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The African Times.

"FOR GOD, AND GOOD TO AFRICA AND HER PEOPLE."

"Talk to me anywhere of Power, and I'll tell you of Protection. Mention a Magistrate, and the idea follows of Property. Show me any Government, and you are to see the proposed interest of those governed. Power constituted otherwise is a monster that is impossible in every system where there is any notion of the justice of God or the good of mankind."—EDMUND BURKE.

"If any Colonist suffers from injustice, whatever may be his class, his condition, or his colour, he has a right to redress at the hands of the Colonial Minister in this country."—EARL OF CARNARVON, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES AUGUST 2, 1866.

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AFRICAN AGENCY

For Transacting Business in England for Native and other Traders on the West Coast of Africa.

IN consequence of wishes expressed from all parts of the West Coast, MR. FITZGERALD has made arrangements for selling produce consigned to him by ships to London or Liverpool; and purchasing, and shipping goods ordered against the proceeds of consignments or other effective remittances only, from either of the above ports, on a system by which the greatest possible advantage of the markets will be secured to the AFRICAN TRADER; and, as time is very important to small capitalists, return goods will be sent off in all cases without any delay beyond such as may sometimes be caused by manufacturers.

All letters and bills of lading, whether the shipments be to or from London or Liverpool, to be addressed

F. FITZGERALD, Esq.,
121, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

N.B.—Open Policies on Insurance for Produce from the Coast by the Mail Steamers; but intended Shipments should be advised if possible.

FEBRUARY, 1872.

BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The Steamers of this Company will henceforward be despatched from Liverpool on the 6th and 18th of each Month, except when these dates fall on a Monday, when the departure will be deferred to the day following.

The Steamship LIBERIA is intended to be despatched from GLASGOW on JAN. 30, and from LIVERPOOL on the 6th FEB., at 3 P.M., for Madeira, Grand Canary, Sierra Leone, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, and Old Calabar; this Steamer will also take Cargo for New Calabar, Brass, and Benin (delivering inside the bars), the same to be transhipped at Bonny, and forwarded by branch Steamer, at Shipper's risk. GOODS will be received in GLASGOW up to 6 P.M. on the 29th JAN., and at the Loading Berth in LIVERPOOL (North Side Coburg Dock) up to 6 P.M. on the 5th FEB. Passengers will embark by Steam Tender from Prince's Landing Stage at 2.30 P.M. on the day of sailing.

The following departure is intended to be the Steamship BONNY which will leave LIVERPOOL DIRECT on the 18th FEB., at 7.30 A.M., for Madeira, Teneriffe, Sierra Leone, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Half Jack, Cape Coast Castle, Accra, Jellah Coffee, Lagos, Benin, Bonny, Fernando Po, Old Calabar, and taking cargo for delivery by branch steamer inside the bars of Opobo, New Calabar, and Lagos. Goods will be received up to noon the day previous. Passengers will embark at 7 A.M. on the day of sailing.

Goods for Sierra Leone will be landed there at Ship's expense, but Shipper's risk. All Goods while on board the Company's hulk at Bonny, to be at Shipper's or Consignee's risk.

Bills of Lading of the Company's Form can be obtained from THOMAS MURRAY and SON, 91, Buchanan-street, Glasgow; and D. MARPLES, 50B, Lord-street, Liverpool.

All letters must pass through the Post-office.

For further information apply in London to Messrs. MALCOLM, HUDSON, and Co., 5, Crosby-square; in Glasgow to TAYLOR, LAUGHLAND, and Co., 24, Oswald-street; and in Liverpool, to ELDER, DEMPSTER, and Co., 2, Brunswick-street.

☞ Shippers are respectfully informed that Cargo can now be taken by the Steamers of the 6th for delivery inside the Bars of NEW CALABAR, BRASS, and BENIN; and by the Steamers of the 18th for delivery inside the Bars of OPOBO, NEW CALABAR, and LAGOS. The Goods will be transhipped at Bonny, and forwarded by Branch Steamer.

WEST COAST MAILS.

ARRIVALS.

British and African Company's Congo, December 29, 1871.
African Steamship Company's Bandingo, January 2.
African Steamship Company's Soudan and Eboe.
British and African Company's Liberia, January 18.

DEPARTURES.

African Steamship Co.'s Lagos, Dec. 24, with monthly mails.
British and African Company's Roquelle, January 6.
African Steamship Co.'s Soudan, for S. West Coast, Jan. 12.
British and African Company's Congo, Jan. 18.
The Biafra will take out monthly mails on the 24th.

BL The British Library

LIBERIAN LOAN CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence relates to the Liberian seven per cent. loan for 100,000*l.*, introduced here in August last at the price of 85*l.* by Messrs. Holderness, Nott, and Co.:—

LIBERIAN LOAN.

Council of Foreign Bondholders, 115, Palmerston-buildings, London, August 30, 1871.

Gentlemen,—Application having been made to the Council of Foreign Bondholders as to several points in the prospectus of the Liberian Loan, issued by you, which are stated to be open to doubt, I am directed to request your attention to the subject. 1. It is observed that, according to the constitution of Liberia, in conformity with that of the United States, all officers nominated by the President are subject to confirmation by the Senate, and it is therefore desirable to know whether the commissioners for this loan have full constitutional powers. 2. The law authorising this loan does not state that it can be issued at a discount. This point should be made clear. 3. The bonds to be delivered are Liberian Government bonds, and the prospectus states they are to be signed by the Chargé d'Affaires. It is desirable to know whether any law on the Treasury or other restricts the capacity of signing officers having power to bind the Government—whether, for instance, the signature of the President or Secretary of the Treasury is required. 4. As the prospectus and law state that the funds raised by the loan are to be assigned for special purposes, a responsibility devolves upon your firm for their proper application, and it will be agreeable to know what measures you propose to make for this purpose. In calling your attention to this subject, it is the desire of the Council to be favoured with such information from you as is calculated to remove doubts, the means of settling which are not available here, and which might prove injurious to the bondholders hereafter. You will perceive that the matters now referred to relate to points on which difficulties have arisen with several states of the American Union and other borrowing parties.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed) HYDE CLARKE, Secretary.

Messrs. Holderness, Nott, and Co.

Cornhill, September 7, 1871.

Dear Sir,—We apologise for the delay in reply, which is due to our solicitor being out of town. The points named in your letter had all previously received his careful attention; but we prefer that they should be answered by reference to him. Immediately upon his return we will write to you, and are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) HOLDERNESS, NOTT, and Co.

Hyde Clarke, Esq.

Department of State, Monrovia, Nov. 8, 1871.

Sir,—I am directed to write to you on the subject of the loan contracted by certain commissioners of Liberia with capitalists in England. On the 26th of October last the people of Liberia deposed President Roye. I send you a copy of the manifesto of the Provisional Government. The Vice-President arrived at the seat of government on the 2nd of the present month, and he has approved of the instructions sent from this department to our consuls concerning the loan. The loan was contracted by the commissioners contrary to law, and the first instalment paid on account of the loan has been misappropriated by our officers. The Government desires that everything shall remain in *statu quo* until the assembling of the National Legislature next month. To prevent the money from being misapplied as paid up, I have instructed our agents abroad to give notice to the bank or banks in which the proceeds of said loan may have been deposited to stop the payment of all drafts or bills drawn on account of said loan, whether drawn by the President and members of the former Government of Liberia, or by any parties abroad. I have deemed it prudent to give you notice of this fact, as you are the representative of some who are interested in this matter,

(Signed) H. R. W. JOHNSON.

J. Gerstenberg, Esq., Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Council of Foreign Bondholders.

Council of Foreign Bondholders, 115, Palmerston-buildings, London, December 6,

Gentlemen,—On the 30th of August I addressed you, calling your attention to several points in the prospectus of the Liberian Loan which were stated to be open to doubt. Not receiving an answer, I called at your office and was informed your solicitor was out of town. The Council has received no answer to this letter. Last week Mr. Gerstenberg, the chairman of the Council, received a letter from the Department of State at Monrovia, dated the 8th November, stating the objections of the newly-installed Government to the loan, and I called upon your firm with the letter. I saw two members. One of them at first thought it was untrue that any revolution had taken place in Liberia. The other said the subscribers had paid their money and got the bonds, and that was enough. To this doctrine I demurred. As the arrival of another mail places beyond doubt the fact of the change of government in Liberia, I now take the opportunity of sending you a copy of the letter of Mr. H. R. W. Johnson, from the Department of State, and invite your consideration of this and of my former letter, and of the communication from you of any explanation of the course pursued by you in this matter, and of what they propose for the protection of the bondholders.—I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

HYDE CLARKE, Secretary.

Messrs. Holderness, Nott, and Co.,
St. Michael's-chambers.

St. Michael's-alley, December 8.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your communication of the 6th instant, we beg to inform you that we have no reason to suppose that the bondholders of the Liberian Loan will require other protection than has already been secured to them under the contract of our firm with the commissioners. The loan was contracted under powers conferred by the President and Legislature, and these are upon record. It is scarcely necessary for us to point out that any action on this side would be premature under the circumstances of the usurpation of the government by the parties communicating with yourself. With reference to the alleged misappropriation of the first instalment of the loan by officers of the Republic, we can only express our firm belief that the charge will, upon investigation by the present Government, prove entirely unfounded.—We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

HOLDERNESS, NOTT, and Co.

Hyde Clarke, Esq., Secretary of Council of Foreign Bondholders.

LIBERIA.

THE LOAN, IMPRISONMENT OF OFFICIALS, POPULAR INDIGNATION, ETC.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Monrovia, December, 1871.

Sir,—You will have heard of the imprisonment of President Roye, &c. The persons imprisoned were President Roye, who was trying to escape to Sierra Leone (having with him, it is said, the seal of the Republic), his son, Mr. E. F. Roye, Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. John N. Lewis, Secretary of State, Mr. Erskine, Governor of Mesurado County, and Mr. Johnson, who was one of the Loan Commissioners in England. Mr. Johnson had been in America, and was arrested the moment he put his foot on shore in Liberia; as will be his fellow commissioner, Mr. Anderson, should he return from America. Rumours state that cheques were found on the President to the amount of $3,000, on his son to the amount of $2,500, and on Mr. Lewis $3,000. Mr. Roye says the $3,000 are his own money, but the citizens suspect they are part of the loan money. They are very mad with Mr. Chinnery for writing that those who protested against the loan were *idiots*, &c., and say they wish he was here, that they would not care at all about his being English, but would send him at once to keep company with Mr. Roye, where he would really become a chargé d'affaires, as he would have charge of the affairs of his cell. The legislators are backing out of the mess, saying that they never authorised the making of the loan. I will, however, show you in another communication what some of our legislators are. It will be well for those who have paid the money in England if they can contrive to get it back from Mr. Chinnery and Messrs. Holderness, Nott, and Co.; for the Liberians will never pay it. Amid all this abominable public wickedness, what is called a great religious revival is going on, and scores of people are said to be getting conversion every night. These frenzied religious meetings are kept up all night until daybreak, while numbers of men and women are committing the grossest sin around and alongside the chapels in which the revivals are carried on. Such, alas, is Liberia!

LEGISLATORS AND THE LEGISLATURE IN LIBERIA—STATE OF THE COUNTRY, &c.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Liberia, Dec. 20.

