling illness. Her remains were solemnly interred on the next day at Fahuddi, Rev. J. B. Graham officiating. The bereft have our sympathies.

## AXIM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A Strange catastrophe took place last Monday the 21st ult: between one Bassa boy "Everyday" by name and his wife. One evening we understand some quarrel took place between them and after that had been subdued the husband coolly and in a pacified manner asked the wife to give up their baby who was at that time in her bosom: the woman, unconscious of forthcoming peril acceded to his request: immediately he took possession of the poor child he squeezed its neck and threw it down with all his might from the second floor of the house. As soon as it was taken up to the hospital the poor thing gave up the ghost: a charge has been made against him and is under lock-up.

Mr. Boyan, who was a clerk to Mr. Molyneux has been sentenced to 6 months imprisonment hard labour for stealing 2 legs mahogany belonging to Messrs Payne & Christenson.

We have read the article "Mind your business" with great pleasure and we hope our young friends here who seem to be framing news themselves and trying if possible to find out the editor's correspondent will mind their own business indeed.

By the s/s Bonny that arrived last week a decent brass Lectern was landed for St. James's Church: we understand it was a gift from Mr. Charles W. Clinton.

By the s/s Phillipville that arrived on the 2nd inst Mr. W. J. Dey, the proprietor of the firm of Messrs. Cazaux Dey & Co. was a passenger by her.

The case between Nos. 1 and 2 Companies which might have resulted disastrously and which has stirred the town beyond every expectation has been withdrawn from the court by Messrs. Mineaux and Saccou for the Omani's court, and after two clear day's hearing by arbitrators and three hours address by Mr. Mineaux verdict was given in favour of No. 2 Company.

The sitting of the December Assize with Mr. Justice Purcell presiding began on the 13th with 3 cases on the Calendar. It is hard for pen to describe how bloody this Assize has been. Neither of the three prisoners was acquitted. Mr. Teiquay whose appeal the community was so sure of, was by a ridiculous verdict by the Jury sentenced to 7 years imprisonment. The Bassa boy who murdered his own child seven months old was sentenced to death. The last case was that of Mr. Sackey of the African Association which ended in his conviction to penal servitude for 7 years. We are pleased to report that the many unpleasant remarks passed by the Judge on Council who ably defended Mr. Sackey have been honourably withdrawn by the learned Judge and thereby any unpleasantness which might have existed between Bassa and Bar is removed.

## KUMASI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Idan Agent for Messrs. H. B. W. Russell and Co. has been transferred here from Saltpond to re-open the business. Mr. Russell himself has been

bers.

Mr. F. J. Brocklebank the Agent for Swansy left here during last month for England.

An Agent at this end has adopted the practice of detaining the wages of his handworking men and thus inconveniencing himself whenever the Train arrives with his goods. What is the good of finding a man five shillings a day too when he receives 30/- a month. We are in Kumasi.

It is high time now for the District Postmaster to provide us with a letter box as it is done everywhere, in doing so the Public shall discontinue the unnecessary practice of standing over the Post Office Counter for hours together.

A few days more and we have the Christmas. We hope the Chief Commissioner will advise Supt. Quist and his staff not to disturb public peace with trifling arrests as it was done with the people at Asafu last year.

The Mohammedans have already started their Christmas.

Captain Soden who has been acting as the District Commissioner in Kwahu is now to be here.

There is some good work being done in the Rubber and Cocos trade.

Mr. G. T. Stewart left for Sekondi on the 9th instant.

The Market Sheds will be completed next year. Millers No. 5 Store has been looted by a gang of thieves. Everyone was at a loss to know how this was done as Mr. Mensah the Store keeper (as I was informed) strongly fastened the Store on Saturday the 10th inst. and on Monday morning at about 7 o'clock he found the iron lock had been broken and lots of costly goods carried off. We understand the matter was reported to the D.C. who instructed Supt. Quist to take steps and up to the present nothing has been done.

The military cricketers here have been challenged to play with Sekondi on the 23rd inst. two of them have already left and perhaps the others will accompany with the Band to spend the Christmas there. Here is a prove for the Governor to reduce the military force here. The whole officers can leave Kumasi to spend their Christmas with the Band at Sekondi which means the Ashantis are perfectly quiet and cannot rise again: why cannot the staff be reduced then?

A circular has been passed by the young men in Town for a Fancy Dress Ball on the 24th—Where is the band?

I have made it a point of duty to find out how trade is getting on. Every Store-keeper now complains "No Trade No Trade." People on the Coast will not be surprised to hear this: by and by when the Railway is extended, the Firms must not forget to post poor Store-keepers on the roads to work for the former's pockets. I suggest Kintampo to be the next centre of Trade as one European suggested Kumasi. The stupidity of this will soon show itself.

#### SALT POND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

Mr. Fred. Cunn (Wesleyan School Master) was married to Miss Regina Noonoo last Thursday morning the 15th inst at the Wesleyan Chapel Rev. Ibinjah H. Hayford officiating. The attendance of all classes was very large. The choristers sang well. Refreshment were served at Ebenezer Hall. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Cunn all connubial happiness.

#### MUMFORD.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

On her outward voyage the s.s. "Teneriffe" discharged a large quantity of cargo for Millers, Swansy and other traders.

The new chapel is being roofed with beams fetched from Tawiah Kwahu by the Sunday School Scholars.

In the annals of the history of Mumford the fire which broke out on the sixth instant starting with Madam Fyabah's building and burning to ashes four other buildings including Millers Factory has scarcely a parallel. Four women from Legu have been arrested on suspicion of incendiarism. Very serious damages to property were sustained.

The water-misunderstanding between Mumford and Legu has recently been settled and access to the well is given to every body.

#### APPAM.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Old Henry Brew died at his residence last Wednesday the 16th ulto. and was buried at 4 p.m. on the 17th. His death has been the cause of a considerable influx of friends and other relatives from abroad.

A certain influential head member of the Anona tribe named Ogunmun died on Saturday the 19th ulto. his funeral was largely attended.

Mr. Ashun—native of Mumford who had long been staying at Appam died on Tuesday the 27th

ulto; the funeral ceremonies were performed at Mumford and so some members of this community were drawn thither. Mr. Ashun was the native doctor, his death has therefore been painfully felt.

The death last Sunday of Madam Mercy Incoom greatly disturbed the divine service. Her remains were deposited at the Wesleyan Cemetery attended by a large concourse of people: Rev. Marshall officiated. The deceased was the grand mother of Simpson Brothers, Mr. Hagau (Swansy's clerk) and others.

The s.s. "Teneriffe" touched this port last week and discharged a considerable quantity of cargo.

Two European Surveyors, Captain King and Sgt. Watkins arrived here a fortnight ago and engaged a considerable number of labourers for the purpose of laying out a road from here to Ashanti, which as alleged, will be used for a future Railway. At the time of writing the work has been as far as at Assin.

Mr. Grimshaw the District Commissioner of Salt Pond arrived here last week and after meeting with the European Surveyors left for the interior on inspection.

By the s.s. "Carl Wermann" on the 3rd instant arrived Mr. Tom Marshall Jr., from Sekondi.

The demand for water is growing intolerably high. All the public wells are dry, and if there be no rain within the next fortnight, the intensity of the dearth will be unimaginable.

Under police escort on the 5th instant were brought to town on their way to Winnebuh six men and six women apprehended for committing a most brutal murder on a certain man and his new wife while asleep at midnight at Obiri. The presence of the horrible miscreants created such unusual sensation in the town.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

To-morrow, will be Christmas Day: a merry Christmas to all our Readers.

We seem to be having signs from the present administration indicating that "qualification" and not "colour" is to be reckoned upon in our officialdom. We hope we shall not be disappointed in either way, and native officials who may be entrusted with responsible posts, and posts of honour or trust, will give a good account of themselves, always realizing that at those posts they represent, the country and the race, and therefore Self must be subordinated to those. Some of the race in days gone by, found themselves in some of the highest posts, a Colony can give—Governors and Colonial Secretaries even—and they did their work well bringing no disgrace to the Race and we in these days being proud of them may do likewise.

This is all the more necessary as there are men ready to pounce upon the least flaw they may detect in their official duties, and make mountains out of the mole-hills, conveniently forgetting that human nature is the same all the world over: there are men ready to admit a mistake or an error of judgment, or some weakness in one's character, in any one in the face of the world, but the African. This in itself should have its lessons to teach our Race.

What we have often noticed ourselves in Native officials, who find themselves in high posts, is, the very unfair treatment they usually give to those under them, some to court the favour of their seniors, others simply to "boss" it over them, whilst others would do it, because happening to be of the same colour with them, they must show them no favour(?) This is the sort of thing that spoils some of these officials, —making too much of their posts. A man needs not to be bothered, so long as he does his work honestly and faithfully, nor must his rights be denied him because his senior happened to be of the same colour with him.

It was a principle with the late Governor Young, whenever he found a deserving officer, irrespective of colour, to "reward" him accordingly, so long as the work for the administration is done as it should be done. Perhaps there are some posts open to the white, only, because of the emolument it brings, no matter how the work may be done, we do not grudge them this, since this may be the way of the Crown Colony System but we say the worth of a worthy native official must be recognized in the interests of a Colony.

The other day we read a very sensible and reasonable article in the *Lagos Record* headed "Which policy is the wiser one?" dealing on

a certain article in a paper called *To-day* and it surprised us—that there are men to be found in England to-day who are capable of writing such puerile twaddle, indeed there are some men to be found in that country, who are a disgrace to that Nation, and men like the writer in *To-day* whose effusions our able contemporary noticed the other day, are the ruin of that great Nation, the less any notice is taken of the fatuous ebullitions of such erratic writers the better will it be for our Empire. The article in the *Record* referred to, should be widely read.

"An Ordinance to regulate the sale of Wine and Beer" we understand, comes into force next year. More revenue! Not bad.

What we wish to see in our young people, who know that they have derived some benefit from Secondary Schools or have seen the benefit of education, is an example set in the matter of the Fanti Public Schools. The times are hard all the same, but fully knowing what may be the outcome of it, they should THINK and begin to know something of SELF-DENIAL. Apart from what the Country and the Race may expect from them, may they not be called upon to do all they can for the sake of their *alma mater*? "Talk" is good and does good in its way, but Action, Action, ACTION is the thing. Our young friends may be reminded to remember, that they were privileged to pass through the course of training they had, FOR A PURPOSE. There is the Accra Grammar School and here is the Fanti Public School, and the country and our future generations, turn wistfully to them. Let them kill SELF for THE COUNTRY.

As we expected, the poor women having refused to use the new Market, because of the site, and want of accommodation, Force must be put into play, and the Inspector of Police was on the scene with his men in all his glory, with the result, that there is not a single soul to be seen at the market now. But like the blacks we are reminded, all this fuss will end in our heartily using the place afterwards as we did in the case of the dust bins. How fickle the "nigger" is! VERB. SAP.

#### 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, DECEMBER 24, 1904.

#### THE FANTI PUBLIC SCHOOLS, LTD.

NEXT month from information received, the first School for the *Fanti Public Schools Ltd.*, will be opened. We sincerely hope, the Company will have the hearty support of all who directly or indirectly claim to be natives of the soil, and, for the matter of that from all who know and believe themselves to be Africans. We go further: that European, American or Asiatic who wishes Africa and the African Races well, may say, "God-speed" to the Scheme. We have received and read carefully through a copy of the "Memorandum and articles of the Association," and no one who has seen same will deny the fact, that the Company have undertaken, a gigantic, noble and withal a most patriotic work, which should meet with the hearty support of all right thinking men. Here is a Scheme which seeks to benefit all and sundry, and for this very reason it should have the unstinted support of

all. Let none who really and truly have their country's good, who have the interest of this great Africa of ours, at heart, keep aloof from the Scheme. What we said in January last, when the Scheme was first brought to the public notice, may be reproduced and so we give it below:—

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

As far back as 1892, the Editor of the *Gold Coast People* in his series of articles, *Why we Complain*, dealt on the subject of Education and now that this Scheme is on the tapis, we would ask you to spare a few moments to read that article again it will whet your enthusiasm the more, it will as a native of this Country, make you still more enthusiastic about the scheme, that is, if you have a scintilla of patriotic feeling in you. If you cannot lay your hand on the *People*, the article is reproduced for you in our issue of Sept. 27, 1902. And we have ourselves devoted weeks to the subject, in leading articles; *Vide* issues of Oct. 18th and 25th, Nov. 1st, 8th, and 15th (1902). In the first of these articles referred to we said in our opening remarks:—"We venture to give it out as our opinion after closely looking into the existing state of affairs, that the panacea for the thousand and one evils in the country is, EDUCATION. The only cure-all for all our social, moral and political grievances . . . is EDUCATION." Then the following papers dealt on, the Government, Missionaries the People and Education. The last which was, "The Need of the Hour—More interest in Educational matters" we may reproduce for the benefit of those who may not have copies of that issue (Nov. 15). In the meantime let us leave the subject, with the last words of this article, to wit, *Who is there who will not interest himself in such a momentous question!*

#### SEIZURE OF PROPERTY IN KUMASI.

If we must have a peaceful, contented, and populous Asianti in deed, and not in despatches and speeches, we must divest ourselves of all prejudices and preconceived notions, and take facts as they come and look into them. We have often pointed out that as far as we know the Asianti it will take the white man some years to understand him, and to be acquainted with his ways, if ever at all he would, for even we who are his cousins, and have been doing with them for years, do not claim to have yet understood him. And when an Asianti finds that he will, as long as he lived, enjoy what honors, favours, and privileges, he had bestowed on him, if he kept himself well in his "good books," he will do all in his power to show the white man only his good parts. This is what is going on at present in Kumasi between the Government-made-chiefs and the Commissioners or Residents. Whilst oppressing the people, far worse than what even their Kings did, which was alleged to have been one of the causes which led to the downfall of Asianti, they do all in their power to keep the real facts from the officials, and sometimes it is feared they are helped to do this.