Sir,—The Liberian merchants, not foreigners, are the Government. I beg your indulgence while I explain how they are the Government. The legislators, Mr. Editor, are nearly all poor men; and many of them so illiterate and ignorant, that if you were to ask them to spell Legislation they could not do it to save their lives; much less tell you the meaning of the word. In some of our counties such men are put in by the merchants to serve their ends. The merchants say to the citizens before election, I want you to vote for such a man as Representative or Senator; if not I will starve you out. This is done in some of our counties. The merchants have got the palm-oil, the rice, the salt fish, and the tobacco, which are the mainsprings of Liberia; and if they hold these and do not sell, the citizens starve; yes, even die of starvation. In this way they get the citizens under their thumb, and keep them there. The men who are elected will be such men as they can dictate to; such men as will carry out the selfish views of the merchants and for his self interest. On my visit to the Leeward Counties not long ago I observed, while at one of the stores, a legislator come in. Poor man, he looked weak from starvation. "Please trust me," he said to the merchant, "a croo of rice, a pint of palm-oil, and two salt fish." "No," said the merchant, walking away at the same time, "I will do no such a thing." "My wife and children," continued the legislator, "have not eaten anything for two days, and we have not had a light in our house for a fortnight." "I don't care anything about that," said the merchant; "you fellows when you go to Legislature don't do what we merchants wish you to do; we will show you all that you shall either serve us or die of starvation. Go to your Government," continued the merchant, "and let the Government give you rice, palm-oil, salt fish, and tobacco." This poor man told me that he had about $200 Government money in his house in Treasury orders; and these he said he had had for nearly two years, and cannot get anything for them. They are slips of paper, written by the Superintendent to the Treasury to pay bearer; and that Government money is as useless as the dry leaves which we blow from the trees, except on some occasion when the merchants want to buy any Government lands. Then they notify to the citizens that they will sell for Treasury orders, and what will they sell? Such things as rotten cod-fish; sometimes shoulders of bacon with the skippers working up in them; rotten rice with any amount of weavles; and old damaged cloths. Now for these, Mr. Editor, he will charge, 6 dols. for a croo of rice; 10 dols. for a shoulder or side of rotten bacon; 2 dols. for a yard of striped cloth damaged, and 50 cents. for a quart of the brine of salt fish or beef, because they are Treasury orders. Now the citizens worked hard for Treasury orders, as any other man does for silver and gold. When the merchant has got enough of these Treasury orders to buy his land, he stops selling his damaged goods. Our citizens rejoice and think it is a Godsend when a merchant gives notice that he will sell some of his rotten stuffs for Treasury orders; for the citizens have no other way of getting rid of those Treasury orders but by these chances, and these chances do not very often happen. Under such circumstances, Mr. Editor, how can a country rise? Our Senators and Representatives must be independant men, and the Government must make them so; for our blowing to the world that we are independant, when we are in reality not so, is all bosh. We talk too much; we boast too foolishly on nothing; we must try and propose something of a substantial nature for our Government. Here we sit with folded hands, surrounded with bush even to our very doors, in which there are leopards, tigers, deer, snakes, monkeys, drivers, and all kinds of ferocious animals and reptiles; our streets just a little footpath, so that when our ladies come out after it has been raining, or in the morning after the dew has been falling, they scarcely walk a few yards before their boots and dresses are wet from the grass. We ought to be ashamed of ourselves, for the privileges we have had and opportunities given to us, for we have done nothing for ourselves; nothing for our country; nothing for our heathen brethren, but to make them hewers of wood and drawers of water; nothing to encourage commerce; nothing towards the development of the resources of the country, and nothing for our children. When we can manage to clear a little spot of land to build a house, 12 feet long by 10 feet wide, besides renting a portion of our shed to two families besides ourselves, and planted a little patch with potatoe or cassada, we think we have achieved a great thing; and then we walk about with folded hands, bossting of our liberty, and what an immense country we have; and that's all about it, while the bush is staring us in the face as we look out of our windows. We hope these facts, thrown out in your paper, will make a move in our Government, and our citizens also, and change our policy in oppressing the country and keeping it down. To raise the country from its present degradation, starvation, and misery we must have the following, or some such things:—

1st. Reduce the present duties (which are a cruel robbery, and were put on with the intent to keep the country from rising) to 4 cents. on a dollar.

2nd. Amend the Constitution so as to admit foreigners as citizens.

3rd. Remove this heavy and oppressive taxation under the name of "Pedlars' Licences," under which a poor citizen cannot go into the bush country to buy himself a croo of rice and a gallon of palm-oil without paying the extortionate licence-fee of 8 dollars.

4th. Remove these extortionate licence-fees of 50 dollars a-year wholesale licence; and the retail licence-fee of 12 dollars. These are oppressive on both merchants and retailers. A Government should not oppress her citizens; particularly a new Government. It prevents the country from rising, and makes the citizens miserable, wretched, and dishonest.

5th. Remove altogether the export duties. Export duties are only paid in countries the produce of which the country does not wish to export, or wishes to keep for home consumption; or where the country produces something with which no other country can compete, and of which it can secure a monopoly of supply; but to charge export duties on palm-oil, camwood, &c., is absurdly foolish. Do we wish to keep the palm-oil, camwood, &c., in the country? If so, what for? What do we manufacture with them?

6. Get rid of that line of demarcation which we put between ourselves and our own native brethren, and stretch our hands out to them, raising them up and making them sit side by side with ourselves, instead of looking down upon them with contempt, scorn, and superciliousness.

7th. Turn our attention to the growing of cotton. We are from a cotton-growing country, and have worked in cotton plantations, but yet there is not any cotton exported from Liberia, though we understand the cultivation so well; and why is this? Laziness.

A LIBERIAN.

THE PLUNDER OF MR. ROLLE'S FACTORY—FALSEHOOD OF THE LIBERIAN STATEMENTS JUSTIFYING IT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Monrovia, Liberia, November 19, 1871.

Sir,—The Liberians have tried to justify what they did in Prince Mannah's country, plundering and burning Mr. Jeremiah Rolle's factory, &c., by saying they were making war on Prince Mannah, because he had made a prisoner of a Mrs. Blackford, a Liberian woman. This is altogether false. The facts are these. The Liberians had an evil eye on Mr. Rolle's factory, for unhappily the Liberians are in something still like heathen, they do not like to see a man prosper, but covet what he has got. Mrs. Blackford was not captured by Prince Mannah, as was falsely alleged. Her husband traded in the territory of Prince Mannah. After he died, she became the wife of many of the heathen men. Prince Mannah, hearing of the "Merikin," as the Liberians call themselves—*i.e.*, a woman with clothes on—thought he should like to have her as his wife; he therefore sent for her, and she willingly went. The Liberians know this to be the fact. Mrs. Blackford is a prostitute, and they never intended to have gone after her; for after they had plundered Mr. Rolle's factory, taking away all the poor man's goods and produce, and setting fire to the building, they never went near Prince Mannah. About four years ago a Mr. Douglas was murdered and chopped in pieces almost by the Nanakroo people, near Sinoe County. Did the Liberians march against the murderers? Not a bit of it. And why not? Because there was no Jeremiah Rolle's factory near Nanakroo, nor any other British subject's factory in or near that part, for them to rob or plunder; so they only laid an interdict on the Nanakroo country, that no people should go there to trade; and when they found that the Nanakroo people were perfectly independent of them and their boats, and that they themselves were the greatest sufferers in not receiving rice and palm-oil from the Nanakroo, they very soon removed the interdict without waiting to be asked to do so. Surely if anything could justify them in making way, the cruel murder of their countryman Douglas was such a cause, and not the taking of a loose Liberian woman to wife, who is now living with Prince Mannah, and would prefer living with him to being with her own people.

LIBERIAN DEBTS TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT FOR BRITISH SUBJECTS.

Monrovia, Nov. 26, 1872.

Sir,—Our Government owes the British Government large sums of money; some say about $12,000 for the plundering of the schooner Elizabeth, belonging to Mrs. Palmer, of Sierra Leone; $7,000 for the plundering of the English brig Julia Ellen, by the citizens of Cape Palmas; and about $27,500 for the plundering of Mr. Jeremiah Rolle's factory; besides the post-office money which our officials have devoured, and which rumour estimates at $10,000. When shall we ever be able to pay these large sums? To pay them from the money we are about to get from the English loan would be an absurdity; for then we should not have anything to work upon to pay back the debt. But we must have anything to work upon to pay back the debt. But we must offer the English Government something. Why not offer her a slice of our territory? There is that Cape Palmas and the Cavalla River, which are of little or no use to us and we could very well give her, and be content with these other counties, such as Mesurado, Grand Bassa, and Sinoe, which are quite as much as we can manage. Some of our legislators are whispering this about, and it is thought it will be brought before the House, for we can very well spare Cape Palmas, which is chiefly composed of rowdies, and is only a pest to us. We can better spare her than spare such large sums of money.

HUMAN SACRIFICES.—EFFORTS BY THE AGENT OF THE FANTI CONFEDERATION TO PREVENT THEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Amantsin, November 14, 1871.

Sir,—1. Since I wrote you my private letter from Ahwoduyah, dated on the 5th July last, in which I craved your kind opinion and answers to the important questions therein contained, and respecting which I am anxiously looking for a letter from you, the All-wise God is, as it were, making events cry out against the delay of placing the English flag on the Dutch Forts on our coast, which alone will rescind the convention and rectify the error made by the two Powers in entering upon it.

2. Some three and thirty days after the date of my letter referred to above, the only surviving of the old Kings in the Protectorate, the venerable King Kwamina Enimil, of Wassaw, died, *i.e.*, on the 7th August, and I only wish I could give you an account of his death without giving pain to the minds of the Christian friends in England who are anxiously looking forth for an extension of Christian civilization over the minds of the poor benighted Africans, especially of those whose daily meditations have been particularly engaged by anxious desire to see the removal of darkness from the minds of the people in this particular part of Africa.

3. I do not think I need tell you, Mr. Editor, that whatever benefit may have been obtained by the British Government, in a pecuniary point, for the part of the coast it possesses now by this interchange, has been very dearly purchased, to say nothing about the troubles it has occasioned in the minds of many, expenses incurred in the war between the Fantis and the Dutch subjects, lives taken away, the many people on the Dutch side caught and sold into slavery (here, where I am writing, I am surrounded by scores daily begging me to try and get them redeemed by their friends on the coast). It has now stretched its baneful hand to the influence of Christianity and to the rooting out to destruction of all the good plants which British influence has planted in the field of God in this part. There is no want of evidence of Christian civilization striking its powerful weapon on the thick darkness surrounding the Gold Coast. If some of the old Europeans now in England, who were years ago resident here, were to revisit it now, they would acknowledge a vast difference, and be led to bless God, because of finding every day almost showing evidence of improvement.

4. But what would they say about human sacrifice being practised now at Amantsin, the capital of Wassaw, the chief residence of the once venerable old King Kwamina Enimil? It is only a day or two ago when, trying to convince a meeting I had called together here of the evil of human sacrifices, that a friend lately arrived from the coast remarked that a European friend at Cape Coast expressed a wonder that the Wassaws, not being Ashantees, should make human sacrifices. But must I ask, what has occasioned this? I pray to be allowed to say that this has been occasioned by the delay in settling long-pending negotiation for the eventual transfer to the British rule of all the forts and people now under the Dutch.

5. Need I remark that the British agents out here on the coast, or rather the British Government agents, are not ignorant of the favourable feelings of the people towards the British flag? It is said by them that "under it a coward becomes brave." The ceded tribes, while refusing the Dutch flag, cry, "Give us the English." Although many sweet words were uttered to the late venerable King of Wassaw of the kind treatment he would have under the Dutch Government, the old King said, "No; give me English; I have fought under that flag when I was young, and if with black hair I never became Dutch, how can you change me now with grey hair to become "Kâng-Kang" (a name given to the Dutch much resembling the Fanti word for *stink*). The old King said, "How can I take what will stink in the nose? No; let me have the English." A proclamation stuck to his wall was torn off in pieces.

6. This venerable king has carried his good feelings towards the English to his grave. A week or two before he sent me to arrange order at Ahwoduyah, from whence I wrote last. One Kucku Mainsah, of Chimah, a Dutch subject, was brought to him to be killed. This Kucku Mainsah and his wife had been long residents in this district, and he had pawned himself and wife to an Akim man who also had been trading here. This Kucku Mainsah could not be got to fight against his own people; he was employed by his master in trading between this and the coast, and finding the quarrel was over-ruled a little on the coast by the British influence over the acknowledged people in the Protectorate, so that a communication was opened between Eemina and Cape Coast, he ran away to Chimah, and made way to the place where he left his wife, to steal her away. Being caught, unfortunately, he was brought here to be killed. I being then in the town, interfered, and with many forcible arguments and his friendly feeling towards the English, notwithstanding the many discouragments he had met in attempting to own still the English, I conquered him, and he told the master to send him away out of his district to Akim, where I entertained no more fear about the man's life, that being in the Protectorate. I, however, lament to say that because his wife is fair to look upon, and the master wished to keep her, he sent him away to Akim without her, and ordered him to be killed. Having got information of his death and convicted the master, who is of the Protectorate, I am trying to get him punished.

7. The late king had a deal of love and respect for the English, but now, through the interchange, his people consider themselves under no European Power; because, having refused the Dutch, the English would not acknowledge them. The superstitious notions of people so far in the interior respecting human sacrifices being only kept down by British influence, and not by the Christian religion, the temptation is rather too strong for a people in a state like this to resist; and one well acquainted with their habits cannot be surprised to hear what has taken place in this district since the death of their remarkable king. They have sacrificed about thirty persons. Several with whom I am well acquainted, since I arrived on the 3rd inst., both the heir and the chiefs of his body guard, desired me to remain until a king is placed on the stool; and knowing that there is greater customs to be made yet, because none of his great captains and chiefs that compose the district had appeared, and that they are expected to bring over thirty persons to be sacrificed, I have made the cessation of human sacrifice the condition of my staying with them. The enclosed is the document to which I have got their signatures, and I have written to Cape Coast to get some friends to succour me in my efforts to check this evil.