If the Authorities really wish the People and not those only whom they themselves have put on the stools, well, if it is not their object only to pamper and indulge these usurpers, but to quiet the rebellious Asianti, then these matters must be looked into.

In October last a correspondence appeared in these columns, calling our attention to the atrocious way in which these chiefs seize the property of de-

ceased persons, doing the near relatives of the deceased out of their lawful rights. What is worse still they have found a way to take away the life of any one to avoid any suspicion who by his skill and strength may have amassed some wealth particularly when that party happened to be of the royal blood. The correspondence referred to, gave a case in point, which have since been decided in the Court in favour of the friends of the deceased. We refer our readers to that correspondence again (Vol. iii No. 121). Last week, a member of the royal house came to our office, and, gratuitously, gave us more particulars of this flagitious practice confirming all that the writer said on the occasion, adding that he has himself, having made several attempts to go back to Kumasi been warned off by his friends there, as he is sure to lose his life, and his property seized—one of these usurpers making no secret of his intentions to see this done. This is the sort of thing keeping many of the people away from "home." It is impossible for us to believe that this murderous practice is being done with any knowledge of the officials (white). We therefore hope, that the Authorities in Kumasi will lose no time to look into the matter and a stop put to it, for apart from its depopulating the country, and making the people discontented, it is directly against our customary laws on that point, and if the people will not tolerate such things in their Kings much less will they in these usurpers, the only advantage the latter have, being that they so misrepresent things to Residents and Commissioners, that they get them to back them up, as shown in the correspondence referred to above. Our Kumasi correspondent also dealt on the subject as published in Nos. 126 and 127. We look to the Government to do away with such evil practices at no distant date so that the people may breathe freely in their own country, for whether the Powers That Be, would believe it or not, it is a fact that the peace and quietness and order and all that sort of thing much talked about in connection with that country, all exist, because the people are under the shadow of the maxim gun, and they may give way any day. The idea may be pooh-poohed as usual.

#### A LETHAL PALL.

(BY A BANKER.)

From time to time during the winter months the metropolis of the great British Empire is shrouded in a dense, opaque pall of combined fog and smoke; day is turned into blackest night; and the entire city is plunged in a cimmerian darkness. In a severe—though happily rare—visitation like that which literally plunged London into moaning in the year 1879, when more than two thousand victims succumbed to the deadly, choking compound, and hundreds of oven were suffocated in the Christmas cattle show, the black murky pall which overshadowed the city as though the sun had been obliterated from the firmament was so dense and so turbid that it was impossible to see an object a yard distant; even the lights in the shop windows failing to penetrate the sooty shroud which enveloped everything.

In the streets and appalling confusion reigned supreme. Men with links and torches preceded every vehicle, but notwithstanding this, constant and repeated collisions continually occurred, while, as omnibus collided with omnibus, or, with a crash, a heavy dray almost demolishes a cab or a carriage, females shriek, and men express themselves recording to their several idiosyncrasies; while the shouting of the linkmen, who in the dimness look like ashy ghouls grasping a will-o-the-wisp, the stern commands of the policemen, and the hoarse, strident vociferations of the coachmen and drivers create an uproar rendering discord quite impossible to describe. No one is quite certain where he is or in which direction he is proceeding, some, thinking they are going towards their home, find they are going in the opposite direction; others, finding it impossible to find their way, give up the attempt and take refuge in restaurants and inns; while many others continue helplessly to grope in the fuliginous darkness, to find themselves perhaps no nearer their destination than when they started long before. And so it goes on hour after hour, until suddenly a wind arises, and in an incredibly short space of time the fog has cleared off and the sun shines brightly in a cloudless sky.

Judging from traditions extant in China and other lands it is believed that the whole earth was once plunged in a supernatural darkness for a space of three hours. And surely that darkness eclipse of nature must have extended throughout the whole of the universe; but have not only darkened our own sun, but every other sun throughout the illimitable abyss of space. For He who had created them all was bearing the dread load of the sins of the universes; was being, as it were, suffocated by the revolting horror, which like a foul loathsome vampire was resting upon Him, and crushing down His pure and holy soul with its hideous, noisome

burden. And then with the joyous cry, "Tada-tat!"—"It is finished,"—His released spirit bounds upwards to Paradise, the gates of the Kingdom of heaven are open to all believers, and sorrowing nature, which could not endure the dire tragedy which was being enacted, casts off the veil which had shrouded it all from her view.

#### OMANHIN AND TOWN COUNCIL.

His Excellency is advised that the effect of the Town Councils Ordinance is to relieve the Omanhin concerned of certain municipal and Sanitary duties, for the performances of which he would otherwise be responsible. This appears in the reply to the letter which the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society recently sent to Accra. For the information of the public we publish to-day the whole letter, and the public can draw their own conclusion. We say however it is a very satisfactory letter but when one considers what we have above referred to, he cannot help questioning the soundness of the opinion which the Governor's legal Advisers have so given. The law says and that very clearly that the Town Council may from time to time make rules (a) imposing on occupiers of houses the duty of removing soil, ashes or refuse of any kind; (b) for the prevention of keeping animals on any premises so as to be a nuisance; and (c) imposing on chiefs, captains and inhabitants of any town the duty of cleansing and keeping clear the open spaces within or around or adjacent to such town or any of them from weeds, grass prickly pear, wild bush and other vegetation and from rubbish and deposits of any kind; the penalty in case of default is ten shillings fine in addition to a fine of two shillings during the continuance of the default after we have carefully read the Ordinance and to our lay minds the plain and ordinary meaning of the words is that the Omanhin his captains and inhabitants of such town are no means relieved. If it requires a legal training to arrive at a different conclusion then it is imperative for our laws to be so framed that the ordinary reader to whom English is an acquired language may understand them without recourse to lawyers. But assuming this opinion is sound are we to understand that the captains and inhabitants of the town mentioned in the same clause of the Towns Ordinance which we have quoted are also relieved of certain municipal and sanitary duties. If not, how can the Omanhin be excluded, while the captain and inhabitants are bound to obey the rules for keeping the streets, open spaces and outskirts of the town clean. But if subsection (c) is by implication repealed what about subsections (a) and (b). Having regard to the specific anomaly mentioned in this letter of the Aborigines Society, this legal opinion seems to be an absurdity. And although it has been repeatedly stated that House Rates are not at all compulsory and that the Council may not impose and levy animal rates, a learned member of the Legislative Council has given his opinion that if there are no funds any rate payer can move the court for the Town Council to levy a rate, even when the Council unanimously decide not to do so. In our humble opinion the advice given His Excellency is utter nonsense and shirks the information sought for by the people. Sir John Rodger expresses in clear words his own opinion and decision and these commend themselves to any thinking man. What the Governor says does him infinite credit, it shows in this municipal question he gives unremitting care and attention. It behoves us therefore to help and assist him to the best of our several ability.

In our opinion the Aborigines Rights Society has done excellent service, and if the members will only still work and think and discuss alternate schemes some satisfactory result would soon be reached, we appeal therefore to all the members old and young to work harmoniously.

#### WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MONUMENTAL FOLLY?

BY LIBRA.

Any one not resident in the Country and not acquainted with the wonderful ways of the Government, (which are past finding out) reading the local Newspapers for any length of time, is bound to come to the conclusion either that the Gold Coast people can never be satisfied or that they take a special delight in for ever complaining about everything done by the Government for them. Yet when one goes soberly into the question he inevitably finds the people have just cause and the wonder is they do no more than simply complain and in many cases stop at that.

Complaints have been made about men being

pitchforked into important Government positions and who after taking these neither do anything to get in touch with the people nor care to know anything about the Country. These in time become what is known as Old Coastlers, and it is from these unfortunately that successive short-lived Governors have relied upon for information about the Country, which in most cases have been erroneous as proved by the many palpable mistakes that Governors have made in dealing with the affairs of the Country and with the people.

It has often been suggested that in all matters directly affecting the interest of the people, their opinion should be sought, the Country not being adequately represented in the Legislative Council.

It seems, sometimes the Government forget they are dealing with a free people under their protection whose customs laws and institutions were clearly defined long before their connection with the British Government.

It would be a wonder if another such Government, working in total disregard of the opinion of the people and often diametrically against the interest and well being of the Country could be found among His Majesty's Colonial Dependencies.

It has been pointed out that often the revenue is wasted by public and other works being placed in incompetent hands resulting in these having in most cases to be done over again.

The case of Madam Maria and the Public Works Department disclosed to the public some of the class of men the Country pay heavily for as Government Engineers, and instances are not wanting in this and other branches of the Government service where positions are being filled by men who in other places would not dream of them; but it seems anything is good enough for the Gold Coast.

Eight Sheds have been erected to replace the old Market for the town. The people will not have to do with them.

In the first instance, the site is not suitable; the cloths, silk and other wares of the occupants will be sure to be damaged, the sheds being too near the beach.

There is also objection taken to the fees.

Hitherto the people have used the Old Market without paying any fees; they consider they contribute heavily enough to the revenue which is recklessly wasted by (their trustees) the Government without their knowledge or consent. But this question of fees is a minor objection compared to that of the unsuitableness of the site on which the sheds are erected.

It is understood that before the sheds were erected some members of the Aborigines Society with some influential men of the town selected two suitable sites and recommended them to the Authorities, but evidently no notice was taken of these, nor of the articles that appeared in the local papers while the work was in hand calling the attention of the Authorities to the fact that the site selected was not suitable.

Now, these sheds have been completed—which must have made a serious inroad into the revenue—and the people for whom they were intended will have nothing to do with them in spite, of the messengers that the police are taking to force the people into them, and of Mr. P. C. Peregrine's hope that the first heavy rain will frighten the people into them. They will rather make a market for themselves.

As the people rightly remark: this is the way things are done; this is how our money is wasted and we are asked to pay taxes.

Every one in the Country knows there is more than enough money for all the improvements &c. that are required and it is only when wilful waste comes in that funds can be said to be insufficient at any time.

Surely in such a simple matter as that of the Market Sheds there ought to have been more tact and common sense than this shameful display of carelessness and short-sightedness.

Now, what is going to happen to these sheds. Who is responsible for this monumental folly? Why such want on waste of public funds?

The people have suffered long under this wasteful and extravagant system, but are confident that under the administration of the experienced Governor Sir John Pickersgill Rodger this woeful state of affairs will soon be a matter of the past.

#### RELIGIONS WORK ON THE GOLD COAST.

Writing from St. Paul's Vicarage, Devonport, Bishop Hamlyn, of the Gold Coast, says:—

I shall be grateful if you can find space in your paper for an appeal which I want to make for men in Holy Orders, or prepared to take Holy Orders, for work on the Gold Coast.

I believe there is no foreign field where the needs

are more urgent, where an earnest worker would receive a more hearty welcome, or meet with more encouragement in his work than in this colony. Men are needed as Chaplains to the European and native Christians (miners and others) and as missionaries to the Heathens and Mohamedans. In the coast towns, as well as in the interior, there are hundreds of our fellow-countrymen, and of our native fellow-churchmen entirely without the ministry of the Church, while throughout the colony—a country as large as Scotland—there are thousands who have never heard of the Christ of God, yet from all we may be sure of a hearty welcome.

I shall be glad to communicate with any to whom this appeal may come—as I trust to some it will come—as a call from God to consider the privileges attached to this work, a work in which the labourer may confidently expect an abundant reward—*West Africa*. 19. Nov. 1904.

#### 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,—The D. C. was here last week from Tarkwa in the capacity first of a Doctor to attend Mr. Long, a plate layer, who had an attack of Black water fever, which has carried him to his untimely grave notwithstanding the efforts of the Doctor, and secondly as D. C. to adjust matters that have long been in arrears. The first case was Rex vs Kwamina. Abban a native engius driver.

It happened a week ago (prior to the hearing of the case) that the Dunkwa-Obuassai No 30 train was coming in, when a Wangara man in a drunken state was lying on the line. The driver with his presence of mind having discerned that and put the Engine to a "dead slow," descended and went to where the drunken Wangara was lying, and admonished him to take a better care of his life, gave him a few punches (and quite right too in so doing) and got him off the line; this Wangara went to the Police Sergeant, (who is also doing the worst mischief imaginable,) complained bitterly that the Driver had assaulted him, by severely beating him and robbing him of his belongings a silver bracelet and cash valued at £3.

The driver was arrested instantly. The Sergeant posed as the crown prosecutor; it was indeed a pity that there was no counsel for the defence.

This Driver was found guilty and sentenced to 4 months imprisonment.

The D. C. is alleged to have said, in "summing up" that the Driver had no business to put the train to a "dead slow" or in other words to a stop, thereby delaying passengers, which remark was uncalled for as the passengers had already reached the Station platform; and again that he (D. C.) had heard various complaints about the native Drivers, one of which was their habitual way of throwing piles of coals at passers-by on the line, and that this punishment would teach the others a lesson; for want of space I regret I cannot give "in extenso" the D. C.'s lengthy speech. From his "summing up," I infer that the Dr. D.C. has very little or no care for human life. There was a tone of unconcernedness all throughout. If that Driver had driven on the Engine as the D. C. suggested, would he not have killed that Wangara man and perhaps be brought up for manslaughter if not wilful murder? so by stopping the train and thereby saving the life of one of God's creatures, he has been committed for assault and breach of duty! A very strange and unjust application of the law; Is this Equity? Another atrociousness in the administration of Justice! Nevertheless he must be excused for he is as ignorant of Law as I am of Medicine—much cannot be expected from a Doctor of medicine who sits in the seat of Justice to impart same. With regards to his reference to the native Drivers' habitual offences to people, Dr. D.C. made a very blundering mistake. What would this D. C. do if he were to be met by train accidentally on the Bridge at "Offinso" road? Passage forward would be impossible, backward, would be awkward; to jump over the bridge 40 ft. above the surface of the stream underneath, would be preposterous. To stand there to let the train pass, would be formidable, would be rushing into the very mouth of hell in either way, death is meant; would it not be humane for these native drivers to stop the train, for say a second, and send off those loitering pedestrians from the Bridge? If even a piece of coal is thrown at them to warn them of impending danger? I think the D. C. would bless his stars to run away with a mere scratch on the skin, rather than to be for ever extinct.

This decision of Abban's case is in my opinion unjust: only a man dead to his senses of rectitude and humanity could impart such injustice; why cannot the Government let these Doctors stick to their pharmaceuticals and leave the Law to the Lawyer in the administration of Justice. This amalgamation and the intermixture of the faculty and the Bar, the former doing the latter's work tend only to the demolition of the Law of the British constitution.

We are British Subjects, and being so should be treated with some consideration.

The administration of Justice should be impartial: in cases like the one in question, negrophobism, and colour prejudice should be done away with; justice must have its course, irrespective of class or creed. One iota from the clauses of the Law should not be

omitted but must be dealt with accordingly. The attention of the Head of the Railway Department and the Head of the administration is called to Abban's case to look into it once more, and bring about his reinstatement if there be any sparkle of Law and Justice left.

Yours faithfully,—JURIOR.

Dunkwa, Dec. 1904.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Can any of your readers inform me whether the following who claim to be West African Merchants are in any way connected? From circular letters and other documents in my possession I am inclined to believe the addresses represent only one House of West African Merchants, trading on a very small scale, the others being mere aliases. The Names and addresses are;

1. Messrs. William Taylor & Co.  
6, Hall Street, Manchester. Liverpool.
2. Messrs. African Supplies & Co.  
6, Hall Street, Manchester.
3. Messrs. Armitstead & Co.  
City Buildings, Old Hall St., Liverpool.

Messrs. W. T. & Co. have been trading in this and other towns in the colony until lately when I suppose through the depression we are all deploring, their position became so shaky that many of their creditors are regretting to-day ever having had any dealings with them.

Simultaneously with this state of affairs sprang up Messrs. African Supplies & Co. of 6 Hall Street, Manchester—the same house as Messrs. W. T. & Co's—inviting business offering agencies and credit to all Messrs. W. T. & Co's clients and in some instances, undertaking to collect amounts owing to these clients by Messrs. W. T. & Co which they can not recover.

The last Company Messrs. Armitstead & Co. appeared on the scene very soon afterwards with similar Circular letters as those of Messrs. A. S. & Co.

From the style of writing &c. there seems to be very little doubt that all these circular letters have emanated from the same fountain head—Messrs. W. T. & Co of 6, Hall street, Manchester, and Liverpool. I understand Messrs. W. T. & Co have appointed a representative in this town. (Perhaps this gentleman can enlighten me in the matter for the information of the public and particularly that of Traders and Importers.

TRADE.

Cape Coast. 13th December 1904.

#### AN OPPORTUNE SUGGESTION

Mr. Editor—A thought struck me, I strike the thought. All about the much talked of Town Councils Ordinance.

Tax all the shops and stores in Town and you get more than £1000 a year. Tax European Houses and Syrians and you get a good sum for it—as License permitting them to trade in the town say £50 per annum.

Make a Wholesale Licenses at £100 per annum and Retail as you are £20 per annum.

But above all for the Council let Kings, Chiefs and Captains be fully represented. By all means get them all in as it used to be with our native constitution and not foreign, of course the D. C., Doctor and Engineer to be let in to watch you. Amen.

QUARIE MENSAN.

20/12/04.

Dear Mr. Editor—I shall feel highly pleased if you or any of the readers of your valuable paper inform me through your columns how the British government acquired the Gold Coast.

Was it by Cession Treaty or Conquest.

AN ANXIOUS ENQUIRER.

Cape Coast, 20th Dec 1904.

[As far as we know, it was neither by cession, treaty or conquest. Ed.]

Dear Sir,—Have no objection that, while recognising your worthy endeavours on behalf of our race and country, I will also disturb the attention of our Authorities, Governmental and Commercial to the station of Winnebah.

This Port has been one of the important centres of trade from the time of the earliest settlers on the Coast, yet I have always noted that, the place is little cared for in every thing beneficial.

My complaint has depended for the most part on the fact of having no fast steamers to call for our various letters and parcels as regularly as it is done in other ports.

Having regard to districts, Winnebah is the metropolis, and has important outstations like Appam, Mumford Nsaba Legas and Breku. All the above mentioned stations send their parcels, letters and orders through, and to the District Post office at, Winnebah, and are always transmitted to Accra and from Accra, by post back to Winnebah. It is to be hoped that the Authorities will not deem the matter to be superfluous in the columns of this valuable Journal but will pay their attention to it. Thanking you heartily for space allowed.

Yours truly,—A YOUNG NATIVE.

17/12/04.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Dec. 15.—Sassonoff murderer Russian Minister de Plehve sentenced to penal servitude (or life, accomplice Sikorski twenty years penal, trial passed off quietly.

Dec. 16.—Togo preparing to take his ships from and before Port Arthur to Japan where those not yet overhauled will be docked and refitted for readiness to meet the Baltic fleet.

Admiral Foelkersahh's section Balticers left Jubtil yesterday evening presumably in the direction of Madagascar.

Officially announced at Tokio that Japanese on the 13th inst. bombarded the Arsenal and Torpedo Depot at Tigerstall at Port Arthur, ships in the vicinity of the depot ablaze for an hour, the buildings were greatly damaged; three ships were destroyed and one being sunk.

Togo reports torpedo boats attacked Sevastopol several times on Monday and Tuesday nights finally and successfully, the attacking craft met with fierce fire, one was disabled and three others were hit; only three casualties sustained.

Ian Hamilton succeeds Evelyn Wood on Southern command New Year but will not be recalled from Japanese army immediately, Charles Knox officiating temporarily. Duke of Connaught as Inspector General of forces makes a tour of inspection on the Mediterranean and Egyptian garrisons during January.

17.—Russian General Kaulbars commanding the third Manchurian army arrived Mukden and assumed his command.

Warrants have been issued at Bow Street Police Court for the arrest of Roche and Sunnet under the Foreign Enlistment Act in connection with the delivery of destroyer Caroline to Russian Navy from Yarrow ship building yard it is believed men present at Paris.

London papers published letter from Kruger which Botha reads at the funeral as political testament; declared that with unity it will be possible to rebuild what overthrown. Kruger's funeral took place at Pretoria on Friday, estimated 2,000 persons attended the funeral service at Suzanna Hall. The route to the cemetery thronged, the cortege stopped outside Dopper Church where Schalk Burger, Generals Botha and Dewet delivered eulogistic speeches.

19.—Telegraph Chirn states Stoessel re-wounded rifle bullet unseriously, wound on the head healing.

Russian cruiser Terek arrived at Dakar.

Stoessel opened negotiations to protect hospitals from bombardment, furnished Nogi map of the hospital positions, Nogi accepted map but stated owing invisibility of the garrison Japanese unable precisely to locate shells.

War Office signed contracts for Modernest horse and field artillery value £2,250,000 distributed at Woolwich, Vicker-Maxim and Armstrong. Understood Secretary for War emphasized the necessity for speedy delivery, hundred and thirty batteries to be delivered within nine months for distribution home and abroad.

Russian party left St. Petersburg for Paris to attend Hull enquiry.

20.—Admiral Berilleff has been appointed to command the third Russian squadron.

Despatches from Stoessel detail terrible assaults Port Arthur between 20th Nov. and 2nd Dec. The General says according to Chinese and prisoners, Japanese lost at least 20,000, he reports the death of General Tcherpenstey.

Three thousand persons mainly male and female students paraded Moscow on Sunday, Governor and police charged the mob with drawn swords and Cossacks with whips 60 wounded and 300 hundred arrested. Standard Moscow correspondent says scores killed rioting renewed till nightfall.

Standard St. Petersburg correspondent says understand that name-day proclamation of the Tsar will announce decision to preserve autocracy intact for the non-simultaneously and vaguely hunting certain reform after the war.

General Sir Wm. Nicholson appointed Governor of Gibraltar in succession to White.

Laurier has given an assurance that Canadian Government will establish Naval, Militia and build squadron beginning with three first class cruisers.

Hull enquiry into North Sea incident re-opened at London to-day claims for damages estimated at 100,000.

Japanese stormed and captured North fort a East Kikwan-shan outside Port Arthur.

21.—Japanese captured five field guns, two machine guns and quantity ammunition of North fort East Kikwan-shan, Russians repeatedly brought up reinforcements but Japanese eventually carried position at the point of bayonet, the whole of the defenders practically exterminated; Japanese casualties apparently not heavy. Japanese seized strong position thousand metres south-east Metre Hill preparatory assaulting new town between Frontshaus and Russian head quarters.

Togo reports still six Russian destroyers intact in Port Arthur.

## WINNEBA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

We are having scarcity of water to the extent that water is sold at 6d. a tin by the Wangaras and Krepis who bring it down from Apobam. We have had all our well filled up with swish on the D.C.'s orders, and that is the result. There is no brackish water even to be had. Thanks to Sanitation!

Mr. E. E. Johnson of the African Association was robbed on the night of the 6th. inst. His boy he had dismissed a week previous has been arrested on suspicion, and the girl in charge of the house that night has been left free. A warrant to search the Boy's father's house found nothing. The boy is in custody awaiting the D.C.'s return from inspection.

Some Accras stole some bags of cocoa bagged to be shipped, and have been caught and sent to the lock-up.

—Lawyer Pearson is in Town.

Mr. Mc Lorian has arrived to relieve Mr. Johnson of the Association.

## THE RIVER VOLTA AND CROBOE DISTRICT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Nothing more than a sober decoration of Messrs. Swanzy's Factory and the flying Union Jack over Griffith Hill marked the KING'S BIRTH DAY at Kpong. People were so busy about other things that the Day seemed to have slid in and out imperceptibly. Even the Wesleyans who made much of that day last year were not heard of. Thus poor Mr. Crabbe's demise was made conspicuous and his friends were reminded of him who made that Day important in his life time. This however does not mean disloyalty in the least; it means that the Public can make no common movement without a Leader. Let us prepare to give the next King's Birth Day a Royal Welcome.

TRADE has been on the revival. Cocoa has had a great share in the bustle and enthusiasm of the middle men who thronged Somanya during the last fortnight of November last. But taking it squarely however the results did not justify the rush and much ado; for the middleman's profit—not reckoning his personal labour—is not more than a six-penny piece on a load of sixty pounds of Cocoa. Even the "Big Guns" fail to make the profits rise as that of last year. On the whole it is only the Former who is directly profited by the Cocoa industry. And it gives us an object lesson that the future prosperity of the native is not by the Pen but by the plough.

Palm oil and Kernels have also come in abundance. It is impossible to over-rate the palm tree. But all along the Gold Coast there is a greater tendency to destroy this God-given means of wealth than either to increase or to preserve it. For palm wine scores of palm trees are felled down each time and it should surprise no one when in the near future this useful tree becomes as rare as the fan-palm and the Bamboo.

In the Bights and elsewhere the palm tree is tapped for the wine and not felled and by that means yield both oil and the wine. What more wise! Unless the Chiefs and Government prohibit the felling and recommend the tapping system the succeeding generation is likely to suffer.

At ADDA the Divisional Court was presided over by His Honour the Acting Chief Justice Mr. Smith. All the Lawyers were present but Lawyer Dove. The Court House was over crowded at each session, and some important cases were disposed of while others transferred to Accra. Some of these Lawyers remained for some civil cases.

The first Bridge from Big Adda is now in a very dangerous condition and calls for immediate attention. The Honor of Adda as well as Mr. O'Brien the Provincial Commissioner are cognizant of that. We trust that they will see to its repair as early as possible; for the creek is deep and at high tide is impassable. "A stitch in time saves nine."

It is fresh in the minds of Readers that the dead body of the late wife of Mr. Eyan alias Soro-nipa was exhumed and stripped of its ornaments.

Now by the exertions of Police Sergeant Madi the culprits have been traced out and secured in custody. One was caught at Pekyi in Crepes and two others at Dodowa where the sacrilege was perpetrated whilst the other escaped to the German Territory.

The Rev. Mr. Bartrop, the General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Society has visited Kpong. He preached a practical Sermon on Sunday at the Wesleyan Chapel to a very crowded audience. His remarks on the extravagance of the rising generations in drees and fineries are timely and worth our attention. In fact, to look grandly and not be able to put threepences into the collection plate is rather unpleasant. Let our young men give ear to his admonitions to give no more occasion for such remarks from a visitor.

Mr. O'Brien is expected here in a short time probably to declare His Excellency's decision on the election of a Chief for the Dom Tribes of E. Croboe.

"The Lawyers and Doctors Opportunity to do good" has interested and edified us not a little. Though we belong not to that class of Professionals we have learned to be in sympathy with them and our minds have been disabused of vice generally connected with the Lawyer's calling. We will no more say that they were those denounced in the Scriptures.

We understand Mr. Arthur Ffoulkes has married and is appointed the D.C. of Cape Coast. Mr. Murphy may not come to the Volta River district from his furlough.

If the Government would put the young magistrates in the large Ousatera Towns to gain experience before they are sent to the interior much harm would be avoided.

Mr. de Vere D.C. has passed to Crepes on inspection and Dr. Papafio has also left on duty to the Akwapim Mountains—probably to Adakron.