8. I tried when at Epphinto to get the Administrator to aid in a case like this by a letter, of which the enclosed is a copy; but the conveyor being discouraged by some friends on the coast, it was never delivered. However, I am trying it again by the bearer who takes this to the coast for posting, and I trust the Administrator will find nothing in his way of duty to keep him from acceding to it. I will write to you again the result of this, my labour.

I have the honour to be, Sir, yours obediently,

Jos. DAWSON.

Letter to the Administrator, referred to in the above Letter.

Eastern Wassaw, Epphinto, Ahwoduyah, August 22, 1871.

Sir,—Although I am not ignorant of this district being, by the Convention, out of your Excellency's jurisdiction, yet I am impelled, by the circumstances under which it is placed, to intrude upon your Excellency for interference in its affairs, as nobody else can effectually prevent this evil fruit entailed on the interchange.

Human sacrifice has been effectually prohibited in this and every other district or state in the Protectorate by the rules of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, but, since the interchange, has brought on irregularities that this district, having refused the Dutch, considers itself to be under no European rule at present, but merely kept by the restraint of its connexion with the Fanti Confederation under the British Protection, which Confederation at present has not power to put a stop to the practice of this wicked custom.

I beg your Excellency to pardon me for the liberty I now take to implore your Excellency's aid to the influence I have here on many of the chiefs, by sending me twelve policemen, with firearms and a little supply of ammunition, to prevent human sacrifice which is about to take place at Amantsin.

King Enimil of Wassaw is now dead. He died on the 17th instant; and the present state of affairs in the district being as above described, the mere restraint of its connexion with Fanti, and my being here as Fanti Deputy, cannot prevent the too strong inclination I have witnessed since my arrival here to fall back to this inhuman custom. I have been the means of saving four or five persons when the King was alive, but now, not being on the spot when the poor old king expired, where, if I were, I could not have had this chance to write, I have not the least doubt some poor fellows have fallen victims.

The roads about Amantsin being strictly closed, I did not know of the King's death until three days ago; and some accounts being brought to me of some whom the surviving relatives have killed; I trust, therefore, that nothing in your Excellency's way of duty will prevent the acceding the humble request of your Excellency's humble servant. The roads are closed against people coming from the coast also, but they dare not prevent the Government's policemen. I beg, therefore, to say that, should your Excellency, in your way of duty, find nothing to hinder the discharge of this Christian humanity, to do it as early as your Excellency can possibly do.—I have the honour to remain, Sir, your Excellency's humble and obedient servant,

Jos. DAWSON, Fanti Deputy.

P.S.—Should your Excellency accede to this humble request, I shall meet them at Amantsin.

To his Excellency H. J. Usher,
the Administrator of Her Majesty's
Possessions on the Gold Coast, &c.

Copy of Agreement between Joseph Dawson, in the name of the Fanti Confederation, and the Chiefs of Wassaw, to put an end to Human Sacrifice.

Amantsin, November 9, 1871.

We, the undersigned chiefs, captains, and headmen of the body guard of the late King Kwamina Enimil of Wassaw, having met Mr. Joseph Dawson, of Cape Coast, the deputy of the Fanti Confederation, who returned to this town last Thursday, the 3rd inst., from Epphinto, where he was commissioned to arrange order by the late king, having this day confirmed to him all the powers and authority invested in him by our same late king as his chief procurator and a general referee in this district; and we having further empowered him to perform all that he knows to be promotive to the welfare and prosperity of this district; and whereas, in acceptation thereof, he has declared his abhorrence to human sacrifices, and thereby made the cessation of it the condition of his acceptance; and he having engaged to give warning to, and to acquaint the principal chiefs and headmen of this district of the evil consequence which will entail a disobedience to the entire cessation of this wicked practice in this district,—we hereby bind ourselves to save the lives of persons, instead of gold, that may after the date of this engagement be brought for this custom; and for ever bind ourselves to the entire cessation of making human sacrifices in this district; in failure of which we bind ourselves and our heirs to suffer any severe penalty which may be thought proper to inflict upon us by the British Government through its present relationship with our allied friends and brethren composing the Fanti Confederation, or that the Confederation itself may choose to inflict. In witness whereof we make crosses between our names before the undersigned witnesses:—

Kwamin, Ashantee King's representative, X, his mark; Prince Kueku Edduabang, X, his mark; Kodjoe, Ashantee heir, X, his mark; Capt. Kodjoe Baang, of Assebbe, X, his mark; Kwaah Ammuah, of Mahwel, X, his mark; Prince Kuessi Essalhin, X, his mark; Captain Ankima Ammuah, of Ahkonful, X, his mark; Captain Kwaahki Kofi, of Ahkonful, X, his mark; Chamberlain Kuessi Indoh, X, his mark; Second Chamberlain Kuessi Inkunah, X, his mark; Prince Kwabina Febbi, X, his mark; Linguist Quar Gan Baidoo, X, his mark; Linguist Kueku Affiran, X, his mark; Third Chamberlain Essal Kodjoe, X, his mark; Kwaah Fosoo, X, his mark; Kwamin Appaki, X, his mark; Kuessi Zam, X, his mark; Kwaah Kinnah, X, his mark; Kwaah Enuoo, X, his mark.

Witnesses to the Signatures: John Rolls, of Cape Coast, X, his mark; Akwessi Feitsin, of Assin, X, his mark; John Lamare, of Cape Coast, X, his mark; Kodjoe Mainsah, of Anshan, X, his mark; John Hayfron, of Anshan; Quar Ettsis, of Cape Coast, X, his mark.

CONSTITUTION OF THE FANTI CONFEDERATION.

(*For delivering copies of which to the Acting Administrator Salmon, at Cape Coast, to be forwarded to the Administrator-in-Chief and the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for their approval, Messrs. Davidson, Brew, and Amissah are thrust into prison on a charge of high treason!*)

To all whom it may concern:—

Whereas we, the undersigned, Kings and Chiefs of Fanti, have taken into consideration the deplorable state of our peoples and subjects in the interior of the Gold Coast; and whereas we are of opinion that unity and concord among ourselves would conduce to our mutual well-being, and promote and advance the social and political condition of our peoples and subjects, who are in a state of degradation, without the means of education and of carrying on proper industry: We, the said Kings and Chiefs, after having duly discussed and considered the subject at meetings held in Mankessim, on the 16th day of October last and following days, have unanimously resolved and agreed upon the Articles hereinafter named:—

ARTICLE I.—That we the Kings and Chiefs of Fanti here present form ourselves into a committee, with the view of effecting unity of purpose and of action between the Kings and Chiefs of the Fanti territory.

ARTICLE II.—That we the Kings and Chiefs here assembled now form ourselves into a compact body for the purpose of more effectually bringing about certain improvements (hereafter to be considered) in the country.

ARTICLE III.—That this compact body shall be recognised under the title and designation of the Fanti Confederation.

ARTICLE IV.—That there shall be elected a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Under-Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant-Treasurer.

ARTICLE V.—That the president be elected from the body of kings, and be proclaimed King President of the Fanti Confederation.

ARTICLE VI.—That the Vice-President, Secretary, Under-Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant-Treasurer, who shall constitute the Ministry, be men of education and position.

ARTICLE—VII. That it be competent to the Fanti Confederation, thus constituted, to receive into its body politic any other king or kings, chief or chiefs, who may not now be present.

ARTICLE VIII.—That it be the object of the Confederation:—

Section 1.—To promote friendly intercourse between all the kings and chiefs of Fanti, and to unite them for offensive and defensive purposes against their common enemy.

Section 2.—To direct the labours of the Confederation towards the improvement of the country at large.

Section 3.—To make good and substantial roads throughout all the interior districts included within the Confederation.

Section 4.—To erect school-houses, and establish schools for the education of all children within the Confederation, and to obtain the services of efficient schoolmasters.

Section 5.—To promote agricultural and industrial pursuits, and to endeavour to introduce such new plants as may hereafter become sources of profitable commerce to the country.

Section 6.—To develop and facilitate the working of the mineral and other resources of the country.

ARTICLE IX.—That an Executive Council be formed, composed of the Vice-President, Secretary, Under-Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant-Treasurer, who shall be "*ex officio*" members thereof, together with such others as may be hereafter from time to time appointed.

ARTICLE X.—That in order that the business of the Confederation be properly carried on during the course of the year, each king and principal chief shall appoint two representatives, one educated, the other a chief or headman of the district of such king and principal chief, who shall attend the meetings which the Secretary may deem necessary to convene for the deliberation of state matters.

ARTICLE XI.—That the representatives of the kings and chiefs assembled in council shall be known under the designation of the "Representative Assembly of the Fanti Confederation," and that this assembly be called together by the Secretary as state exigency may require.

ARTICLE XII.—That this Representative Assembly shall have the power of preparing laws, ordinances, bills, &c., of using proper means for effectually carrying out the resolutions, &c., of the Government, of examining any questions laid before it by the Ministry, and by any of the kings and chiefs, and, in fact, of exercising all the functions of a legislative body.

ARTICLE XIII.—That the representatives of each king and chief be responsible to the nation for the effectual carrying out of the bills, resolutions, &c., passed at such meetings and approved of by the King President.

ARTICLE XIV.—That the appointment of the representatives nominated by the kings and principal chiefs be notified to the Secretary, who shall make it known to all the members of the National Government.

ARTICLE XV.—That the National Assembly shall appoint an educated man to represent the King President, and act as Vice-President of the Confederation; and that the Vice-President shall preside over all meetings convened by the Secretary.

ARTICLE XVI.—That there shall be in the month of October of each year, a gathering of the kings, princip

chiefs, and others within the Confederation, when a recapitulation of the business done by the Representative Assembly shall be read, and the programme of the business for the ensuing year discussed.

ARTICLE XVII.—That at such meetings the King President shall preside, and that it be the duty of the King President to sanction all laws, ordinances, &c., passed by the Representative Assembly, so far as they are compatible with the interests of the country.

ARTICLE XVIII.—That the King President shall not have the power to pass any or originate any laws, resolutions, ordinances, bills, &c., nor create any office or appointment, excepting by and under the advice of the Ministry.

ARTICLE XIX.—That the representatives of the kings and principal chiefs hold office as Members of the Representative Assembly for three years, at the expiration of which it shall be competent for the kings and chiefs to re-elect the same, or appoint other representatives.

ARTICLE XX.—That the members of the Ministry and Executive Council hold office for three years, and that it is competent to the National Assembly to re-elect all or any of them, and appoint others.

ARTICLE XXI.—That national schools be established at as early a period as possible in the following districts, Braffoo Country, Abrah, Ayan, Gomowah, Eckumfi, Edjimacoe, Denkira, and Assin.

ARTICLE XXII.—That normal schools be attached to each national school, for the express purpose of educating and instructing the scholars as carpenters, masons, sawyers, joiners, agriculturalists, smiths, architects, builders, &c.

ARTICLE XXIII.—That schools be also established, and schoolmistresses procured, to train and teach the female sex, and to instruct them in the necessary requisites.

ARTICLE XXIV.—That the expense of erecting each school-house be defrayed from the national purse, but that each king and chief be requested to render all possible aid to facilitate the movement by supplying men and materials.

ARTICLE XXV.—That in districts where there are Wesleyan schools at present established, the kings and chiefs be requested to insist on the daily attendance of all children between the ages of eight and fourteen.

ARTICLE XXVI.—That main-roads be made connecting the various provinces or districts with one another and with the seacoast; that the roads be made after the following standard, viz., fifteen feet broad, with good deep gutters on either side, and that the attention of the Confederation be first directed to the main-road connecting Edjimacoe, Ayan, Ayanmaim, and Mankessim with the seacoast.

ARTICLE XXVII.—That the kings and principal chiefs be allowed a stipulated sum for the express purpose of maintaining the roads in proper order.

ARTICLE XXVIII.—That a site or town unanimously agreed upon be chosen as the nominal capital of the Confederation, where the principal business of the State should be conducted.

ARTICLE XXIX.—That Provincial Assessors be appointed in each province or district, who shall perform certain judicial functions, and attend to the internal management thereof.

ARTICLE XXX.—That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Confederation—

Section 1.—To convene meetings of the Representative Assembly for the purpose of considering State matters as may appear to the Ministry necessary.

Section 2.—To forward the decision of Executive Council to the representatives of the various provinces or districts, with instructions thereon.

Section 3.—To be the medium through which all important State matters be conducted.

Section 4.—To inform the King President of the decision of the Representative Assembly on any resolutions, &c., and to explain to him the nature of whatever resolutions, &c., are passed; as well as to carry to the Representative Assembly his sanction or dissent thereof.

Section 5.—To promulgate in each province, either through the provincial representatives or otherwise, whatever resolutions, laws, &c., have been passed, and have received the sanction of the King President.

Section 6.—To appoint under the advice of the Executive Council, subject to the sanction of the King President, but countersigned by the Vice-President, all subordinate officers in the provinces.

Section 7.—To receive the revenue of the country, keeping a strict account thereof, and to transmit monthly to the Treasurer all moneys in his possession, stating the sums obtained from the different sources of revenue.

Section 8.—To sign all vouchers for the Treasurer's guidance in the payment of moneys.

ARTICLE XXXI.—That it may be the duty of the Treasurer—

Section 1.—To receive monthly from the Secretary all moneys in his possession, keeping account thereof, and giving him a receipt for the same.

Section 2.—To make no disbursements excepting under instructions, accompanied with approved vouchers from the Secretary authorising the payments.

Section 3.—To furnish quarterly to the Secretary, for the information of the Representative Assembly, an account showing the receipts during the quarter, and the disbursements.

ARTICLE XXXII.—That the end of each quarter a board of officers, consisting of the Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one of the kings, be held for the purpose of verifying the cash in hand.

ARTICLE XXXIII.—That in case the cash in hand in the possession of the Treasurer should exceed a sum hereafter to be considered, the surplus should be placed in a depôt chest furnished with three keys, one of which shall be in the possession of the Vice-President, another in that of the Treasurer, and the third shall be retained by one of the kings.

ARTICLE XXXIV.—That it be the duty of the Under-Secretary—

Section 1.—To aid the Secretary generally.

Section 2.—To hear and determine, with an Assistant appointed by the Secretary, cases which may be brought from the Provincial Courts.

Section 3.—To arrange important appeal cases for the hearing of the Executive Council, which shall constitute the final Court of Appeal of the Confederation.

Section 4.—To draw up a report from accounts received from the provinces, of the state of the roads, schools, &c., for the guidance of the Executive Council.

ARTICLE XXXV.—That it be the duty of the Assistant-Treasurer—

Section 1.—To receive all moneys from Provincial Courts, receipt the vouchers thereof, and hand same to the Secretary.

Section 2.—To keep an account of the various sources of revenue, and to receive the moneys accruing therefrom, and pay the same over to the Secretary every fortnight.

ARTICLE XXXVI.—That it be the duty of the Provincial Assessors—

Section 1.—To hold courts in the districts to which they are appointed, with the assistance of the king or principal chief.

Section 2.—To transmit to the Secretary a statement of all cases tried during each month, showing the decisions arrived at thereon, according to a form hereafter to be prescribed by the Executive Council.

Section 3.—To keep an account of the summonses, writs, &c., issued during the month, showing the cost and fees thereon, as well as of all fines imposed by them.

Section 4.—To transmit weekly to the Assistant Treasurer all moneys received by them as court fees or fines, with an accompanying voucher.

Section 5.—To see that the roads are made according to the approved standard, and that they are kept in proper condition.

Section 6.—To see that the national schools are attended by all children between the ages of eight and fourteen, and to report thereon to the Secretary

Section 7.—To see that summonses, writs, &c., issuing from the British Courts on the seacoast to any of the

provincial towns are carried into effect with as little delay as possible, and to aid in the apprehension of criminals.

ARTICLE XXXVII.—That in each province or district Provincial Courts be established to be presided over by the Provincial Assessors.

ARTICLE XXXVIII.—That it be the duty of the Ministry and Executive Council—

Section 1.—To advise the King President in all state matters.

Section 2.—To see that all laws, bills, ordinances, resolutions, &c., passed by the Representative Assembly, after receiving the sanction of the King President, are carried into effect with as little delay as possible.

Section 3.—To examine carefully the financial condition of the Confederation.

Section 4.—To hear, try, and determine, all important appeal cases brought before it by the Under-Secretary, option being allowed any party or parties dissatisfied with the decision thereof to appeal to the British Courts, on application from which the minutes of the proceedings therein will be forwarded.

Section 5.—To hear, presided over by the King President and assisted by any king or chief whom it may deem necessary to summon for that purpose, all disputes between any of the kings and chiefs or their peoples.

Section 6.—To determine, according to the majority of votes of the people, the succession to the "stool" of any king or chief.

Section 7.—To prepare laws, bills, ordinances, &c., for the consideration of the Representative Body.

Section 8.—To issue notices to the kings and chiefs appointing time for their annual meeting and frame out the programme of such meeting.

Section 9.—To consider all applications of alliances from surrounding tribes, to present them for the consideration of the Representative Assembly, and to frame a reply thereto.

ARTICLE XXXIX.—That three of the ex-officio members of the Executive Council, or two ex-officio and two non-official members, shall form a quorum of said Council, and be competent to deliberate on all matters laid before it for consideration by the Secretary or Under-Secretary or any other member thereof.

ARTICLE XL.—That one third of the members composing the Representative Assembly shall form a quorum to discuss and deliberate on all questions brought before said Assembly.

ARTICLE XLI.—That all laws, bills, resolutions, ordinances, &c., be carried by the majority of votes in the Representative Assembly or Executive Council; in the latter the Vice-President possessing a casting vote.

ARTICLE XLII.—That it be the duty of the National Assembly, held in October of each year—

Section 1.—To elect from the body of kings the President for the ensuing year, and to re-elect as often as may appear to it fit and proper the out-going President.

Section 2.—To consider all programmes laid before it by the Executive Council.

Section 3.—To place on the "stool" in cases of disputed succession thereto the person elected by the Executive Council, with the concurrence of the principal inhabitants of the town, croom, or district.

ARTICLE XLIII.—That the officers of the Confederation shall render assistance as directed by the Executive in carrying out the wishes of the British Government.

ARTICLE XLIV.—That it be competent to the Representative Assembly, for the purpose of carrying on the administration of the Government, to pass laws, &c., for levying of such taxes as to it may seem necessary.

ARTICLE XLV.—That all the articles herein above passed be designated the Constitution of the Fanti Confederation.

ARTICLE XLVI.—That oaths of allegiance to the Fanti Confederation be taken by the kings and principal chiefs, which shall be held binding on their subjects and peoples, as well as by the principal officers of the Confederation and others joining it.

ARTICLE XLVII.—That the following oaths, in conjunction with that peculiar to each province, be administered as soon as the Constitution becomes law, to all the kings and chiefs present, their captains and headmen, to the educated persons who express a wish to join the Confederation and to all the office-bearers:—

No. 1.—*Form of oath to be administered to the King President.*

I swear that I will well, truly, and faithfully, serve my country, and in the capacity of King President maintain the Constitution of the Fanti Confederation; and that I will not conceal any apparent danger, damage, or harm which may be likely or possible to arise, without giving, or causing to be given, speedy notice thereof; and that I will truly, faithfully, and disinterestedly endeavour to use calm and peaceable means to quell any and every disturbance that may arise in any part of the Confederation. So help me God.

No. 2.—*Oath of allegiance to the King President.*

I swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the King President of the Fanti Confederation. So help me God.

No. 3.—*Oath to office-bearers.*

I swear that I will well and faithfully serve the Fanti Confederation in the capacity of , and that I will use every effort in my power to further the interests of the Confederation. So help me God.

In witness whereof we the kings, chiefs, and others assembled have hereunto signed our names, and affixed our marks and seals.

(Signed),

Quasie Edoo, King of Mankessim, his X mark;
Anfoo Otoo, King of Abrah, his X mark;
Quow Yanfoo, King of Ayan, his X mark;
Cudjoe Okroo, King of Commendah, his X mark; Quamin Mooyuah, King of Edjimacoo, his X mark, per Quow Yarcoe, his Representative; Essandoh, King of Inkoosoocoom, his X mark, per Joseph Graham; Tchibbu Drakoon, his X mark, and Quamin Inkie, Kings of Assin, his X mark, per their Representative, Anfoo Otoo, his X mark; Thomas Solomon, Chief of Dominassie, his X mark; James Simons, Chief of Donasie; Joseph Graham, Chief of Saltpond; Quabina Quagrenee, Chief of Saltpond, his X mark; R. J. Chartey, President; Kofi Adoobah, Chief of Tuarkoh, his X mark; Quasie Nackob, Chief of Abakrumpah, his X mark; Quow Sassan, Chief of Bathayu, his X mark; Quasie Sarlah, Chief of Quaman, his X mark; Qua Amissah, Chief of Abuardi, his X mark; Quabina Odoom, Chief of Bohhen, his X mark; Quarcoe Yarcoe, Chief of Doonquah, his X mark; Quasie Buarquah, Chief of Impessidardi, his X mark; Quasi Bekki, Chief of Bookan, his X mark; Quamin Attah, Chief of Odoomanu, his X mark; Brelwhi, Chief of Ampinafoon, his X mark; Quacoe Arkwaynoo, Chief of Abbankrome, his X mark; Quacoe Ansah, Chief of Akrofome, his X mark; Quabina Arkwaynoo, Chief of Mankessim, his X mark; Quabina Saccoom, Chief of Arnum, his X mark; Quabina Booadu, Chief of Ahiroe, his X mark; Quasie Imoonah, Chief of Ichafu, his X mark.

Done at Mankessim this eighteenth day of November, eighteen hundred and seventy-one.

Secretary's Office, Mankessim.
Nov. 24, 1871.

Certified true copy.
J. F. AMMISSAH, Secretary.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR OF THE "AFRICAN TIMES."—*The Fanti Constitution, as above printed, was forwarded by Mr. Fitzgerald, as Agent for the Fanti Confederation, to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley, Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the 2nd January. For that letter, and subsequent correspondence on the subject, we refer our readers to page 85.*

The African Times.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY. PRICE 5d., STAMPED.

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The African Times.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1872.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR "AFRICAN TIMES."
Mr. R. Eastmon, 5s.; Rev. C. Davies, 5s.; W. M. Gloucester, 10s.; W. D. Broderick, 5s.

A FEW WORDS OF THANKS & EXPLANATION.

WE have so many letters expressing wonder and indignation, and asking why it is, that persons on the Coast who either in themselves or in those who might be supposed to be dear to them have been benefited through our instrumentality, should abuse and vilify us, that although we do not insert them, we are at least in duty bound to notice them, and to thank our friends for their honest feeling in our cause. We can only further write a few words in reply. We neither hoped nor expected to work a moral change in those of whom they write. An old Persian aphorism says, "You may feed a snake upon violets, and lull him to sleep upon roseleaves, but he will produce nothing but poison." So it is with some human beings. In what we did for them and theirs in vindication of great principles, we did not look for attachment or reward. If it had come to us, we should have accepted it and been grateful for it; but we were never disappointed in its not coming. If we had the power to give them personal benefits, beyond what they are receiving from our official enemies of whom they make themselves subservient tools, they would become at once loud-tongued and strong-penned adherents. But as this cannot be, they follow their natural instincts. The time may come when they may be victims of some flagrant abuse of power, some disgraceful injustice, some odious wrong. Then they will find us at their side, and using all our influence in their behalf; not for their own sakes personally, but because of the principle involved. We know nothing but this, and the welfare of Africa, and honour of England as connected with it; and wherever and whenever one of those great principles which it has been our duty and glory to defend and vindicate, is or may be in our opinion violated in the person or property of any man on the West Coast, however vile or unworthy he may be, we shall as heretofore do battle in his behalf, as though he were our dearest friend and the most admirable of the human race.

REAL AFRICAN MARTYRS.