The Mohammedans have been celebrating their Annual festivals and enlivened their quarters at

Griffith Hill with plays and dances. They form a third of the population of Kpong and occupy the best of the village.

## THE AGRICULTURE PROBLEM

BY AGYIMANN

(Continued from our last.)

To carry on farming business the principal requisites are Land, Overseer, Labourers and of course Capital and to cover these points I shall say the following:—Let twenty young men club together to carry on a farming enterprise and let each man undertake to pay one pound a month regularly for at the most two years by multiplication this comes to £480. for the two years. As soon as the first payments are made, let them lease a plot of land, this they can get for from £12 to £24. per annum; find an overseer or Curator one that has studied at some botanical garden and start him with £5. or £6. to be increased as the business progresses; get a regular salaried labourer for from £2. to £3 per month; put £2. by every month to entertain the guafu suba or play gang they may ask to work for them and there will be left a least £6. at the end of each month for practical work that is buying in corn poultry &c. the foregoing is but a broad outline of the scheme which can be changed and modified to meet individual cases.

Having satisfied these points the next question is, what branch of farming will best pay. In this, common sense and some knowledge of geography will help materially. Read of Australia and the land of the golden fleece, of Winnepeg, Manitoba and the Great Lake Land, and of our country and its businesses. All along the railway line near the mining camps and around our large towns are places suitable for such work.

The paying branches of agriculture or farming are the cultivation of kola nuts, Coconuts, coffee, Fruit trees, and maize; palm oil and palm kernels, the rearing of cattle and of poultry. Of maize and the two last something more. It has been said that last year our farmers did not work and that but for Lagos a general famine would have set in. Unfortunately I do not share this opinion. Although admitting that Lagos helped us a good deal and complimenting her on having an unbroken backbone I cannot lose sight of the fact that at the season when Lagos corn was imported it was the custom of our farmers to play their little game by making it appear as if there were no corn reducing the cankey balls knowing that we would buy them all the same and they would make more money by it. After all it is not so much imported corn that we want as cheap bread. But granting that it was Lagos alone that saved us from certain famine, Lagos as some of us know is naturally a well-watered place and consequently the farmers do not depend so much upon the rains as we do.

In the rearing of cattle and poultry and planting of maize water is an essential and where there is no natural supply an artificial one should be made, artisan wells should be dug and irrigation works should be established and here is just where scientific training in agriculture comes in. Very often tract of land may appear barren when about only five feet from the surface a vein of fresh water may be flowing and it is for the man with the shovel training to find this and bring it forth to the service of man. Our boys sometimes travel in order to have the chance of attending school and our people will travel to the Government botanical stations and other model farms to study if they find they will get good pay for it. After all the best encouragement to work is appreciation of services.

And now a word or two in conclusion: we all approve of the agriculture project and would like if we could do something with it and not let it slip away unheeded. Let our elders especially the Aborigines Society take this matter up, let each one form a club with some nineteen young men besides himself. It may travel among his aunt and relative or it may include other peoples orphans. Ten or twelve such clubs would work wonders in our midst let them all work with a determined purpose to overcome all obstacles and to succeed knowing that in doing this they are conferring a lasting benefit on their people, their country and their generation. Let us hear often of such clubs and of actual work begun.

## ADVICE TO AN INDIVIDUAL'S INTEREST.

(BY A SCOTCHMAN.)

Whether a man shall be made or married by marriage greatly depends upon the choice he makes of a wife—Nothing is better than a good woman, nor anything worse than a bad woman. The idea of the great electrician's marrying was first suggested by an illustrious friend who made the point that he needed a mistress to preside over his large house, which was being managed by a house-keeper and several servants. Although a very shy man, he seemed pleased with the proposition, and timidly inquired whom he should marry. The friend somewhat toally replied, Any one that a man who had so little sentiment in his soul as to ask

such a question ought to be satisfied with anything that wore a petticoat and was decent. Woe to the man who follows such careless advice as this, and marries "any one," for what was said by the fox to the sick lion might be said with equal truth to the god of marriage: "I noticed that there are many prints of feet entering your cave, but I see no trace of any returning." Before taking the irrevocable step choose well, for your choice though brief is yet endless. And first we make the obvious suggestion that it is useless to seek perfection in a wife, even though you may fancy yourself capable of giving an adequate return as did the author of the following advertisement:—*Wanted by a young Gentleman just beginning House keeping, a lady between eighteen and five and twenty years of age, with a good education, sound mind and limb, five feet four inches without a shoe; not fat, nor yet too lean; no pride affection; not very talkative, nor one that is deemed a scold; but of a spirit to resent an affront; of a charitable disposition &c. that will entertain her husband's friends with affability and cheerfulness and prefer his company to public diversions and gadding about; one who can keep his secrets, that he may open his heart to her without reserve on all occasions; that can extend domestic expenses with economy as prosperity advances, without ostentation; and retrench them with cheerfulness, if occasion should require. Any Lady disposed to matrimony, answered this description is desired to direct for Y. Z. Young Moore's Head Office.*

N. B. The Gentleman can make adequate return, and is in every respect, deserving a Lady with the above qualifications.

This reminds us of the old lady who told her steward she wished him to attend a neighbouring fair in order to buy her a Cow. She explained to him that it must be young, well-bred, fine in the skin, a strawberry in colour straight in back and not given to breaking through fences when it smelt clove on the other side; above all, it was not to cost more than ten pounds. The steward who was a Scotch man and a privileged old servant bowed his head and replied reverently "Then, my lady, I think ye had better kneel down and pray for her, for ye'll get her nae other way I'm thinkin'."

While the possession of a little money is by no means a drawback, those do not well consult their happiness who marry for money alone.

"In many a marriage made for gold,  
The bride is bought,  
And the bridegroom is sold."

Though cupid is said to be blind, he is a better guide than the rules of arithmetic. We have false ideas of happiness. What will make me happy and contented? Oh if I were rich, I should be happy! A gentleman who enjoying the hospitalities of the great millionaire and king of finance, Rothschild, as he looked at the superb appointments of the mansion said to his host, "You must be a happy man!" "Happy!" said he, "happy!" I, happy, happy? "Aye happy!" "Let us change the subject" why, said he, would you take care of my property for your beard and clothes? That's all I get for it." In taking a dowry with a wife thou loest thy liberty, says an old writer: she will ride upon thee, domineer as she list, wear the breeches in her oligarchical government and beggar thee besides. In short, is it wise to marry for beauty alone; as over the finest landscape, seen daily, becomes monotonous, so does the most beautiful face, unless a beautiful nature shine through it. The beauty of to day becomes common place to-morrow; Whereas goodness displayed through the most ordinary features, is perennially lovely. Moreover this kind of beauty improves with age, time ripens rather than destroys it. No man is so much to be pitied as the husband of a professional beauty." Yet beauty, when it betokens health, or when it is the outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace is valuable, and has a great power of winning affection. Above all things do not marry a fool who will shame you and reveal your secrets. For ourselves do not believe the first part at least of the Great Archbishop's definition of women; "A creature that does not reason, and that pokes the fire from the top." The wife who does not and cannot make use of reason to overcome the daily difficulties of domestic life, and who can in no sense be called the companion of her husband, is a mate who hinders rather than helps. Sooner or later a household must fall into the hands of its women, and sink or swim according to their capacities.

It is hard enough for a man to be married to a bad woman; but for a man who marries a foolish woman there is no hope.

It would be impossible even to allude to every point of character that should be observed in choosing a wife. Frugality or the power to abstain from unnecessary expenditure is very important so is punctuality. As to good temper, it is a most difficult thing to ascertain before hand; smiles are so easily put on for the lovers' sake. We know the old proverb: Why are ladies like balls? Because you never know what metal they are made of until you ring them. An ingenuous girl thus alluded to the change that is frequently perceptible after marriage—"Your future husband seems very exacting he has been stipulating for all sorts of things" said her mother to her, "Never mind, Mammy" said the affectionate girl who was ready dressed for the wedding—these are his last wishes."

There is however, one way of roughly guessing the qualifications of a girl for the most responsible position of a wife—Find out the character of her mother and whether the daughter has been a good one and a good sister. Let us add the famous advice given by Lord Brough to his son: "When it shall please God" said he, "do bring thee to men's estate, use great Providence and circumspection in choosing thy wife, for from thence will spring all thy future good or evil—And it is an action of thy life, like unto a stratagem of war wherein a man can err but once." Inquire diligently of her disposition, and how her parents have been inclined in their youth—Let her be poor, how

generous (well-born) sover; for a man can buy nothing in the market with gentility—Nor choose a base and uncomely creature altogether for wealth, for it will cause contempt in others, and loathing in thee.—Neither make choice of a dwarf or a fool for by the one thou shalt begot a race of pigmies, while the other will be thy continual disgrace, and it will tick thee to hear her talk. For thou shalt find it to thy great grief that there is nothing more fulsome than a sho-fool. To the old question, who can find? It may too often be replied who seeks "a virtuous woman?" Is she wealthy? Is she pretty? Is she talented? Are questions, ask more frequently than is she good, sensible, industrious, affectionate? And yet that man takes to himself one of the bitterest of earth's curses who marries carelessly instead of seeking with all diligence for those qualities in wife that are the foundation of lasting happiness. One reason for this carelessness about the character of a wife may be found in the prevailing opinion that there is little or no room for choice in matters matrimonial. Sir John (father of the chancellor, Sir Thomas) was often heard to say, I would compare the multitude of women which are to be chosen for wives into a bag full of snakes, having among them a single eel. Now, if a man should put his hand into this bag, he may chance to light on the eel; but it is a hundred to one he shall be stung by a snake. The son of Sirach says that he would rather dwell with a lion and a dragon than to keep house with a wicked woman. "He that hath hold of her is as though he held a scorpion. A loud crying woman and a scold shall be sought out to drive away the enemies." On the other hand, the grace of a wife delighteth her husband, and discretion will fatten his bones. A silent and loving woman is a gift of the Lord; and there is nothing so much worth as a mind well instructed. Thanks to the Wesleyan, Methodist Church Cape Coast, for having wisely brought out Sisters Annie McVicker and Ethel Worthington to the Coast for the purpose of training our young girls; Gentlemen send your daughters to them without fail.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE GOLD COAST COLONY,—CENTRAL PROVINCE. Before His Honour Mr. Justice A. R. Pennington. 14: 12: 1903. Wednesday 14th December 1904. *Edufiah v. Aaku.*

Claim £50 damages for false imprisonment and the unlawful arrest of plaintiff at the instance of Defendant about the month of June 1904 at Cape Coast.

Renner for the Plaintiff.  
Savage for the Defendant.

I find that there was reasonable and probable cause for the Defendant's action.

Judgment for the Defendant who waives his right to costs against the Plaintiff.

(Intid.)—A. R. P. J.

Certified true copy.

Frank Varden.—Registrar.

DISTRICT SESSION.

I. O. G. T.

The quarterly session of the Gold Coast District Lodge under the Grand Lodge of England was held at Wesley Schoolroom Elmina on Saturday the 19th November at 7 p. m. precisely. The D. C. T. Bro. W. Z. Coker presided. Most of the officers were present and Lodges fairly represented. The D. C. T. reported progress in several Lodges and gave a brief review of work done during the quarter and urged upon the members to do all that lay in their power for the advancement of the Order.

Bro. A. M. Wright D. S. J. T. read an interesting report on the Juvenile Branch which showed a satisfactory increase during the quarter.

Owing to the continued ill-health of Bro. Swanzy D. Sec. no report was received from him. The D. Treasurer Bro. J. L. Minnow was also absent owing to ill-health and detention in Hospital.

The Credential Committee reported 10 members for enrolment and 20 for initiation.

After initiation the session was adjourned for fifteen minutes to enable the members to become acquainted with each other. On re-opening Bro. J. J. Kuoh moved that the Session should work in the Sub-Lodge Degree to admit members in possession of current quarterly passwords.

The subject of the proposed D. Lodge Bazaar in connection with the annual session in February was discussed and the Executive were instructed to make necessary arrangements.

It was resolved that a letter of condolence be sent to Sister Anna Leighton D. P. M. for the loss of her husband.

Several communications from the G. C. T. and G. Sec. were read. There were some discussions about the wearing of badges not recognized by our organization. Bro. Kuoh suggested that the matter be dropped.

A fine collation was served by the reception committee in a manner that gave much satisfaction to those present.

A most enjoyable Session was brought to a close at 12.45 a. m. after the singing of our solemn closing Ode "God be with you till we meet again."

Members present about 100.

On Sunday the 30th. (Temperance Sunday) the

members (Adult and Juvenile) attended Church Parade at Wesley Chapel. Bro. Rev. Acquash an Ancient Templar delivered an able address which was much appreciated by the audience.

There was an open air meeting in the afternoon at Bantama. Addresses were given by Bro. H. R. Blankson Sen. H. D. and Sister (Mrs. da Costa).

Annual District Lodge Session will be held at Cape Coast on Saturday the 18th. February 1905 at 7 p. m.

FREE GARDENERS (SALT POND.) VICTORIA LODGE NO. 1789.

A special meeting of the above Lodge was held at the "Free Gardeners" Hall, on Saturday night 26th November for the purpose of initiating a candidate Mr. John William Lazarus; Bro. J. E. Hansen the Master occupied the chair, supported by Bro. A. R. M. Korsah, D.M.

After initiation, Brother Hansen introduced Bro. Lazarus to the members; the night having been far spent, on closing the meeting at 11.30 p.m. the Secretary was instructed to issue summonses the following day inviting the members to meet at 2-30 p.m. on Sunday, to partake of some refreshment after dispersing from the Lodge Room. Bro. Lazarus invited all the members to his residence where he regaled them with some refreshment.

On Sunday afternoon, the 27th, all the Officers and members of the Lodge with some friends assembled at the Lodge Room and sat to some refreshment. In honour of the new Brother, J. W. Lazarus, and also to Bro. Dadson to bid him farewell on being transferred to Sekondi as Treasury clerk.

Brother Hansen in his opening speech heartily congratulated Bro. Lazarus on the very wise steps he had taken in joining the Order and that he fully hoped he would see the needfulness of promoting the welfare of the Order, and that he would prove himself a faithful and hardworking member. He further asked the Brethren before resuming his seat to join him to drink the health of Brother Dadson.

After some short and very impressive addresses from some of the members, based mainly on the prosperity of the Order, the meeting was brought to a close at 7 p.m. from whence the members proceeded to the Wesleyan Chapel.—(Communicated.)

SCOTS MARRIAGE LAW.

The hearing of the case in which George Whitehead sought to prove that he is the lawful son of George Whitehead and Emilie Gordon Whitehead was concluded yesterday by Sir Francis Jeune. Upon his success depended his title to £18,000.

Sir Francis Jeune, in given Judgment, said that the question whether a Scots irregular marriage was valid or not depended upon the intention of the parties. In this case the evidence appeared to be overwhelming that both parties intended to contract a valid marriage when they signed the documents on August 1, 1879.

In the event his lordship made a declaration to the effect that the petitioner was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead, who were lawfully married on August 1, 1879.

Thus George Whitehead has successfully established that he is the lawful son of his parents who went through a form of irregular marriage in Edinburgh in 1879. The marriage took place in a private house, and was evidenced by the fact that the petitioner's parents both signed a document written out by the petitioner's father, in which they both declared their consent to be husband and wife.—*Daily Mail Overseas Edition.*

Dear Editor,—May I beg you for a short space in your widely read paper to ask through you from the Winnabah Town Association the object of the disposal of the River Ayensu which appeared in your issue of November 26th and also that of the written notice to Madam Essie Assuminiwah likewise appearing in the issue of December 2nd objecting to her purchasing a piece of land from the stool under the initials of the above Association or gentlemen whom I value to be of a high class in civil matters &c. &c.

- (1) Did Omanhan Acquash give this River Ayensu to the Plaintiff at Cape Coast as Security?
- (2) Is this River a property for the stool?
- (3) Can it be said that this matter between Mr. G. A. Robertson now known as Omanhan of Winnabah and Madam Amba Sika concerns the property?
- (4) Did Madam Amba Sika seize the whole River or part of it?
- (5) What caused the Winnabah people to purchase the River when it is known to be a treasure for the stool?
- (6) Is this a matter against the Winnabah stool or against the occupant of the same personally?

We must not allow other Towns to call us fools and brand us with "Inkonkonash na-adabraba."

We must see that matters are fairly settled barring any attitude which may point folly and disgrace to us a people.

Yours truly,—FRKP.

Axim, 9th December 1904

# The Gold Coast Leader.

VOL. III.  
No. 132

CAPE COAST, WEST AFRICA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1904.

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## THE GOLD COAST LEADER.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS.

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## NOTICE.

I the undersigned hereby give the public Notice that I own all that piece or parcel of land situate at Freetown Road which was once the property of the late Aggrey Fynn alias Quow Agill and bounded on one side by the Merry-go-Round, (Miss Ferguson's land) on one side by Freetown Road on one side by Kofi Amerehia's property on one side by property unknown. Which said piece or parcel of land was bought by my late brother Quacoe Duab the papers of which land are now in my possession and that any person or persons trespassing on the said property or any part or parts thereof will be dealt with according to Law.

JAMES COBBINA.

Kumasi, 1st December 1904.

## KROPP RAZORS

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IN TINS WITH PATENT OPENERS.  
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## GENERAL NEWS.

The *West African Mail* announces the death of Mr. Bridges after a painful sickness. Mr. Bridges was well known in the Missing world out here.

The Annual Athletic Sports of the "City Club" passed off with the usual success and large attendance last Monday.

There is a new cricket Club formed which practises regularly at Kotokrabah, known as the "West End Club" with Dr. Hayford at its head.

There have been no end of Ball parties this week.

The Singing Band went out to Abruonko for a picnic on the Boxing day, and so did the Volunteers, Lieutenant Russell C.M.G. entertaining them.

PRO BONO PUBLICO. (AXIM) The names you refer to, please.

Mr. Louis Solomon of Lionel Hart & Co. is in town.

Last Wednesday witnessed a very grand and successful Bazaar with a Christmas Tree by the Cape Coast Reading Club at the D. C's Court. Some minutes after 5 p.m. the President introduced Mrs. Ffoulkes who had kindly consented to be present, to the gathering and who in a neat short speech declared the Bazaar open. We seem likely to have another lady among us who takes interest in the People. Every body seemed pleased with her.

The stalls were kept by Mesdames C. J. Bannerman, Coker, Sackey and Geo. Amisah assisted by some members of the Ladies Club. The attendance was very large, and the Cape Coast Brass Band was in attendance while some members of the Club gave songs and recitations at intervals. Mr. Barbour James and his committee are to be congratulated for such a successful Bazaar, which is of course their first attempt.

The installation meeting and St. John's Festival in connection with the Gold Coast Lodge No 773 took place on Tuesday the 27th inst at its Lodge room, Kwabaku House, the seating capacity of which was taxed to the utmost to accommodate the Lodge assembly which forgathered to do honour to the W. M. elect Bro. J. A. Britton. The installation ceremony was most impressively performed by Bro T. P. E. Jones I. P. M. assisted Worshipful Bro. Carr, Bannerman, Renner and Whar on and subsequently the officers for the year were duly invested by the W. M. the principal officers were Worshipful Bro. Charles Wharston, S. W. and Bro. Bannerman Martin J. W. and Bro. Esuman Gwira was appointed the Secretary. Bro. J. E. Dadson was passed.

The banquet in the refreshment room was served in true masonic fashion, and space forbids our giving the interesting menu, "then came the stirring cup." The loyal toasts usually observed were eloquently submitted by Worshipful Bro T. A. Carr and needless to add, were cordially received. Other toasts followed, a very pleasant time was passed and the Brethren dispersed to assemble again the next day for breakfast. Success to the Gold Coast Lodge!

### AXIM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

The dedication of the Assisra Church came on on Sunday last the 18th inst. It was successful notwithstanding the fewness of those who attended from this place. There being no stationed Mis-

sionary Agent the Local Preachers from Axim are to preach there on Sundays in succession.

Mr Justice Percoll, Barristers Hayford, Ribeiro and Addo have left for the Sekondi Assizes.

### DIXCOVE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The Wesleyan Chapel here under Rev. E. Butler has been undergoing repairs, and is nearing completion.

Our esteemed District Commissioner Mr. Thompson having been relieved by Mr J. L. Minnow, proceeded to his new sphere of labour this week via Sekondi.

Although we have nothing in the shape of a souvenir for Mr. Thompson, great credit is due him for the able way he discharged his duties during the long term of his appointment in this District:—he has been remarkably impartial, just and sympathetic, and as such we deeply regret his removal—though it is coupled with promotion.

The chief representatives of the "Combined" Houses of Messrs Millers and Swanzy's arrived here on inspection by the S S Emina on the 13th inst; and left here for Sekondi on Monday the 19th inst.

The Band of Mercy in this town did a great honour to their cause by burying with land and life a Bassa kroo boy who had been ailing for some time under their custody, on Saturday the 7th inst—under the joint leadership of Messrs J. S. Anah, and J. R. Abborh.

### SEKUNDI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

#### THE ARRIVAL OF BISHOP KLAUS.

On the information reaching here that the ceremonies in connection with the dedication of the new Catholic Church will be performed by Bishop Klaus and two fathers, the Society spared no effort to arrange for the reception of His Lordship and the Rev. Fathers on a grand scale. The Emina Amagies were engaged through the Catholic Truth Society at Emina specially for the occasion, whose visit was very enjoyable. With the roar of the gun from Fort Orange signalling the approach of the "Nigeria" last Wednesday morning, a long procession already formed and composed of the Society started from Accra Town to the Landing stage. Fathers Oge and Reinhart accompanied the Bishop, and as soon as they landed on the beach, they were greeted with the rendering of the National Anthem by the Amagic Band. After this His Lordship between the Fathers joined the procession in the centre, and with the Band leading marched to town. In front of the Machinery Company's quarters where an arch with the flag bearing the words—"Hearty greetings to His Lordship" was awaiting the procession halted, and at a signal given by the Bishop, the whole members of the Society present made a solemn obsequence and sang the Responsories with affective harmony. His Lordship and the Fathers took lodgings at the Machinery Company's quarters, but the procession continued its way to the Church yard where it disbanded.

#### DEDICATION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The unusually large concourse of people from Adjash, Chama, Emina and other places which flocked hither will bear evidence that nearly all concerned were deeply interested and had made a regular enjoyable time of it. One thing however which put the solemnity of the occasion under "lock" was the absence of band or local instruments to accompany the rendering of Anthems &c that

have been previously specially arranged. In spite of their efforts to make the occasion grand, the Amagias however were not permitted to do their last duty. Facts prove that the stumbling-block was invented by a certain officer among the Society, whose reasons for so doing as alleged, is, that the Bandmen were few minutes late in taking part of the procession with the Bishop to the chapel. The dedication began at 9. a. m. with His Lordship leading and blessing as they go, the building was thrice circum-perambulated. The room was overcrowded to the hilt and as the service was performed within an hour, no uneasiness was experienced. On the whole, the occasion was grand.

His Lordship and Fathers Oge and Reinhart left for Chama the next day. It is believed that arrangements have been effected for the stay of one of the Fathers there.

#### RAILWAY.

Ice is now being manufactured by the Railway people; several blocks have since come out from the new machines for the hospital and the European Officials. We have had the pleasure of inspecting a sample of the ice and think that very little is required to bring the quality to the proximity of goodness.

Failing to organise an effective arrangement with the Ticket Collectors or Inspectors travelling at intervals from Sekondi to Kumasi by the train in respect of the limit of the power these officials and their duties, the authorities have demoralised the law governing the railway. The "Lagos Standard" does not understand why the Gold Coastians are highly favoured in the service of the Nigeria Government. I should also ask why Lagosians and Sierra Leoneans are favourites in the service of the Gold Coast Railway? No pains have been spared by our Railway Government in placing all lucrative or remunerative appointments at the disposal of Lagosians and Sierra Leoneans. In the various capacities they are engaged, our friends have taken such a high rate advantage over the resources of the railway—and which advantage has been a tendency to the perpetration of crimes exciting public feelings to a very great extent. Roguery and bribery still prevail in the Goods Sheds both at Sekondi and Ashiemo, and the fact that the work is entrusted to foreign clerks, there is no anticipation for any reform of things. Of late, fines have been invariably inflicted on certain persons for smoking while travelling in trains. My special observer who travelled from Sekondi to Kumasi on the 9th. instant positively asserts that the Ticket Inspector ignored the law by smoking to his heart's content offering cigars to a constable with him who also smoked because he was quite off the clutches of the Law. When questioned Mr. Hamilton said that prohibition of smoking does not apply to Railway officers especially Ticket Collectors. By the train of the 16th. instant I have been further informed that two women (the wives of some stationmasters) travelled to Sekondi without tickets. Is it not in my place to question the possibility of a Gold Coast man daring to exhibit a striking indulgence in the commission of such offences in either the service of Lagos or Sierra Leone Railway?

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

Last week, by some mishap, the Governor's reply to the letter from the Aborigines Society, dealing with the status of the Omaniin with regards to the Town Councils Ordinance did not reach our office for publication, and our remarks thereon had to appear without it. We publish it to-day, and for our readers to follow us in what we said, we re-publish this week also those remarks.

We shall hail the day with much gladness on which it will be made known, that those in whose hands the appointments of the officials for this Country are entrusted have made it a *sine qua non* for all their candidates, to be acquainted with its history: particularly must it be so with those intended to be District Commissioners and legal advisers for the administration. Such knowledge will greatly help the latter in the framing of the Ordinances a good many of which reveal the painful fact that these officials are altogether ignorant of the history of the Country and the People, and even of official documents in connection with this Protectorate, hence all the "misery and woe" we seem destined to be victims of. It must be so when favouritism and not qualification for the posts, is the order of the day.

Ordinances are passed which are diametrically opposed to all the manners, laws and customs of the People, and this tends only to make us the "croakers" we are made out to be, and which in some quarters seeks to give a name

to West African Journalism. But is this fair when it is remembered, that even to-day in more enlightened places, complaints are made when unjust and unfair measures are passed? Or it is to be, that in the Colonies or Protectorates the People are to submit to anything, without a dissentient voice no matter what? Can this be a right, and just principal to guide the administration of these Colonies, "even the smaller ones"?

Ought it not to be the aim of the administrators of the Colonies—be they acquired by cession treaty or conquest and more so if it happened to be by none of these—to make the people loyal to the British Throne by their just and equable rule, making them love, admire and respect same, instead of forcing them to dislike, execrate, and despise the far-famed British Justice? On several occasions West Africa has shown her preference for British Rule to that of any other European Power, and of this there seems to be no doubt, but it seems that John Bull has always been more or less unfortunate in those he sends out to represent him in this part of the World, particularly does it seem to be so with those who hold less important posts in his name, who often strike us to be of the "Jingo" class of our Empire.

Therefore it is, that when we light on one who promises to show to some advantage the good parts of John Bull, we say what is in us, often not waiting for affairs to be fully ripened, say it and at times, say it a little too much. Will it be too much—too soon, for us to say, the present administration, seems to be that of one of those whom John Bull may entrust with his Colonies or Dependencies? It may be, but coming events cast their shadows before them. And we watch the development of these events.