AT last we have real African martyrs in the cause of African progress and regeneration. The spurious British official one that "Englishman" vainly endeavoured to set up, was but the foreshadowing of the genuine ones that, under the hands of British officialism, were soon to appear, with the henceforward historic names of DAVIDSON, BREW, and AMISSAH! Although when the news of their hasty imprisonment reached us, our blood boiled with indignation, and we sympathised with them in the humiliation to which they were subject, we at the same time congratulated them in our heart of hearts that they should thus have been found worthy to occupy so early a place on the bead-roll of African martyrs. We have the conviction that if at any time there be good in a cause that stands forth and takes its place upon its merits as a great national one, that cause becomes consecrated, and its ultimate, if not speedy, victory becomes certain, from the moment that the supreme power lays a hand of violence upon its leaders and apostles. Evil agents are often unintentional and influential instruments for the working out of good. The brutal, arbitrary blundering of the man Salmon, placed by gross administrative error in a position he ought never even for one single moment to have occupied, will, we doubt not, thus be made co-operative in that very work of African advancement which he, and such as he, would vainly endeavour to prevent; although they have been but too long enabled to impede, and may still for a time impede it by their selfish incapacity. Far from endeavouring to supplement the old system of British rule at the forts and settlements on the Gold Coast by modifications which should introduce the kings, chiefs, and educated natives to a participation in government, with the object of advancing the period at which all the interior government might be transferred to them, under mere British supervision and supremacy, the efforts of successive Administrators since the period at which the House of Commons' Committee pronounced in favour of preparing the natives for self-government, have been in an exactly opposite direction. Not only have they not originated any mode of entry of the kings, chiefs, and others into participation in rule, but when the irresistible, onward current of events flowing from the ill-advised British and Dutch Treaty for exchange of territories, and the blundering, arbitrary way in which it was endeavoured to carry its provisions into effect, had borne the kings, chiefs, and others on to the formation of the Fanti Confederation, and to the exercise of really national powers for the defence and safety of themselves and people, the British local authorities have shown a jealoussy and ill-will toward that infant organisation which was eminently calculated to irritate, while impotent to prevent. They have systematically endeavoured to place the British Government in a position of antagonism with that native organisation which the British Government, had it been well represented by its officials on the Coast, would undoubtedly have endeavoured to make instrumental to the better and more effective government, the civilisation, the material progress, the general well-being of the whole of the Fanti countries and people. Where the British Government has been in error was, in not having made a better choice of officials to represent it, exercise its authority, and act in its name at Cape Coast. Her Majesty's Government cannot be opposed to those objects which, as evidenced in its constitution, the Fanti Confederation has at heart; although that constitution acted at the very first view on that unworthy Administrator, Salmon, as a red flag does on a wild bull. Just as the unreasoning beast foams and rages in fury at the brilliant object waved before its eyes, so did the scarcely more reasoning Salmon rage and foam in view of a constitution for the Fanti Confederation, which contains nothing but bright aspirations and desires, such as, if achieved and fulfilled under a wise exercise of restraining and directing power by the British Government, will give a new industrial, civilised, and, we hope within a short time, Christian life to the whole of the protected territories. The letter of Joseph Dawson—from Amantsin (Wassaw), which will be found in our paper, dated Nov. 14, and which therefore could not be written in view of any such acts of brutal folly as those of Acting-Administrator Salmon—supplies strong corroborative evidence of those aspirations and desires, which we say shine forth in that constitution of the Fanti Confederation that roused the ready demon in Salmon's breast. It shows an earnest and active desire on the part of the Confederation to control and extirpate those diabolic practices, such as the offering up of human sacrifices on certain great occasions, in the repression of which the British authorities on the Gold Coast had been so successful; but which under present circumstances they had prohibited themselves from interfering with in Wassaw, except by invitation of the Deputy of the Fanti Confederation, because of the foolish nominal transfer of that province to the Dutch by the Treaty for exchange of territories—a transfer of what the British Government never possessed, to the Dutch Government which never would be able to take possession of it, or be allowed to exercise, as the British Government formerly did, a useful repressive authority in it. Admitting for a moment, which we do not except for argument, that it would be conspiracy or high treason for any number of the kings and chiefs and educated natives, not really British subjects, to combine for superseding the action of the British Government in territories which have received notice from that Government that they must in all future emergencies protect and defend themselves; receiving merely such trifling aid in arms and ammunition as that Government may, of its own free bounty, and without obligation, think fit to bestow—we look for in vain, and we defy Mr. Salmon or his Crown Prosecutor, or any other authority, to discover any evidence in the offending constitution of the existence of such a superseding desire, much less of a combination, to compass it. The preposterous absurdity, as well as brutality, of Mr. Salmon's official conduct have, however, done this good—that they have removed the question of future authority and rule throughout the so-called protected territories out of the region of speculation into that of fact. The question will now have to be determined whether the British Government will of itself undertake such an effective government of the so-called protected territories as will give them security, insure moral and industrial training, afford improved means of communication, promote a better system of agriculture, and the development of their magnificent mineral resources; or, if not, to what extent it will accept the co-operation of the Fanti Confederation in governing with such object and for such results; together, with what portion of the revenue it collects on the Coast it will contribute in aid; and how and under what guarantees, and on what conditions, it will so contribute it? For, after all, this matter of revenue is at the very root of the question. We hold the continued presence of British authority on those coasts, and the acknowlegment of British supremacy throughout those territories to be indispensable for the advancement of the best interests of their populations. It should be their great arbitrator, their great counsellor, their great guide; but, that it may be all this, it must not appear as a great robber and plunderer among them. If, for their protection oceanward, it holds the keys of the coast for them in its firm grasp, it must not do this at the cost of the whole administrative life-blood of the interior. The British people do not want one single penny of African money; they would be more willing to give or to lend than to receive; and it is, therefore, out of the question to suppose that the British Government will consent to continue to occupy such a disgraceful position as we have pointed out, merely to gratify the plundering appetites of a knot of officials, whose chief aim seems for a long time past to have been to bring as deep disgrace as possible upon that Government which they so unworthily represent. We do not say that they are to blame for this; they may be contemptible and odious, yet not to blame, because they are only acting according to their instincts. The censure (we feel bound to say it) must fall upon the British Government, and upon their general chief representative on the West Coast, for appointing and upholding such men. The man who does a dirty and disgraceful act to obtain an entry and promotion in the service, will naturally do bad and disgraceful acts—acts to compromise authority and make it odious and contemptible—when he has obtained promotion. We expect to see a change for the better in these things, in proportion as we may be able to bring an enlightened public opinion to bear on West African matters. But whether with or without change for the better, this question of the application of Gold Coast and Cape Coast revenue will speedily have to be settled. The only public revenue which those territories at present possess, is that raised by customs' duties on the coast, with some minor imposts in the immediate vicinity of the British forts. This revenue has greatly increased of late; and will still more greatly increase whenever Elmina shall be abandoned, as sooner or later it must be abandoned, by the Dutch in favour of Great Britain as the coast guardian of those territories. As this is the only actual public revenue, there can be no doubt that, after providing liberally for a good administrator or governor—one who would make both himself and his government respected and beloved (not one of the Conran-Ussher or Salmon type) for the administration of justice at the settlements, the collection and care of revenue, and the preservation of local order—it ought to be employed, with as few deductions as possible, in furthering such objects as are specially pointed out in the constitution of the Fanti Confederation. Soon or late, the British Government may be relied upon to do justice in this matter. May we not venture to hope and believe that it will be soon? It shall be soon, if such a result can be forwarded by our exertions. Meanwhile and for ever, honour to the three African martyrs who had the courage of their opinions in the face of infuriated authority; and who, by persisting in their mission on behalf of the Fanti Confederation, have greatly advanced the good cause which they have at heart.

THE LIBERIAN LOAN MONEY.

IT is most desirable, so far as regards both the English subscribers to the Liberian Loan and the Liberian people in whose name promises to repay the money have been issued, that no further application of the proceeds should be made without special authorisation of the new executive and administrative authorities that may be installed in Liberia. For this end it cannot be deemed unimportant that the portion of the money still remaining in London banks should be taken altogether out of the control of all persons who were parties to the issue of the loan, and who, if the accounts we have already published be correct, as we have every reason to believe they are, have not, in disposing of the sums already expended, acted in strict conformity with the letter of the real or supposed legislative enactment under which the issue of the loan was ostensibly made. We were, therefore, glad to learn that the injunction of the Court of Chancery, granted at the instance of Mr. Jackson, Consul for Liberia, restraining the bankers from parting with the money, still remains in force. The new governing authorities in Liberia will thus have had time given them for full inquiry and mature deliberation respecting all matters connected with the issue of the loan, and the safe custody and ultimate disposal of the portion of the proceeds which still remain unexpended. Meanwhile our opinion remains in every way unchanged, that there was no possible justification for raising such a loan on the part of Liberia, the revenues of which do not suffice for the ordinary expenses of its government, and could not possibly be so increased by any additional taxes as to enable Liberia to pay therefrom any portion of the annual interest on the bonds issued, much less to form a sinking fund for redemption of the bonds. We do not know under whose advice the late President, Mr. Roye, acted in the appointment of a chargé d'affaires in England, and in other matters of consular arrangements, of banquettings and feastings and puffing here which brought forcibly to one's memory the fable of the frog who would fain distend himself to the proportions of an ox, and who exploded in the attempt. It is impossible to arrive at any other conclusion than that all that was done was so done with one sole object—viz., the obtaining of a certain amount of English money, by claiming for Liberia an importance to which unhappily it is not at present in any way entitled. We therefore sincerely hope that the new President, whoever he may be, will put an end to a system which can only end in making Liberia ridiculous, and everyone who wears its consular uniform in Europe a laughing stock for all who know what Liberia and its commerce really are. The day will come, we hope, when Liberia will become rich and great, but the time is not yet; and it must bide its time if it wishes to be respectable.

THE FANTI CONFEDERATION, ITS CONSTITUTION, AND ACTING-ADMINISTRATOR SALMON.

THE Fanti Confederation is now a ripening, as well as an established fact. It has struggled through a stormy but useful infancy; has formed its constitution; has held its first assembly under that constitution; has elected its officers; has officially notified its existence and organisation to the representative of supreme authority, for the information and approval of that authority; and its officers have had Gothic House, Cape Coast, assigned to them as a temporary residence; where, by a still further beneficent exercise of power, the Acting Administrator brought five of their most intimate friends to rejoice with them, at the now seemingly assured growth of the new giant baby,

whom we believe destined to achieve great good in Fanti. True Gothic House had the misfortune to be a Government prison, and their appointed attendants were jailors; but they were equal to the occasion, and accepted the magnificent accommodation of Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen's drawing-rooms,* with a dignity that will long redound to their honour. We feel that the whole of Fanti, every educated African within its borders, every king and chief, the entire people, owe a debt of gratitude to these worthy representatives. Had they flinched before the brutal bellowings and arbitrary measures of an unworthily held authority; they would have greatly compromised the cause of Fanti advancement? It has been often asserted to us that the Fanti Confederation was but a rope of tow, which would snap in sunder so soon as the hand of protective authority on the Coast should deign to touch it rudely; that its members, and more especially its educated ones, would sell one another, betray one another, abandon one another, under the bribes, threats, or cajolery of administrative power; and that every attempt to form a strong native organisation for interior governmental co-operation with the Coast authority, would be futile. Fact has grandly disproved such assertions. True there have been some, it is said, who deserted and denied their brethren, and some who tempted them to mutual betrayal. But although this, like every other great national cause, has had weak members, and power has here as elsewhere not found it difficult to enlist spies and would-be denouncers, the steady firmness of Davidson, Brew, and Amissah, and the unyielding dignity of the kings at Mankessim, have cast that weakness and that wickedness so deeply into shade, that we do not care to trouble ourselves with any further allusions to it. It is always well that the supposed adherents of a new national organisation should be tried and sifted. It is never to be looked for among human agents that the wheat should be without some admixture of chaff; which is only blown away by the wind of seeming peril; and what has happened was, perhaps, necessary to teach the Confederation caution as to its officers and agents, that it may not be misrepresented, deserted, and injured by unworthy ones. We think it deserves great praise for the constitution it has given to itself, the whole of which we print verbatim in this number of our journal. There is certainly nothing in it to justify Mr. Salmon's wrath; and we cannot but think that if it had been submitted to him at early morning, instead of after his *Excellency!* (save the mark!) had dined, the reception of its bearers would have been of a different character to that which they experienced; and Gothic House would never have acquired historic fame, as connected with the constitution of the Fanti Confederation. The course pursued by us in vindication of the rights and liberties of the Fanti people, and in behalf of Fanti advancement, so soon as we received intelligence of Mr. Salmon's atrociously arbitrary and ridiculous official misconduct, will be seen in the letters addressed by us to the Right. Hon. the Secretury of State for the Colonies; and we shall not attempt to indicate what the result of our efforts will or ought to be. If it should appear to his lordship, as it seems in our eyes, that in that consolidating act of the Fanti Confederation, the drawing up of that constitution at Mankessim, there is really the *birth of a* NATION, which requires only judicious, enlightened, and Christian guidance, education, and support (such as Great Britain is well calculated to give) during the earlier period of its life, to make it a great instrument of good in West Africa, we feel sure that he will so represent the matter to the other members of the Government in Council, that there will not be any attempt under an administration of which Mr. Gladstone is the head, to strangle or dwarf what ought to be nursed and assisted to expand. The education of the children, male and female, throughout Fanti; the opening and maintenance of roads; the development of the vast agricultural and mineral resources of the countries of the Confederation, are objects which must commend themselves to the heart and mind of every member of an enlightened government; and as they are objects that could not by any possibility be attained and achieved without such national movement and co-operation as may be secured through the instrumentality of the Fanti Confederation, we feel no misgiving as to the course that will be pursued by the Earl of Kimberley, in dealing with matters so interesting, and of so much magnitude and importance.

* Vide Parliamentary Debate in our number for August last.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN LAGOS.