Wanted—or rather needed—a looking into the policy of a Crown Colony: a careful selection of officials for the Colonies, particularly those known as the smaller ones: a word to the permanent Secretaries at Downing Street to think less of self, favourites and "protégés," and more of the People to whom these officials are sent, and of the interest of the Empire, ever keeping in mind that AFTER ALL, "the only people fit to judge of internal affairs in any country whatever are the people who inhabit it: "this is the conviction of all who have had some experience in "these Colonies, even the smaller ones," a conviction which the "People at home" may never experience and therefore "in dealing with Crown Colonies" these "are apt, on the whole, to take a very narrow \* \* \* view indeed, deliberately or unconsciously."

It is really amusing to read that the Town Councils Ordinance is to relieve the Amanhin of certain municipal and sanitary duties for the performance of which they would otherwise be responsible. To say so, strikes us to be nothing but a poor attempt to wriggle out of a difficulty: but more of this anon. In the meantime we may express the hope that the difficulties of the Ordinance should be fairly met and cleared off, for the peace and quietness of the Country.

We have been having concerts, for the past two weeks, all very successful and most entertaining, the only thing to be regretted about them, and which one often notices at such meetings is the hideous and most unbecoming noise and disturbance which some unprincipled, and bad-mannered young people usually indulge in much to the annoyance of a good many who go there to enjoy the evening. The Managers of these Concerts should find some ways and means to keep out such rowdies. They may let the tickets or the money for such would-be "scholars" be given back to them and asked to leave the room by the Conductors. Clapping or the crying for an encore may be permissible where a performer has rendered his piece satisfactorily, but the sort of noise that goes on, as those who have been attending the recent concerts might have witnessed reflects very badly on us, and any decent intelligent and gentlemanly young person should be ashamed of such things.

What has become of the proposal for the return match between Lagos and Gold Coast?

What can "Captain" Dove tell us about it? Given up or a hitch somewhere.

To-day we stand on the last rung of the year one thousand, nine hundred and four-ladder. To-morrow will be New Year's Day!

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to ALL our Readers, at home and abroad. A day to set one a thinking and to reflect!

#### A WORD TO OUR READERS.

We wish each and all of you, a bright, prosperous, and happy New Year, the hardness of the times notwithstanding. You have greatly encouraged us and to a great extent strengthened our hands by the way you have welcomed the "Leader" at your "hearth" and we trust you will continue to do so. There is a saying, "different heads, different minds," and it is only possible that you may have had an occasion to differ from us in certain things said, but we can assure you nothing but "Duty," prompted us to say that, and no offence was intended or meant, so let us begin the New Year tomorrow with a clean slate. Now, give us a hearty grip. Done!

Our Contributors and Correspondents will continue to write on the topics of the day, still keeping clear from personalities, none feeling disappointed in not seeing himself in print. Let the Editor exercise his discretionary powers, and where any such may be discovered, let him who makes the discovery, write: we shall thank him. Let us all LIVE for our People and Country, and may we ever be found loyal to our Sovereign no matter what the servants of this Sovereign among us, may knowingly or unknowingly do to us. Know your rights and stick to them, and stick to them constitutionally.

Two days ago a suggestion was made to us by one of you. We take it up and recommend it to you all. It is this, that each of you, to show your appreciation of the *Leader* in a practical manner, between now and next March, contribute sixpence towards the up-keep of the Press by way of donation (more of course, if you are inclined to.) At the end of that month, the list of those who may be disposed to do so, will be published. Let us see how you will respond to this, the hardness of the Times notwithstanding. Our Printers still work cheerfully and the Editor and the Manager will continue to give you their services free.

To-morrow we welcome the New Year! May we remind you that "there are great changes in the world: great changes: and we can't do better than prepare ourselves to be surprised at hardly anything." Once more we say to you,

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

#### 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, DECEMBER 31, 1904.

#### OMANHIN AND TOWN COUNCIL.

His Excellency is advised that the effect of the Town Councils Ordinance is to relieve Omaniin concerned of certain municipal and Sanitary duties for the performances of which he would otherwise be responsible. This appears in the reply to the letter which the Gold Coast Aborigines Rights Protection Society recently sent to Accra. For the information of the public we publish to-day the whole letter, and the public can draw their own conclusion. We say however it is a very satisfactory letter, but when one considers what we have above referred to, he cannot help questioning the soundness of the opinion which the Governor's legal Advisers have so given. The law says and that very clearly that the Town council may from time to time make rules (a) imposing on occupiers of houses the duty of removing soil, ashes or refuse of any kind; (b) for the prevention of keeping animals on any premises so as to be a nuisance; and (c) imposing on chiefs, captains and inhabitants of any town the duty of cleaning and keeping clear the open spaces within or around or adjacent to such towns or any of them from weeds, grass prickly pear, wild bush and other vegetation and from rubbish and deposits of any kind, the penalty in case of default is ten shillings

her passengers and crew.

But a passing ship has observed the signal of distress of this one survivor, who lies helpless, by the lashed tiller, amidst the contorted corpses of his late comrades; and on boarding the doomed vessel, they find that she is but a floating chamber of death, a helpless derelict.

And what heart-searchings must there have been amongst that assemblage of doomed creatures as they saw their fellows one after the other struck down at their side, and knew that momentarily their turn too would probably come, and that perhaps in a few short hours their spirits would either be in the glory land or in the realms of bitter remorse. And how would those rejoice who had served their God, and whose sins had been forgiven through faith in Him who had died for them, and by virtue of whose atonement they were inheritors of a mansion in the skies. For they knew that to them the gates of death were but the entrance to the glory.

### THE SCHOOLMASTER.

The question has often been broached whether it is compatible with the calling of a Christian teacher to acquaint his pupils with the ancient heathen classics. To this question of course there can be but one answer with reference to such portions of the ancient classical literature as relate the filthy stories of that mythology, or contain the sensual outpourings of a defiled imagination. Nor can I see how a teacher can be said to conduct his class in a Christian spirit, if, as was mostly the case in the last century, and is still the case in many of our upper schools, he devotes such an undue portion of the time to reading the classics, that it seems as though he expected no good for his pupils except from Athens and Rome. But, on the other hand it must be admitted that when a teacher shows that he highly appreciates the unparalleled treasures which the ancient classical literature contains for enriching the mind and assisting to a correct method of thinking, and of speaking, for refining the taste and developing the purely human in man, he manifests nothing directly opposed to the Christian spirit and principle. Moreover, nothing is gained and much is often lost by trying to keep young people ignorant of a literature with which they are certain to become more or less acquainted after leaving school.

A great boon will, on the contrary be bestowed upon them if their teacher, the torch of the Gospel in his hand, goes ahead of them as their guide amidst those monuments and ruins of the old world, and shows them how a Christian can read the classics, and value, enjoy, and improve all their beauties and riches. It is true that the heathen classics, even the best of them because proclaiming every kind of truth except Him who is the Truth, and because exhibiting every sort of beauty except the beauty of holiness, contain elements which are hostile to the promotion of a Christian state of mind. The cultivation of a human, apart from Christ, cannot but lead towards the defilement of the creature. A teacher, who is not a Christian will permit and even encourage his pupils to breathe freely in that idolatrous atmosphere, since he himself believes in the possibility of the human being carried to perfection with the aid of Christ. A Christian teacher, on the contrary, will avail himself even of the materialistic and pantheistic tendency of the classics, to make his pupils observe and feel the utter hopelessness and helplessness of heathendom in the midst of all its excellencies. He will not anxiously try to keep his pupils ignorant of that heathen spirit, but on the contrary, will impel them to look it boldly in the face because he knows that that same spirit is still the great foe of Christianity, lying as it does at the bottom of all the evils, both of infidelity and superstition, which threaten to ruin the Church of Christ. A teacher who is not a Christian will lead his pupils to admire the poetry of Homer and Virgil, the eloquence of

### NOTICE.

The undersigned has been instructed to sell by public auction On Thursday the 5th January 1905 at 4.30 o'clock, p.m. the following:

All that piece or parcel of land situate in Eguashadu, Mankessin Road, Saltpond, with the building thereon and measuring 125 feet by 61 feet square and bounded on the North by Quamin Egnin's land, on the South by Main Street leading to Mankessin, on the East by Ellis' house, and on the West by Amo's house, known as the property of King Appiah Ornam and now put up for sale at the instance of Messrs The German West African Trading Co. Ltd. as per Mortgage deed dated 25th September 1902.

Terms or conditions of sale will be read at the time and place and for further particulars apply to the undersigned.

Terms—Cash.

T. McKENZIE BRUES.

Licensed Auctioneer &c.

Cape Coast, Dec 28th 1904.

Demosthenes and Cicero, the historical skill of Thucydides and Livius, the wisdom of Socrates and the deep thought of Plato. Here he will stop and entering into no comparison of these productions with what has been accomplished by the divinely-human, he will leave his pupils under impression of what a sublime, wonderful being man is, and what he may not attain to if he should continue in this way to develop his wondrous powers and talents. The Christian teacher, on the contrary, will not stop there nor allow his pupils to be led astray by such one-sided views. He, too will admire and value all that is truly valuable in the classics. In this respect, he will not keep one step behind his infidel-colleague, nor will he for one moment join those fanatic fathers of the Church who in a spirit of true Vandalism threw all the productions of the classical world overboard as machinations of the devil. But after having done full justice to all that is true, and honest, and pure, and lovely in the classics, he will place that so fascinating classical world in juxtaposition with Christ the God-man, and allowing the light of his gospel to shine upon it he will cause his pupils to see its helpless poverty, its hopeless misery, when compared with Him who caused the fountains of God's atoning and sanctifying love to burst forth upon the world by rising from the grave, and bringing life and immortality to light having raised humanity to the highest height a being can occupy in the universe—ever to sit on the throne of everlasting glory at God's right hand. Teachers who work in such a spirit as this are real blessings to the human race. Where there is an evil in church or state it is they who can take that evil by the root, for the children are the root of our generation. Let us zealously pray that God may increase the number of well-instructed Christian schoolmasters in our country. We shall be sure to raise a powerful barrier against an enemy whom no navy, though clad with iron, and no army, though armed with breechloaders, will be able to resist.

The Ed

### FANTI PUBLIC SCHOOLS, LIMITED.

Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1931, as a Company limited by Shares.

CAPITAL - £7,500.

Divided into 15,000 Shares of 10s. each, of which 10,000 are now offered for subscription (5,000 Shares being reserved for future issue).

Payable 1s. on Application, 2s. on Allotment, and the balance in calls, not exceeding 2s. 6d. each as and when required, at intervals of not less than two months.

Applications for about 7,000 Shares have already been received from natives of the Gold Coast.

#### DIRECTORS.

WILLIAM EDWARD SAM (Mining Agent), Cape Coast Castle, Gold Coast West Africa.

RICHARD ACQUAH HARRISON (Senior Chief and Merchant), Commercial Road, Cape Coast Castle, Gold Coast, West Africa.

JOSEPH EDWARD BINEY (Merchant), Saltpond Road, Cape Coast Castle, Gold Coast, West Africa (Managing).

#### BANKERS.

BANK OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA, LIMITED Cape Coast Castle, West Africa.

#### SOLICITORS.

ASHURST, MORRIS, CRISP & Co., 17, Throgmorton Avenue, London, E.C.

#### AUDITOR.

JOSHUA A. MILLS, Amissa Akyr, Cape Coast Castle, SECRETARY and REGISTERED OFFICES.

H. RIDLEY, 47, Princess Street, Ipswich, Suffolk.

#### LOCAL SECRETARY.

DANIEL MYLES ABADOO, Cape Coast Castle.

#### PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed to second the efforts of the Fanti Education Trust by the promotion of Colleges, Schools, &c., for and the training of, teachers and schoolmasters for the Trust Schools, whenever established, and to meet the growing demand for better schools by promoting and providing for the youth of the Gold Coast, at moderate cost, Schools, Institutions and other facilities for giving a sound and liberal education, in which, besides imparting a thorough English education, the Fanti language and usages, with the geography of the Gold Coast, will be carefully taught. Due prominence also will be given to industrial training in agricultural and other useful trades, so that every student, whatever may be his or her future profession or calling, may not be unacquainted with some manual labour in workshop or field. Mindful, moreover, that the great Gladstone once said, "Unhappy are the people who cut themselves off from their past," no pains will be spared to teach the students the general and constitutional history of the land of their birth.

The Directors will do their utmost to open the first school for boys at Cape Coast Castle at an early date. For premises they hope to obtain, by kind permission of Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., R.E., the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony, the new Government Building with out-houses at Kotokuba, Cape Coast, which is admirably suited for a well equipped school, as well for its healthy and lofty situation as its short distance from the town.

Dependent on the success of this first school, a girls' school and schools in other parts of the Gold Coast and Ashanti will be opened. By sure and steady progress in the provision of schools, &c., and the training of teachers, it is hoped the day will soon arrive when every child of the Gold Coast and Ashanti, if it will, can acquire sound learning and religious education, and so become a good citizen worthy of its native land.

From natives of the Gold Coast, educated as well as unlettered, who are in perfect sympathy with the Directors and Promoters, applications for about 7,000 shares have been received already.

An appeal is earnestly made to every native of the Gold Coast to consider this enterprise as a national one, for no native can expect to prosper and become great without ardent and devoted patriotism, because patriotism is irresistible, unconquerable and universal, and requires that every effort in one's power be made for the good of one's native land. Nor should we forget that a true patriot is known by his interest in education.

Wherefore the Directors and the Promoters wish specially to impress on all natives of the Gold Coast their duty to support to the fullest extent this Company, which is aiming at better things.