Our latest advices state that the heavy cloud from the interior that seemed to be threatening mercantile operations in Lagos had happily dispersed. The change of rulers which took place some months ago in Ibadan had brought pacific results. All the efforts that had been made by certain influential persons in Lagos to stir up war in the interior had consequently failed, the Ibadans refusing to carry out the suggestions conveyed to them; their reply being that, neither alone nor in combination with the Dahomians, would they make war against the Egbas this dry season. They said that they and the Egbas are one family; also that they are neighbours; that they do not make war their trade. Commercial men in Lagos were finding great relief in this, although very greatly vexed at the either unmeaning or bad meaning (they were in doubt which) prohibition to export arms and ammunition from Lagos. Public opinion was very decided against this prohibition, the continuance of which, without any justifiable grounds, so far as could be perceived, was causing rumours of hostile intentions on the part of the Government against the King of Porto Novo, thus renewing anxiety and vexation among the trading community, who cannot imagine any good reason why Lagos should not be at peace and in friendship with all her neighbours, all of them being necessary to the proper supply of food and export produce in her markets.—ED. *A.T.*

[We publish our correspondence with Lord Kimberley relative to these important matters, refraining at present from any further comment on a condition of public affairs which we cannot look upon as satisfactory.—ED. *A. T.*]

COPY OF LETTER TO THE EARL OF KIMBERLY ON LAGOS AFFAIRS.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street,
Dec. 16, 1871.

My Lord,—I deeply regret that the contents of letters I have received during the present month, and especially by the Roquelle, to hand this day, should have been such as to place me under the necessity of addressing your lordship on the subject of the state of affairs in Lagos.

All my correspondents in Lagos, even those who have been among the most staunch supporters of the present Administrator, are unanimous in representing the anxiety and apprehension that exist there at present, caused by a seeming tendency on the part of the Executive to foment troubles in the interior countries, and interfere unjustifiably and dangerously with contiguous territories and peoples.

On the 11th of September last, the Administrator caused the Legislative Council to pass through all its three stages "An Ordinance to authorise the Administrator to prohibit the export of arms and other munitions of war from Lagos in certain cases." Since that time there has been a restlessness on the part of the Executive, which has been unmitigatedly evil in its tendency. He is stated to have allowed a petition to be got up by certain dependents of the Government, calling upon him to annex Porto Novo and its territories. By sundry unnecessary and threatening voyages in the colonial steamer, attended by a force of Houssas, &c., he has given colour to the belief that he has such plans in contemplation; and considering what took place in the years 1864-1867, it is not surprising that merchants and traders, the whole of whose property would be imperilled and destroyed by a renewal of the overt and secret acts of policy then committed, should even give credit to the report of their Administrator having allowed his feelings of hostility against the Egba nations so far to prevail with him over all just, honourable, humane, and politic considerations, as to induce him privately to instigate the Kings of Dahomey and Ibadan conjointly to attack, and if possible destroy Abeokuta during the present dry season.

The proper policy of Lagos, as a great emporium of trade for extensive inland countries, must manifestly be to cultivate amicable relations with all of them, and scrupulously to abstain from everything that could give rise to suspicions of hostile feelings or intentions as regards any of them. The

then merchants and traders of Lagos, were for the most part ruined by Captain Glover's disastrous proceedings and policy from 1864 to 1867; and not less than half a million pounds sterling of British capital is believed to have been thus sacrificed. Men's fears now again point in the same direction. One, a very large trader, writes to us: "I have never written to you since 1869. I have had too much to do; but Mr. Glover is beginning his old ruinous tricks and must be checked. We do not see what right he has to meddle with the people outside our jurisdiction. Some few days ago he has been sending ammunition by the colonial steamer to some country without our jurisdiction—God knows where to. There is a rumour current in Lagos that he is planning the destruction of Abeokuta, because his term of service expires in March 1872. Some years ago he promised Abeokuta that he would ruin them; and he is known to be a most vindictive man. All the merchants, Europeans and natives, are on the alert." And that this represents only too truly the feelings and opinions of Lagos is fully shown by other correspondence.

I feel bound to bring these circumstances or apprehensions under the notice of your lordship, in the full assurance that all such acts, measures, and designs, real or supposed, of the Lagos Administration, must be entirely opposed to the humane and peaceable policy and desires of Her Majesty's Government; and that your lordship will, without delay, adopt such measures as may quiet the minds of the merchants and traders of Lagos, who are fearing a repetition of the commercial ruin of 1865-7.—I have the honour to be, my lord, your lordship's obedient servant,

F. FITZGERALD,
Editor of the *African Times*.

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberly.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet Street,
Dec. 30, 1871.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Meade's letter of the 23rd inst., by which I am informed that the "Prohibition of Export of Arms Ordinance" of 11th September, 1871, was passed by the Lagos Legislative Council in pursuance of instructions from your lordship.

While thanking your lordship for this information, which I was not unprepared to receive, you will, I hope, pardon me in that I venture to remark that, notwithstanding the confidence felt in your lordship by the Lagos people, it is not satisfactory to a large trading community, or to those pecuniarily connected with them in this country, that the general course of their commercial operations should be thus interfered with by Ordinance without some sufficient public grounds being assigned in the preamble for the passing of such Ordinance.

I have not before me the Ordinance of 11th March, 1871, which is repealed by that of the 11th September, 1871, and cannot, therefore, by comparing the two, arrive at any idea of the reasons which may have been alleged by the Administrator of Lagos to induce your lordship to sanction the repeal of the one Ordinance and order the enactment of the other; but my correspondents in Lagos, who are alarmed by the substitution of the new Ordinance for the old one, have evidently not found in such comparison, which they have without doubt been enabled to make, anything calculated to remove those apprehensions which the hasty passing of this new Ordinance and subsequent Acts of their Administrator had otherwise caused. I cannot, therefore, specify, with so much distinctness as I could desire, the full grounds on which the merchants and traders of Lagos base their apprehensions. Some of these may, however, be found in the list of grievances stated against the Government of Lagos by the King of Jebu Ode. The territories of this King commence at the mainland shore near Lagos, and extend thence in the direction of Ibadan. Until lately, the messages of the Administrator at Lagos to this King, asking free access through his territories for all goods, &c, to and from Ibadan, were in language of command and dictation, which the King resented by sending back the messengers without granting them any audience.

Friends having lately intervened, the King of Jebu Ode was induced to send a message formalising his complaints. The issue was, as your lordship is no doubt aware, that the Administrator of Lagos sent some Special Commissioners (but without any presents) to the King of Jebu Ode on the 12th September. I have received from Jebu Ode an account of the interviews of the Lagos Commissioners with the King and his Chiefs. The main object of the Administrator seemed to them to be so to open the road through Jebu to Ibadan, that the Ibadans might supply themselves at pleasure with arms and ammunition from Lagos, which is what the Jebus, the Ijazis, and the Ijeshas, by common accord, never will permit, unless compelled (which they do not believe they ever can be) by force to do so. Their objection is that those arms and munitions of war are desired by the Ibadans only with the object of carrying on, with greater vigour, those destructive slave-hunting wars which ruin the other interior countries. The King reiterated his former complaints—alluded anew to the 800*l.* in presents sent by the Administrator to the Ibadans at the time of the Ijeshu War, and subsequent presents out of the revenues of Lagos. The King alleged that the Ibadans were thus encouraged by the Administrator in their destructive kidnapping pursuits. He refused the 500 bags of cowries which the Administrator offered as an annual payment for a *free road* to Ibadan. "The Jebus did not want money; they are a peaceable, agricultural, industrial people, hating all war, and object altogether to arms and ammunition passing through their territory to the interior; the road should be open for all other trade as hitherto on payment of the usual transit dues," &c., &c.

I regret to add, for herein is one ground of apprehension in Lagos, that this answer returned by the King through the Commissioners did not satisfy the desires of the Administrator, who on the 1st November last issued proclamation under the new ordinance, prohibiting the sale of powder, &c., while at the same time the merchants believe that he supplies arms and ammunition to the interior indirectly, with some yet secret object; that the friends of the Ibadans by whom he is surrounded are enabled under cover of Act III. of the Ordinance to forward, through other routes than Jebu Ode, arms and munitions to the Ibadans and their allies in kidnapping and destructive wars; while under the strongest provisions of the said Ordinance, those whose security is threatened by the Ibadans and their allies, are prohibited from purchasing and receiving what is thus made indispensable to their defence and safety.

I did not write to your lordship about the state of public feeling and the apprehension of the merchants and trader in Lagos, both European and native, without strong grounds for so doing. I have already given extracts from a letter of one of my informants. Another, after alluding to the general policy and acts of Administrator Glover from 1863 to 1868, writes very strongly as follows: "Now again, Capt. Glover, has recommenced. He sends private messages to Dahomey to attack Abeokuta the coming dry season, and to the Ibadans to attack the Jebu Ode, and he will help them from here; he secretly, with the Yorubas here, sending powder and guns to the Ibadans, and he himself going about the rivers and creeks with the steamer Eyo to cause commotion; so that the Ibadans may be induced to commence operations, because the Administrator cannot go to war in territories not our own without the sanction of the Administrator-in-Chief. The Ibadan messages came down in August last with some sheep and ivory to the Governor and his Yoruba favourites, and with messages said to have been previously dictated to them secretly from Lagos itself."

I could not for one moment deem it to be possible that any English gentleman, much less one in a responsible official position, could be guilty of so diabolical an outrage to humanity as to instigate the Dahomians to another attack on Abeokuta. But the very fact of such an insinuation or charge against the Administrator of Lagos finding any credence whatever among educated men in that colony, is of itself sufficient to prove how greatly men's minds have been unsettled by late proceedings on the part of the Administrator.

Capital is timid and suspicious. A trade amounting, as that of Lagos now does, to some five hundred thousand pounds sterling a-year easily takes alarm; and when alarmed by acts and views attributed, whether justly or erroneously, to a local executive government, over whose acts the persons engaged in so large a commerce do not possess any control whatever, I do not think that it is in any way derogatory to the dignity of those who can alone control the acts and views of that local executive, that they should condescend to allay apprehensions which may produce largely disastrous results if permitted long to prevail.

I should not have intruded on your lordship with so long a letter had the reply to my former one contained even a single word that might reassure the merchants and traders of Lagos, and those in this country who are involved in pecuniary relations with them; and entreating your lordship's patient consideration and enlightened action in this important matter, I have the honour to remain, my Lord, yours most respectfully,

F. FITZGERALD,
(11 Years Editor of the *African Times*.)

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley, K.G., &c., &c., Colonial-office.

(Copy.)

African Times Office, January 2, 1872.

My Lord,—I had the honour to address your lordship a second time on the state of affairs at Lagos, under date December 30, 1871, and regret to find that my duty again compels me to bring that state of affairs under your lordship's notice.

By the steam-ship Congo, which arrived in Liverpool on the 29th ultimo, I have received, among other letters from Lagos, one from a merchant very largely engaged in the commerce of that place, who writes as follows:—

"There have been great and wonderful changes in the policy of our Government during the last few months. At present it appears as if a cloud were gathering, that must soon burst with great violence upon our surrounding neighbours and ourselves; and this for no cause whatever. The aspect of our present policy can only be compared to that of 1864. The stoppage of the roads from Abeokuta had almost taken place a fortnight ago, had it not been for some of the merchants there who remonstrated with the chiefs, that they should first ask for an explanation from our Governor of certain policy which they regard as in great opposition to them, while it serves to suit the purposes of other nations. There is no end of ups and downs with us, and sending to and fro, as a wild lion seeking for a prey. In fact we are looking very anxiously to see what will be the issue of our uncalled-for policy. Surely it will be prevented being any other than that the mountain which laboured and brought forth a mouse."

I will not trouble your lordship with any comment on the above, except that it places anew and in a very strong light the necessity of some adequate interference by your lordship, to put an end to those aberrations of the Lagos Executive, which are paving the way for most deplorable results.—I have he honour to remain, my Lord, yours very respectfully,

F. FITZGERALD,
(11 Years Editor of the *African Times*.

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley, K.G., &c., &c., Colonial-office.

Reply of the Earl of Kimberley.
(Copy.)
Downing-street, January 12, 1872.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to acknowledge receipt of your letters of the 30th December last and of the 2nd inst. relative to the state of affairs at Lagos; and with reference to certain statements contained in your letter of the 30th December, I am to acquaint you that his lordship has approved of the Administrator's endeavours to open roads into the interior for general purposes of trade, and that he has no ground whatever for supposing that his proceedings were in any way connected with supplying the Ibadans with arms and ammunition.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) ROB. GEO. HERBERT.