The promising nature of the object of the Company and the far-reaching benefits these schools will confer upon the country lead the Directors and Promoters to believe that the people of the Gold Coast, especially her educated children, will give it a hearty and practical support by subscribing liberally.

The Articles of Association:—

(A) That the Board shall not proceed to the allotment of, and no allotment shall be made of any share capital of the Company offered to the public for subscription unless at least 25 per cent of such share capital has been subscribed and the sum payable on application therefor has been paid to and received by the Company.

(B) That twenty-one days' notice at least be given of each call, and that no call shall exceed one-fourth of the nominal amount of a share or be made payable within two months after the last preceding call was payable.

(C) That until the 1st day of January, 1910, no share shall be transferred to a person who is not a Member so long as any Member or any person approved by the Board of Directors as one whom it is desirable in the interest of the Company to admit to membership is willing to purchase the same at the fair value to be ascertained as provided in Sub-clause (v) of Article 18.

(D) That no dividend or dividends exceeding in all 10 per cent upon the amount for the time being paid on the shares held by the Members shall be paid to them during any one year.

(E) That the Board may—

Establish local boards, local managing or consulting committees or local agencies in the United Kingdom or abroad, and appoint any one or more of their number or any other person or persons to be Members thereof with such powers and authorities, under such regulations, for such period, and at such remuneration as they may deem fit, and may from time to time revoke any such appointment.

Appoint from time to time any one or more of their number to be Managing Director or Managing Directors, on such terms as to remuneration and with such powers and authorities and for such period as they deem fit, and may revoke any such appointment.

Grant to any Director required to go abroad or to render any other extraordinary service such special remuneration for the services rendered as they think proper.

(F) That the Directors may at any time and from time to time, provided the maximum number of Directors be not thereby exceeded, appoint any person or persons, not exceeding two, to be an Honorary Director or Honorary Directors, but any Honorary Director so appointed shall hold office until the next following Ordinary General Meeting of the Company, and shall then be eligible for re-election.

(G) That the qualification of a Director shall be the holding of shares of the Company of the nominal amount of £50.

(H) That the Board shall be entitled to receive by way of remuneration in each year such sums as may from time to time be determined by the Company in General Meeting.

(I) That an Honorary Director shall not be required to hold any qualification, and shall not be entitled to receive any remuneration.

The Directors have consented to act until December 31st, 1909, without any remuneration whatsoever.

The estimated amount of the preliminary expenses payable by the Company is £200.

A copy of the Company's Memorandum of Association is endorsed on this Prospectus and forms part of it, and a print of the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association may be inspected at the Office of the Company's Solicitors in London, and at the Company's Office at Cape Coast Castle, and its Registered Office, Princess Street, Ipswich, Suffolk, at any time during business hours.

Applications for shares should be made on the accompanying form and sent to the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, Cape Coast Castle, together with the necessary remittance for the amount payable on application.

If the number of shares allotted to any applicant be less than the number applied for by such applicant the surplus paid on application will be credited to the amount due on allotment, and the balance (if any) will be returned to the applicant.

Failure to pay the balance due on allotment or any future calls on shares allotted when due will render the shares and the previous payments liable to forfeiture.

Where no allotment is made the amount paid on application will be returned in full.

The Directors reserve absolute discretion to refuse any application for shares without assigning any reason. Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained of the Bankers or at the Office of the Company.

Dated this 24th day of November, 1904.

[The Memorandum &c. will be published next week. Ed.]

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

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Dec. 22.—Bannerman speaking Mile End but last night enthusiastically received, he challenged Chamberlain's right to call himself missionary for the Empire he had no authority to speak for the Colonies he spoke only for himself Tariff commission.

Canadian Government papers confirm the establishment of Canadian Navy. An Agreement has been concluded with the Admiralty, cruisers will be under orders of the Admiralty and not be confined Canadian waters Prefontaine, Minister of Marine say he will be going to England after session to consult Admiralty with reference to the three vessels for Naval and Militia to begin with Canada ready to overtake all expense, it is unfair those be kept up at the expense of British taxpayer. Prefontaine when Mayor at Montreal was the foremost advocate of sending contingent to South Africa.

Obituary Admiral Ommanney.

Continued postponement Tsar's birthday proclamation disquiet Russian reformers, sensationalist rumours prevalent at St. Petersburg including threatened resignation of the Minister of Interior. City Council at Moscow severely reprimanded for passing resolution endorsing demand for representative constitution and administrative reforms.

Dec. 23.—Council presided over by the Tsar held on Tuesday to discuss political situation continued yesterday.

Japanese casualties by capture north fort 400. Japanese captured important position at Pigeon Bay, Russians outdriven pell mell, counter attacked but repulsed.

Four of Rozhdesvrensky's officers implicated in North Sea incident landed Liberville have arrived Bontoux to give evidence at Paris before International Commission.

Admiral Kamamura with powerful cruiser squadron gone south China sea to meet Balticoers. Two Japanese battleships, six cruisers and twelve destroyers arrived off Singapore, two cruisers entered the harbour left couple hours, later the squadron then steaming westwards, vessels are portion of the fleet awaiting Balticoers.

Dec. 24.—Chifu correspondent of the Telegraph wires 8 destroyers escaped from Port Arthur in snow storm.

25.—Nogi in reporting capture of Russian position at Talinshuntan says out of the attacks during the past few days have been uniformly successful.

Officially announced Rear Admiral May has been appointed to command Atlantic fleet from March with acting rank of Vice Admiral evidently cancelling appointment as commanding fleet.

Wingfield Digby, M.P. for Dorset is dead.

27.—Chinese on Friday seized at Fentage railway station near Peking three million rounds of Russian rifle ammunition evidently destined for Port Arthur concealed in bales of wool brought on camels from Kalgan.

Fog has cleared in London but continues in country lower Thames and Mersey many passengers fog bound for five days, two Express trains wrecked in fog collision outside Paris yesterday hitherto 9 dead and 23 injured extricated.

Japanese stormed and captured heights eastwards Hoyagshukow near Pigeon Bay, yesterday Russians concentrated heavy fire thereon from Tayangkow and Yehutal forts also determined by attacking throwing hand grenades but failed to outdrive the Japanese. Japanese also occupied Talinshuntan to-day.

Officially announced all of the whole Russians advanced positions in front of Japanese right Russian Generals Komanchenko and Koan killed Metre hill and General Fock wounded.

To announces withdrawal majority of the fleet from Port Arthur.

It is stated at Washington consequence of the Venezuela again evading obligations United States given Venezuela 60 days to meet engagements otherwise formidable United States naval demonstration grows and seizure of ports and custom houses. President Castro placing guns at Languyra and Puerto Cabello.

## CHAMA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

By the removal to Adjnah of Mr. Therson the officer in charge, Chama has been greatly relieved.

In the face of Mr. Mensah's report embodying eight leading charges which was submitted to the Supervisor of Customs and the Provincial Commissioner of Sekondi on 3rd instant, we dare say Therson has been successful in scornfully laughing at his enemies' disgrace.

Mr. Lutterolt takes Therson's place as Officer in Charge. There is every hope that this young man will do his level best to repair the damages and defects which his predecessor spitefully created.

District Commissioner Kneele from Sekondi arrived here last week, and after disposing of court cases held audience with Omrahia Fraikoo at his bungalow.

We are glad to report that Mr. J. E. Amuquandoh has been appointed Acting Manager for the "Great Falls Forest" (a Timber Company at Chama) during the absence of its General Manager and Partner Captain C. W. McIntosh who sailed away on the 6th instant by the s. s. Sokoto. Mr. Amuquandoh was lately working with Messrs H. B. W. Russell.

## ELMINA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Smith Mensah the Postal Clerk here having been lately transferred to Obuasi has been replaced by Mr. J. R. Bannerman from Salt Pond.

Dr. W. B. Thain and his wife went for a short tour in the bush, last Sunday 18th, it is stated, on inspection.

A Bussa man under sentence of death was brought here last Tuesday morning 20th. The other man who was condemned at the last Cape Coast Assizes was also executed on Tuesday morning 27th at St. Jago.

Mr. Twennes of the Telegraphs Dept. arrived

here from Cape Coast on the 27th to lay the telephone line from the Castle to St. Jago. This will connect the Gaoler's quarters direct with the Prison.

Dr. Thain, undoubtedly, is the greatest Tartar in the Public Service. I was beginning to think that the advent of his wife might have wrought some salutary change in him as regards the hot-headedness to which he is prone; but my conjectures unfortunately appear to have been strikingly unjustified.

On last Monday 19th about 6.30 p.m. the *Biafra* mails arrived here from Cape Coast and for some unexplained reason—whether from the lateness of their arrival or from a sheer negligence on the part of the postal staff here—they were not opened for distribution. Dr. Thain, after waiting for sometime and finding that his letters had not reached him, went round to the Postal Clerks' quarters and without demanding any explanations for his irregularity slipped straight into the poor young man with kicks and flats in a regular disgraceful manner—driving him to the point of the toe of the post office where, with his own hands he opened the mail bag, sorted out his letter &c. and then cleared out.

Although it would appear to be quite obvious that there was some negligence on the part of the postal clerk, does it, however, warrant Dr. Thain to take the law into his own hands and punish a fellow public servant—a drama which the Governor himself would have shuddered to play—for the simple reason that his own and not the public's letters had been delayed—which is quite evident from the fact that the general public only had their share on the following morning.

The incident recalls to mind Mr. Midshipman Easy, when he kicked that man Estrupp, down the hatchway of the warship—when Captain Wilson reprimanded him severely and pointed out to him that no one else in the ship had a right to punish any one, but himself. But even then the punishment referred to by the Captain might have been without any physical suffering; although, in those days flogging was not a rare occurrence in the Navy, and then, not until you have been duly tried by a court martial.

Dr. Thain's action was quite unjustified, what he should have done was to have simply sent his orderly to the postal clerk and threatened to report him to the Postmaster General if he wasn't more careful in future and further hinting him that his career in the service much depended on his trying to please him every day. This would have the postal clerk burst all his buttocks in his frantic efforts to serve him and he would have got his letters all right.

It is however yet to be known whether the Post Office is supplied with lamps and other appliances for night work. Sometimes we are rather hasty in blaming other people for committing errors over which they have no control.

I really hope Dr. Thain will be taught good manners not to be knocking his fellow public officers about like chattels in future—and that the Postmaster General will give due protection to his staff. The other day we had our letters distributed to us on the parade ground and when the matter came to the notice of the P. M. G. the postal clerk was bribed to deny the report.

On Christmas Day 25th at 3.30 p.m. the Wesleyan Church Choir held a Choral Service at the Chapel. There were 17 items on the Programme which included the following:—An opening Anthem entitled, *Holy Holy is the Lord*. Chant Psalm 136. A short prayer.—Anthem, *Break off the Oak*. *Te Deum* Hymn 863. Address, E. Joed da Costa Esq. Hymn 127, 472, Chant, Xmas, Psalm, Hymn 126. Address by Rev. R. M. Acquash. Anthem, *Sing for the honour of his name*. Silver Collection and Hymn 129. Anthem, *God reigneth*. Hymn 126 and the Benediction.

The Choristers, on the whole acquitted themselves very well but the only noticeable drawback seems to be that their number, which from the start was estimated at something near 60, has been greatly decimated of late. This is due, I understand, to some freakish whims indulged in by some of them, who have conspired to work out the collapse of choir organization, fancying that without their co-operation everything must come to a crash. I regret to notice chiefly among the delinquents, the "Teacher" and the young ladies (?) What is really wanted is a fitting Headmaster for the School, in the person and quality of a man who is prepared to take no jokes from either a Teacher or a pupil, who will make it his special business to see that discipline is rigidly enforced. At present everybody appears to be his own master. The "Teacher" has so far debased himself morally, as to be on the same par with the "Boy."

Despite the endless complaints that are current, the fish Nuisance is still thriving without any sign of abatement. We like fish all the same but we do not wish to get stifled with its nauseating fumes. It is quite obvious that it is the only way our fisherfolk earn money but why should other people suffer in consequence. There are special places

set aside for curing and smoking fish but because they can now do it in the very heart of the Town with impunity, such places have now been practically in disuse.

That girl Ekwa Grunahi by name, who was reported in the last issue of this paper as having stolen a barrel of Beef at Kawaupadu, Cape Coast, went, over some woman's fish oven here the other day, last Monday night and hauled a basketful of herrings. The theft was discovered and she was arrested on Tuesday night. There are several cases of pilfering reported about her which put her down as a confirmed Kleptomaniac.

## THE NATIVE OFFICIAL.

It is a fact as patent as it is significant that at best the Native Official on the whole is given but a poor chance. A review of the history of the Native Official from the founding of the Colony reveals the unhappy fact that almost without exception where the native official has succeeded in making a record of long service, a *contretemps* of some kind or other is made to supervene, and instead of being awarded honourable retirement, the long service native official finds himself consigned to abrupt dismissal, if he is lucky enough to escape disgrace. Instances of this kind have been multiplied without number in this Colony, and native officials of long-standing who have been rewarded for their long service by dismissal on some charge or other, can be numbered almost by the score. On other hand in no single instance can it be affirmed that a native official has been granted a pension without some trouble or difficulty being involved; and instances have not been wanting where after a native official had used himself up in arduous, faithful and valuable work in the public service, "a new king" or governor "who knoweth not Joseph" has entered upon the scene, and the faithful old native official, not only ceases to be accorded recognition for his service, but barely escapes disgrace and ignominy, and only by the hardest succeeds in getting a pension. A policy of treatment confirmed by instances sufficient to show that it is a rule and not exception certainly required to be explained or given some show of justification, and the onus rest upon the authorities to demonstrate how it is that an unjust discrimination looms out so largely and ugly in the case of the native official. This is rendered all the more necessary for the reason that as we now write, there are two native officials one of whom has a record of over thirty years service, and against neither of whom is it possible to establish any sort of offence, but who notwithstanding, are placed under a cloud of dispute the usual forerunner to the fate which invariably overtakes the native official. With such a prospect before him, it can hardly be expected that the native official will do his work with any measure of confidence and satisfaction, and alike in the interest of the public service as well as the integrity of those who govern, it behoves that the authorities should dispense with a policy of unjust discrimination which appears to become more accentuated with the progress of time.—*Lagos Record*, 3/12/04.