(Copy.)
African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street, Jan. 19, 1872.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt Mr. Herbert's letter of Jan. 12, received Jan. 15, informing me that your lordship has approved of the Administrator's endeavours to open roads into the interior for general purposes of trade, and that your lordship sees no ground whatever for supposing that his proceedings were in any way connected with supplying the Ibadans with arms and ammunition.

In reply I would crave permission to observe that there cannot be any person to whom the opening of new roads to the interior for the purposes above-mentioned can be of more importance than to the merchants and traders of Lagos, if the measures adopted for obtaining that desirable result be of a nature not to disturb the friendly relations existing between Lagos and the more contiguous countries; on peace in which, and continued friendly relations with which the commerical prosperity and life of Lagos depend; but that they deprecate, and as I think most justly object to any efforts being made for opening such roads, that may in any way threaten the present commercial relations of the colony, and cause alarm and apprehension such as have been felt of late in Lagos and its neighbourhood.

I beg further most respectfully to observe that the ruinous experience of 1867-7 justifies the susceptibility of the merchants and traders of Lagos as to the action of their Executive (over which they have not any control whatever) in carrying out his policy relative to the neighbouring and interior countries, and to express my deep regret that your lordship does not seem to think—however large and vital the interests they have at stake—that the merchants and traders of Lagos have any right to question the propriety of that action, or to be informed why certain important portions of their trade is interferred with by ordinance and proclamation, although that action and that interference may be of a nature to cause them present loss, and the most serious apprehensions of coming danger, and even of commercial ruin.—I have the honour to remain, my lord, yours most respectfully,

F. FITZGERALD, Editor of *African Times*.

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley, K.G.,
Colonial-office.

THE LAGOS CANAL—ONE OF THE GREAT HOLES IN THE LAGOS PUBLIC CHEST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Lagos, Dec. 4, 1871.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Permit me through the medium of your inestimable paper to corroborate the statements of "Lagosians," which appeared in your October number, by pointing out one of the principal causes of the "large holes underneath the Government iron safe."

Our *soi-disant* Colonial Engineer, John Hunter, is now on leave of absence to England, leaving all public works that he has opened incomplete, by what we consider to be his mismanagement. What I am about to state are facts with which all in Lagos will concur.

Mr. Hunter has buried many a thousand pounds in the Offin Canal, and, for others as well as myself in Lagos, I ask whatis the result? Are those Lagos Canal works of any benefit to Lagos? Great quantities of machines, &c., were imported by Mr. Hunter for the Colonial Government, and are perfectly useless, lying dormant in the Surveyor's department; we suppose because he does not know how to use them.

He suffered no experienced workman to have any post in the Government employ. Of course he made his pockets full whilst the colonial chest was emptying. Our Court Hall at Tinubu-square and the Custom House at the Marina need a great deal of repair, for they are leakey; and if the Lagos Government now owes debts, are not Mr. Hunter and the Lagos Canal among the principal causes?

We are so fully persuaded of this, that we shall be ever thankful if Mr. Hunter comes here no more again. At the same time we are truly in need of a Colonial Engineer; but what we want is a true civil engineer, to instruct our young men, bring them up properly in mechanicism, and to give proper directions for public works. We do not want an inexperienced marine engine-driver in general, who does not know the use of a level. I need not say any more, Mr. Editor; the streets of Lagos during the rainy season testified to every spectator, white or black, that, whatever else he may have known, Mr. John Hunter does not know what is called drainage.

I am, yours, &c.,
VOX POPULI

CONFIRMATIONS AT LAGOS BY THE BISHOP OF SIERRA LEONE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Lagos, December 7, 1871.

Sir,—We are glad to inform you that the Lord Bishop of this diocese arrived here safely with Mrs. Cheetham on the 17th November, and was well received by the clergy, churchwardens, and the community at large. It is a cause of great joy to us, after the lapse of nearly seven years, to see a bishop of this diocese come down to Lagos. We pray that his life and that of his lady may be long spared, and that their health may permit them to labour many years in Africa.

His lordship preached at Christ Church on Sunday, the 19th November, to a full congregation, and on St. Andrew's Day, Nov. 30, he had confirmation, when 225 persons were confirmed in Christ Church. On Advent Sunday, the 3rd inst., he had ordination, when four native candidates were admitted to deacon's orders, and the Rev. H. Townsend preached the ordination sermon. On Tuesday, the 5th inst., he confirmed 166 persons in St. Paul's Church; and this day his lordship opened a new church at Iddo Island, in the vicinity of Lagos, and held a confirmation in the church at Ibute Metta, on the mainland to the northern district of this settlement. On Thursday next, the 14th inst., his lordship will (D.V.) held confirmation in the church at Badagry. The Bishop was to have presided at the anniversary meeting of the Local Branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society, in the Wesleyan Chapel, Tinubu-square, on Monday, the 27th November; but, owing to his indisposition, our worthy friend, the Hon. A. H. Porter took the chair. Hence you see the arrival of the Bishop has enlivened our community, and we trust that the season has been a great blessing to us. The Bishop and lady will return for Sierra Leone in January.

With compliments of the approaching season, I remain, yours truly,
OLOUNDUDU.

THE NIGER STEAMERS.

At the date of our latest advices from Lagos, the Victoria steamer, belonging to the West African Company, had not then returned from the Niger. The Company's agent went up in her, as also Bishop Crowther and his party. It was rumoured, but it was not known whether on good authority, that the Victoria had taken the ground somewhere about Lukoja.

The Rio Formosa, Mr. Pinnock's steamer, which went up the Tchadda branch of the Niger, had not then been heard of; an some anxiety was felt as to her safety.

SMALL-POX AT CAPE COAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, Nov. 30, 1871.

Dear Sir,—Dr. Mosse has responded to the article in the last *African Times* treating on the introduction of small-pox into this place, and with reference to his reply, there are two matters to which I would particularly draw your attention.

1st. If proper precautions were taken, how came the hospital servant, Quashie Hajan, and a woman and daughter in Gothic House, to catch the disease? The poor woman and daughter died on the same day, a few hours only intervening between the two deaths.

2nd. The small-pox was never introduced here direct from the mail steamers; but was brought by the prisoner from Accra in May last on S.S. Biafra. We shall be glad if Dr. Mosse will refresh our memory as to when, and from what mail steamers this disease was introduced here direct.

Now a few words with reference to the address got up for Mr. Ussher when he was about to leave. You copied into your paper an article from a Cape Coast publication, exposing the state of Cape Coast Town, which was justly said to be one mass of filth—a veritable dunghill; and you commented upon this in the *African Times* in a way that stirred up official indignation at him whose article you thus copied in all quarters. To pacify them, he got up an address for Martyr Ussher. He had his own objects in view, of course; but not everybody followed the crafty lead, and I for one refused to sign. You cannot expose in too strong a language that system of addresses of sham praise. Pray continue to do your duty in a straightforward manner, without deference for colour, and God will reward you for your labours.

I hope you will not fail to let the Colonial-office know how, and with what object, that address given to Martyr Usher was got up to pacify officirl displeasure.—Yours faithfully,

V.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY ON FANTI AFFAIRS.

African Times Offices, 121, Fleet-street,
January 2, 1872.

My Lord,—It is with great pain that, by desire and in the interest of the Fanti Kings, Chiefs, and others, members of the "Fanti Confederation," I find it necessary to bring under your lordship's notice the arrest and imprisonment, by Acting-Administrator Salmon, at Cape Coast, of three persons of education and influence—viz., Messrs. W. E. Davidson, J. H. Brew, and J. F. Amissah, on a charge of high treason.

This arrest took place on the night of the 30th November, 1871, at 10.30 P.M., subsequent to a visit of the above-mentioned persons to Government House, for the purpose of delivering to Acting-Administrator Salmon three copies of a Constitution for the Fanti Confederation, agreed upon by assembled Kings, Chiefs, and others, at Mankessim, one of which copies being for the Acting-Administrator, and the other two for transmission by him to the Administrator-in-Chief, and through the latter to your lordship, as Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, for examination and approval.

I have the honour to enclose for your lordship's information a printed copy of the said Constitution, and of the letters to Acting-Administrator Salmon and the Administrator-in-Chief; together with copy of a letter from an unquestionable authority, detailing the visit of the three persons before mentioned to Government House, Cape Coast, their reception there by Acting-Administrator Salmon, and the subsequent proceedings, culminating in the arrest and incarceration of those persons in the prison cells at Gothic House, on a charge of high treason.

I would willingly leave the appreciation of these facts without comment for your lordship's enlightened consideration; but as I consider the arrest and imprisonment of those persons, as above stated, to be a wonton and brutal outrage committed in their persons on the entire body of Kings, Chiefs, and others, of Fanti, who were assembled or represented at Mankessim at the drawing up of the said Constitution, I beg leave to state briefly some of the grounds on which I hope and believe that your lordship will condemn such arrest and imprisonment, and order, without delay, the release of the persons above mentioned.

I. That it has been long since distinctly laid down by Her Majesty's Government, through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that this country does not claim to possess any territory whatever on the Gold Coast beyond the walls of the fortresses and establishments of the British Government there.

2. That after the sitting and report of the House of Commons Committee, subsequent to the Ashanti War, the entire so-called Protectorate on the Gold Coast was informed by authority, that the Kings, Chiefs, and people were no longer to look to the British authorities at Cape Coast for protection and defence, but must thenceforward protect and defend themselves.

3. That as a necessary result of the position thus created for the Kings, Chiefs, and people of Fanti, they did, when they considered themselves and their country in danger through the Dutch-Ashanti Alliance, combine for mutual protection and defence; and under the name and title of the Fanti Confederation were acknowledged and treated with by successive British authorities at Cape Coast and by the Administrator-in-Chief.

4. That in the Constitution of the Fanti Confederation as contained in the documents respectfully handed to Mr. Acting-Administrator Salmon on the night of the 30th November, and in the accompanying letter, there was no word or act of rebellion against British supremacy, no defiance of British authority; but, on the contrary, the evidences of a sincere desire of the approval of the Administrator, of the Administrator-in-Chief, and of your lordship, as Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

5. That in the absence of any evidence in the matter contained in the said documents of rebellion against British supremacy, or defiance of British authority, as hitherto exercised in and from the British forts and settlements on the Gold Coast, not one of the parties to the drawing up of such Constitution and the accompanying letters could possibly have been guilty of any recognisable offence for which he could be punished by British law.

6. That even had it been safely possible to give to the matter contained in the said documents, or the manner of their delivery to the Acting-Administrator, any such interpretation as that given to them by the said Acting-Administrator Salmon, it was the duty of the latter to receive and forward them, as representing the views and desires of the entire Fanti people, to the Administrator-in-Chief, and through him to your lordship, and await instructions for his guidance, instead of on his own unassisted interpretation, in the absence of the Chief Magistrate (then at Accra), having resort to the brutal violence of the arrest of those persons, and their rigid incarceration on a charge of high treason.

7. That on these, as well as on other weighty grounds, those persons thus arrested and incarcerated are illegally in prison, and are entitled to their immediate release, with such indemnification for the grievous injury they have sustained by such arrest and imprisonment as to your lordship may seem fit.

In the name of the Fanti Kings, Chiefs, and people present or represented at the late meeting at Mankessim, at which the said Constitution and the said letters were discussed, agreed upon, and prepared, I have the honour earnestly to solicit that your lordship will send out by the mail of the 5th inst. such instructions to his Excellency the Administrator-in-Chief as shall lead to the immediate liberation of the said persons so imprisoned, and to their receiving such compensation out of the revenues of Cape Coast as the circumstances of the case may appear to your lordship equitably to demand.

At the same time, I beg leave to solicit your lordship's approval of those views and desires of the Fanti Confederation, expressed in the Articles of their Constitution relative to the important matters of the founding and support of schools for instruction, the formation and maintenance of roads, the working of mines, and other objects intimately connected with and indispensable to the material development of the Fanti countries, and to the civilisation and well-being of the Fanti people; and, further, that your lordship will consider the advisability and justice, or otherwise, of apportioning to the recognized officials of the said Confederation, under proper arrangements and guarantees, certain sums out of the public revenues obtained by the British authorities at Cape Coast, to assist them in carrying those views of civilisation, development, and well-being in Fanti into speedy effect.—I have the honour to remain, my Lord, &c.,

F. FITZGERALD,
(11 years) Editor of the *African Times* and Agent of the Fanti Confederation.

A further letter, dated January 4, was sent by Mr. Fitzgerald to the Earl of Kimberley, in which he stated having received advice of the liberation of Messrs. Davidson, Brew, and Amissah on excessive bail bonds, as also of five other gentlemen who had been arrested and confined, and expressing the hope that his lordship would immediately order those bonds to be cancelled, &c. We greatly regret that copy of this letter has been mislaid at printer's, but will endeavour to supply the deficiency in our next.