## NEW THOUGHTS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

BY AGYIMANN

Ring out the grief that saps the mind,  
For those that here we see no more;  
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
Ring in redress to all mankind."

TRINITYSON.

And first a prayer for the New Year. We profess to be christians: we regularly attend Divine Services and reverently bow the knee; we are members of branch societies of the church and often go on preaching excursions; we fast twice in the week and give tithes of all we possess(?) We solemnly take the blessed sacrament and are in harmony with our brethren;

"But show us, Lord, is every one  
Thy real worshipper?"

Do we not, Lord, like the Pharisees of old annunciate these and others and point to them as our Christianity? Do we not take the shadow for the substance, the means for the end? Good Lord deliver us for thy dear name's sake.

Some men are moral tramps; they have no ideals or if any they have they are of the evanescent type, they live but to eat and die. For our own interests had we not better have some ideals—something to look up to and to live for.

Of Hypnotism and allied sciences I know but little but if there be any virtue in words then the following simple words are possessed of some virtue: "I am resolved to" and "I will." there is nothing like being resolved. The eminent firm of Giants Despair, Fatigue, & Co. sue from the man that has "Resolution" branded on his forehead, and as for "I will" the young man in the Bible said "I will arise and go to my Father" and thereupon he got up and went and we know the rest. May we not start the New Year with a resolution to see our country rise.

We have been saying a deal about our fathers and elders. We young men try to excel our fathers in a thousand vices and follies but when it comes to answering the advertisement "Wanted a man" by our dear Fatherland we point to our elders and begin to say things about them. Let us know it right at the start of the year that if (as the native proverb has it) we wait for the snail and the tortoise to give battle there never shall be any firing. Let us leave our elders alone and fight our battles ourselves knowing that if we do not cease our croaking and try to do something our children will in turn call us names and that we do not want.

I am surprised to find that our girls do not attempt anything like defence to the thousand and one things said about them and which some young men keep saying of them. The girls are not to blame nor yet are their mothers even. If they had the advantages of sound education things would be different but if we who have studied Greek and Latin and have the whole of the Hebrew language in all its moods and tenses at our finger ends prefer the company of illiterate and oftentimes of ill-bred girls to our Schoolgirls, if we idolise the former as if they were the fairest of the fair, there can be no wonder that these Schoolgirls take kindly to the evil ways. If we do not want our girls to go to the bad let us encourage them to virtuous living. And now that Schools are being opened for them let us all hope that the tables will soon be turned and our girls will have a fair chance to choose who should and who should not be admitted into their society.

A merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all.

### HONOR TO HIM WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

#### THE GRAND CONCERT BY THE THREE LOCAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

(THE GRAMMAR, COLLEGIATE AND WESLEYAN GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOLS.)

On Tuesday the 20th inst, the Concert of the above Schools, which had been well advertised, came on with great eclat at the Centenary School-room. The School room, which was tastefully decorated with flags and palm leaves, presented a very attractive appearance. And although, the lights were not sufficient in the lower half of the School yet one is inclined to pass off this deficiency lightly, when one considers the quality of the entertainment given.

At 7. 15. the door was thrown open and holders of reserved (which were all numbered) and other tickets, buckled in and were directed to their seats by Mr. R. F. Wood, who did the work of conductor very well.

About 8 o'clock, the stage, which tho' well-raised was not well decorated, was unveiled; and students male and female of the three schools, with their Masters stood revealed. Rev. Principal Assam of the Grammar School, introduced them, and in his short introductory address, informed the audience of the object of the Concert and expressed the wish that they (the audience) would be highly entertained and everybody satisfied.

After the introductory address, the Entertainment was begun and the audience settled down quietly to listen to the seductive strains of the soul-lifting and entrancing music which the Students under the able directorship of Mr. Chas. E. Graves, had prepared.

The programme, an exhaustive one, containing 28 items was gone through, excepting two or three items, which in consequence of the lateness of the hour, were omitted. Solos, Duets, Recitations, Scenes, Dialogues and Action Songs, followed each other in rapid succession, that, the audience was kept in hilariousness up to the last.

The items, with few exceptions which were below the average, were most grandly performed. And though it is hard to particularise where every one did his best, we must confess the Female Students carried the palm for acting and singing. Their action-songs "Grecian Girls" and "Four Quakeresses" deserve special praise. We do not think any one will forget the impression made by the young ladies in acting above Songs; especially the latter. Misses Graves, Mills, Isabella (Thompson) and Nancy Richmond, who performed that, eclipsed themselves and the audience showed their appreciation by encoring them again and again.

Of the Soloists, we must make mention of Mrs Sackey's "Genevieve" which was feelingly rendered; Miss Mills's "Jasnitia"; Miss Coleman's "Lovely Night" sung in light and shade and Master Coleman's "A soldier and a man" and The Duets, "Flow on thou shining river" (a piece rendered capitally by Rev. Principal Assam and Miss Ora es who were in very good voices); "Ebo Duet" by Misses Graves and Mills; "Pilot Brave" by Masters Chas. Smith and Anaman who were dressed up in the characters of the piece, and the well rendered, fun-provoking and side-splitting "A. B. C." Duet, capitally sung by Miss Fanny Dalrymple and Master Chas. Smith. This Duet was repeatedly encored.

Of the Scenes:—"Caesar" was very well performed. The burial part was very good. Our only

regret is, the Actors spoke so hurriedly that we could not hear some of the words.—"Whose Turn" by Masters Keason and Crankson was splendidly done, the too young gentlemen convulsing the Audience with their sayings. We were treated with a Colloquy in Latin by the Male Students which was well rendered.

The Glee "Get Up" and "Happiness" by the Female Students, were beautifully sung. The Ladies are to be congratulated for their great improvement in Singing. The audience composed mainly of the elite of Cape Coast and environs, were very orderly and attentive; tho' some of the youngmen behaved rather boisterously. Mr. Chas. E. Graves Director and Organist is undoubtedly one of our best players: his selection of the pieces for the Concert was excellent; and how the songs were rendered, now soft—now loud, showed the amount of pains he took with the Students at the practices; and evinced his conducting ability. He deserves every congratulation and encomium that may be showered upon him.

Congratulations to, Managers, Organist, Students and all!!!

GOLLIWOG.

### JUDGE AND COUNSEL.

#### A LIVELY PASSAGE.

Mr. Justice Ridley heard an attach last week in which Mr. J. Pellow Wilson and the representatives of the late Edward Pellow Wilson, a Court of the Kingdom of Portugal, sued J. Grant and Co., Mr. J. Cameron Grant, and the legal and personal representatives of the late Sir Julian Goldsmid, to recover £27,900 odd upon judgments obtained in the Brazilian courts.

Mr. Justice Ridley asked Mr. Danckwerts, who appeared for the representatives of the late Sir J. Goldsmid, who were John Cameron Grant and Co.

Mr. Danckwerts replied that Wilson treated Mr. Cameron Grant and Lord Walsingham as the firm.

Mr. Justice Ridley asked if the learned counsel had any evidence that Lord Walsingham was sued.

Mr. Danckwerts said he had dealt with that point fully on the previous afternoon.

Mr. Justice Ridley.—I am not going to quarrel with you if I can help it. I will ask again what is the evidence that the Wilsons did sue Lord Walsingham. There is no evidence that I know of. I know you infer it from the documents, but I say have you anything else to show that they were suing Lord Walsingham?

Mr. Danckwerts (turning to his bulky documents).—I will begin again.

Mr. Justice Ridley.—Please do not. I shall leave the court if you do. Is there any evidence that Lord Walsingham appeared or took any part in the proceedings?

Mr. Danckwerts.—He would have nothing to do with the matter.

Mr. Justice Ridley.—Have you any further evidence?

Mr. Danckwerts.—Yes.

Mr. Justice Ridley.—You are the most unreasonable man I ever came across.

Mr. Danckwerts.—If your lordship would only have a little patience instead of cutting me in half continually, you would hear what I have to say.

Mr. Justice Ridley.—You really are ridiculous.

Mr. Danckwerts.—Then I am ridiculous. Very well. The learned counsel at once resumed his seat.

Mr. Justice Ridley.—Then, perhaps you will continue, Mr. Danckwerts.

Mr. Danckwerts made no attempt to rise.

Mr. Justice Ridley.—Perhaps you will continue, Mr. Danckwerts.

Mr. Danckwerts (rising excitedly).—I am not accustomed to being called ridiculous, and I won't stand it.

Mr. Justice Ridley.—You know you are if you behave like that. I ask you a question, and you get into a temper and refuse to answer it.

Mr. Danckwerts.—I beg your lordship's pardon. That is not so. I was trying to answer your lordship and you immediately shut me up.

Mr. Justice Ridley.—I did not "shut you up," to use your own phrase. I tried to get an answer from you, and I have got it, I think.

Mr. Danckwerts.—You have not.

Mr. Justice Ridley.—Give it again.

Mr. Danckwerts.—You cannot have it again because I have not answered you. I have the evidence of two witnesses which you have not heard yet.

The hearing of the case was adjourned.—3rd December 1904.

### 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 BARBED WIRE FENCE.

Sir,—The barbed wire fence is absolutely dangerous. Sometime in the month of October last some boys from the Wesleyan School went to the proposed Park for cricket; whilst enjoying their game a Police all of a sudden ran after them and scattered them and one of the Boys unfortunately ran against the fence and was badly hurt in the face, receiving a nasty wound in the eye, with scratches all over; the next day the poor boy's face was swollen up. Everything the Government would do goes against the interest and convenience of the people.

It was my privilege to visit London a short while ago, and I observed that for miles and miles around, you can never find anything unpleasant; and what struck me most were the ways, manners and behaviour of the People, who were extremely kind and polite. I noticed a great contrast between the Englishmen at home and the Englishmen on the coast. Any one who has visited Europe will readily confirm what Sir Matthew Nathan said sometime ago.

Yours truly,—A NATIVE GIRL.  
Cape Coast, Dec. 27, 1904.

Dear Mr Editor,—It pacifies no one with average intelligence whose character is previously untainted and unblemished to refrain from remonstrating against an offensive action under which he has fallen a victim. I am referring to the abrupt dismissal by Rev. Russell of the Schoolmaster here which was communicated by your Sekondi Correspondent, because young Marshall did nothing worthy of the treatment nor committed any crime as affecting his personal character or the School which sufficiently warranted the action of the School Inspector towards him. It was indeed surprising to learn that Rev. Russell considering that Marshall's pay of £4 per month being rather exorbitant, and the schoolmaster not being likely inclined to take less pay, stooped to effect his discharge without a moment's notice. Facts prove beyond doubt that in pursuance of an urgent appeal addressed to his father by Revd. Riggall, it became incumbent upon young Marshall to abandon remunerative secular engagements in substitution of school master's work. It would be an exaggeration to say anything with regard to the efficiency and advancement of the school work produced by the zeal of Mr. Marshall during the interval of service, and also to the valuable assistance rendered in the interest of the Church. I should think this incident could better be substantiated by a more reliable observer but it is one that predominates our Methodism age, and unless Rev. Russell can assign adequate reasons towards that step the public will conclude with me that Marshall had undoubtedly fallen a victim to a transmitted prejudice.

Thanking you for space allowed.  
Yours faithfully,—SCHOOLMASTER.  
Sekundi, Dec. 7.

Sir,—In days gone by when a person is proposed to join a Friendly Society Lodge keen interest is taken as to the character of the person before he is admitted as a member. But now things seem to be changed. At the recent anniversaries of some of these Lodges it was clearly observed, that, most of the members are ex-convicts, Carpenters, Masons, and Blacksmiths &c. some of whom can not read and write.

May I ask if the vernacular is used in their Lodge rooms now: the attention of these lodges may be called, to be careful in future of persons they admit as members or else cease to style themselves "Honourable."

Yours truly,—M. F. S.  
Cape Coast, 20th Dec. 1904.

#### FANTI PUBLIC SCHOOLS LTD.

All persons who have already applied for shares in the above Company, and have paid a deposit of one shilling on each share are hereby specially requested to fill the new application forms and return the same at once to the Secretary as by a resolution of the Directors at a recent Board meeting, shares will be allotted in the course of next week. Persons desiring to take shares can have application forms with prospectus of the Company at the Bank, Elmina Road, Cape Coast, the stores of Mr. H. V. Solomon, Jackson street, Mr. R. F. Wood, and Mr. J. E. Arthur. The Directors and Secretary also will be pleased to send the same on application. For the first school under the auspices of this Company to be conducted at Cape Coast Castle the Directors are open to consider applications for the following masterships:—

- (1) English Master.
- (2) Classic Master.
- (3) Master for Mathematics and Science.
- (4) Assistant Teachers for the above subjects.
- (5) A Teacher in agriculture and other useful handicrafts.

Applicants must give full name, salary wanted, statement of qualifications, copy of testimonials, certificate of character, period of service for which they are prepared to contract. Application should be sent before the 16th. of January 1905 to the Secretary.

D. M. ARADOO.

Secretary.

Dated at Cape Coast Castle, the 28th. Dec. 1904.

#### TO LET.

A large store situate at Beula Road. For terms and particulars apply to  
JAMES MORRISON