Reply of the Earl of Kimberley.
Downing-street, Jan. 17, 1872.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to acknowledge the receipt of two letters of the 2nd and 4th inst., which you have addressed to his lordship "by desire, and in the interest of the Fanti Kings, Chiefs, and other members of the Fanti Confederation," and in which you subscribe yourself as "Agent of the Fanti Confederation."

I am to request that Lord Kimberley may not be understood, from the fact of his causing a reply to be given to these letters,

as recognising any such Confederation, or yourself as its agent. His lordship, however, desires me to state that your letters will be referred to Sir A. Kennedy.

I am to observe that you are incorrect in stating that the "Constitution" framed by the so-called Fanti Confederation was handed to the Acting Administrator for the "examination and approval of the Secretary of State," since it had in fact been promulgated and acted upon before the Acting Administrator received the copy of it, which was to be transmitted for the *information* of the Secretary of State. Mr. F. Grant, who was named Treasurer without his knowledge and consent, has repudiated all connection with the movement.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) ROBERT GEO. HERBERT.

To F. Fitzgerald, Esq.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street.
January 20, 1872.

My Lord,—I beg to acknowledge and thank your lordship for Mr. Herbert's letter of the 17th, received 19th January, in acknowledgment of mine to your lordship dated respectively the 2nd and 4th inst. I take the liberty at the same time respectfully to observe that the question of the recognition or non-recognition of the Fanti Confederation, with its present or a modified constitution, and the action of Her Majesty's Government with and concerning it, is one the decision taken on which by Her Majesty's Government must be of very great importance for good or evil to the Fanti countries and their half a million of people for many years to come. It is therefore a question much too large to be relegated for decision to a temporary authority, as any administrator-in-chief on the West Coast must necessarily be. I say this without any intention to call the good feeling or ability of Sir Arthur Kennedy in question in dealing with what I must regard as the ignorant and brutal abuse of authority by the Acting Administrator of Cape Coast, although I cannot think that he exercised a wise discretion in leaving the Acting Administratorship in such hands. I do therefore venture to express the hope that this question will receive a kind, earnest, and full consideration by Her Majesty's Government upon broad general principles, as one of momentous interest in connexion with half a million of people strongly attached to Great Britain; and a large extent of territory rich in agricultural resources yet to be developed, and unsurpassed in mineral wealth by any known portion of the earth.

With respect to the Constitution having been promulgated and acted upon before submitting it to the Acting Administrator for transmission, I think your lordship will find that nothing more was done than what was necessary for giving your lordship a real organisation to deal with, so that any modifications your lordship might think desirable could be plainly stated.

With respect to Mr. F. C. Grant, I was already aware that he had repudiated all connection with the movement, though I do not know that he was named Treasurer without his knowledge and consent. The letter detailing the particulars of the interview of Messrs. Brew, Davidson, and Amissah, with the Acting Administrator, which I had the honour of forwarding to your lordship on the 2nd January, shows, I think, the pressure brought to bear on Mr. F. C. Grant who is a Justice of the Peace, and shrank from political persecution, and which may have induced his repudiation, as mentioned by your lordship, of what I must consider to have been a high honour conferred on him by the assembly at Mankessim, and a fitting expression of the esteem in which he had been for a long time so justly held at Cape Coast.—I have the honour to remain, my Lord, your lordship's obedient servant,

F. FITZGERALD, Ed. *African Times*.

REAL AFRICAN MARTYRS—IMPRISONMENT AT CAPE COAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Gold Coast, December 1, 1871.

Sir,—This morning we were not a little startled to learn that Mr. William Edmond Davidson, Mr. James F. Amissah, and Mr. James H. Brew had been arrested at half-past ten o'clock last night and incarcerated in Gothic House Gaol, on the charge of having conspired against the Government.

On inquiry I found that "the head and front of their offending" was, that these gentlemen had assisted the Fanti Confederation in framing a Constitution, and that Messrs. Davidson and Brew had had the unheard-of audacity to present copies of the said Constitution to our Acting Administrator, to forward to Sir Arthur Kennedy to lay before the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Straightways I pricked up my ears, and said to myself "What next? Have not our Administrators been accustomed to address letters to the Presidents of the Fanti Confederation? Have they not addressed Mr. R. J. Ghartey as President thereof? and have I not heard that Administrators Ussher and Simpson have pressed him to draw up a Constitution of some kind for the Confederation? and if the people have now become alive to the fact that they must do something for themselves, and taken the first step in the right direction, and have frankly and openly submitted their Constitution to his Excellency, is that any reason why he should incarcerate their representatives? Possibly there may be something wrong in the document; let me get a look at it; the Aministrator may be justified in the step he has taken." I proceed immediately to obtain inspection of the celebrated Constitution. Fancy my chagrin, Mr. Editor (and I think you also will be disappointed), to find nothing treasonable in the document, but everything breathing of naught else but laudable purposes of loyalty to the British Government; and when I perused the letter to Sir A. Kennedy, then I said "I am satisfied: these gentlemen are conspirators indeed, and it is a great pity that they and another gentleman cannot exchange places."

Sir, read the documents well; digest them; and let us know in the columns of your invaluable paper your opinion thereof.

Now to commence. In 1865 a Committee of the House of Commons sits on West African affairs. The Committee are of opinion that the peoples of the Gold Coast should as rapidly as possible be taught to govern themselves, and this in consequence of the hubbub about the Ashanti War. Then the Committee say that the Government is not possessed of a foot of territory here beyond that on which their forts stand. Very good. Mark how it is followed up. An Administrator or Governor issues a proclamation stating that not beyond five miles from the seacoast or cannon-range do they claim any territory.* Another Administrator says that they "must consider themselves as apart from Great Britain," and throws off their allegiance; and they must fight their own battles; and addresess dispatches to the "presidents" at Mankessim. A third proceeds to Mankessim, acts in a manner to consolidate the Confederation, and styles it the "Fanti Confederation or Confederacy." The Governor-in-Chief gives them a parable about "three bulls and a lion." All these deeds and acts are not forgotten by them; they have treasured them one by one till they are indelibly impressed on their minds; and they at last awaken to the necessity of doing something to bind them more strongly together, of uniting for their common good. The Ashanti question is not settled; the Government allowing itself to be outwitted by the King of Ashanti, and listening to promises he never intends fulfilling. The much-vexed Elmina question also is not concluded. Everything and every question is as far from being arranged as at the commencement. The kings and chiefs assemble at Mankessim; frame and pass a Constitution which shall knit them together in one bond of amity, and which under the auspices of the British Government would tend to the material progress of the country. They depute these gentlemen to present the documents drawn up by them to his Excellency at Government House. He received them; tears open the letter addressed to him, containing a copy of the Constitution, a copy of the letter to Sir Arthur Kennedy, and a copy of Resolutions I. and II., passed at the meeting at Mankessim; does not read the documents through, and fires up. "What do you mean by this? [I have this from undeniable authority.] Do you not know that this is treason? I shall place you, Mr. Davidson, in the custody of Colonel Foster. Here, send for Colonel Foster at once. What next? Do you think, after we have been here for two or three hundred years, we are going to be turned out in this way by you? I have heard of all your doings. Mr. Grant (turning to that gentleman, who had come in but a few minutes before the outbreak), what do you think of this? Have you seen it before? Just look at it." (Hands constitution to Grant). Meanwhile Mr. Brew endeavours to point out to his Excellency that there is nothing treasonable in the document; that, on the other hand, it would be serviceable in aiding the British Government in civilising the interior, and would be of material use in seeing that its orders, &c., were carried into execution without delay (for it cannot be denied that there is not now that ready obedience to its orders, summonses, &c., that used to be exhibited in former days). There was no reasoning with him; *he would not receive the papers to forward them to Sir A. Kennedy.* Mr. Grant attempted to show that the Constitution would place the Confederation on a different basis, and that matters were now to be differently conducted. No; he would listen to and hear nothing. Mr. Grant's name appeared in the Resolutions as having been appointed Treasurer. He wished to know whether he had accepted the appointment; if so he would strike his name off the list of magistrates. If schools were required, roads necessary, or money wanted, why not apply for them instead of going in for this child's play? Mr. Brew said something about applications being futile; what was wanted never could be got. "If you don't get what you want, reasons will be assigned. This is all the thanks we get. I have received dispatches informing me that Elmina will shortly be ceded; and, when we have Elmina, we may try to get Assinee, &c., and have the whole line of coast. I suppose you intend drawing the Eastern Districts to join you." All attempts to point out and explain matters to him were useless. "I have a mind to bring down Ghartey for highway robbery. I will march and take military occupation of Mankessim. You must withdraw these documents or I'll order the troops to Mankessim. I am astonished that a man of your position, Mr. Davidson, and you, Mr. Brew, a lawyer, should lend yourselves to any such things. I will not listen to you. I will give you till Saturday to withdraw the documents. I won't forward; I won't receive them; take them and go." Such was this memorable interview that took place on Thursday, the 30th November. Messrs. Davidson and Brew retire with the papers. Colonel Foster does not come soon enough. These gentlemen proceed to Mr. Davidson's residence. Shortly afterwards Messrs. Blankson, Grant, and Prince Ahsah call at Davidson's from Government House. They state that his Excellency is in a towering passion, and is going to do the d—l knows not what. Whilst discussing matters, in comes an official from His Excellency. "He wants the papers back;" the Hon. Blankson is placed in possession of them, and proceeds to Government House with them. After a little stay, he returns with those addressed to Sir A. Kennedy, the Administrator having retained those addressed to himself. However, he has taken offence at the 7th Section (so it is said) of the 37th Article of the Constitution, which enjoins "that the Provincial Assessors shall see that all summonses, writs, &c., issuing from the British Courts are carried into execution with as little delay as possible, and to aid in the apprehension of criminals." That is the most treasonable article of all, says his Excellency, and unless Edoo is down here by Wednesday, the 6th instant, he intends proceeding to Mankessim, to occupy the place, break up the Confederation, and do what not besides. In the meantime, at half-past ten P.M. on the day of the ever-to-be-celebrated outburst, Thursday, 30th November, 1871, Messrs. Davidson, Brew, and Amissah are arrested for conspiracy, and they are now in prison, and likely to remain there during the pleasure of the "bashaw," unless you bring this to the notice of the public and the Colonial-office. We are all only too glad to live under British rule entirely; but when their officials create such a chaotic state of affairs, and one day say this and another day that, is it to be wondered at that the people wish to help themselves? If the Government will take up the whole of the country in earnest, give us good schools, good roads, bridges, &c., &c., open up the interior, give us the proper men as Administrators, *not ex-gaolers* (although a gaoler may be a good fellow in his own way)—gentlemen, not boors—we should return to the good old days again, when you could go the length and breadth of the protectorate in safety, and the orders, summonses, &c., of the Government were cheerfully obeyed. But can people be called to blame if they wish to help themselves and make material improvements in the country, when they see 6,000*l.* of their money, which would have gone some way in establishing schools and making roads, thrown away on a stupid yacht? They cannot be for ever kept in the dark. They have no voice in the disposal of their own money. Three or four officials, together with a non-official, who has been recommended for the post partly in consequence of the splendid hospitality one always receives at his house, and partly on account of his influence, sit and vote away their money without studying their interests. Considering the different position of this settlement as compared with others to Great Britain, surely it might be permitted to elect a certain number of members to the Legislature if not also the Executive Council. I must conclude for the present. I omitted to inform you that the three gentlemen incarcerated at Gothic House cannot correspond, even with friends, unless the Inspector of Prisons peruses their communications first; and they are to hold no conversation with friends who may call on them unless in the hearing of the gaoler. Soliciting you to exert your influence in favour of my imprisoned friends, I am, Sir, yours truly,

No HUMBUG.

* A subsequent dispatch of the then Secretary of State disclaimed any extension of British territory to such limits.—ED. *A. T.*

Mankessim, November 24, 1871.

Sir,—We the kings, chiefs, and others assembled at Mankessim, beg most respectfully to forward you the enclosed copy of a Constitution framed and passed by us after mature consideration.

We have united together for the express purpose of furthering the interests of our country.

In the Constitution it will be observed that we contemplate means for the social improvement of our subjects and peoples; the growth of education and industrial pursuits; and, in short, every good which British philanthropy may have designed for the good of the Gold Coast, but which we think it impossible for it at present to do for the country at large.

Our sole object is to improve the condition of our peoples, not to interfere with, but to aid our benefactors on the seacoast; and we count upon your Excellency giving us at times that assistance which may be necessary to carry out our humble efforts.

We beg to forward a copy of the Constitution, and of Resolutions I. and II., for the information of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.—We have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servants,

(Signed) QUESSIE EDOO, X, his mark. } Kings President of the
ANFOO OTOO, X, his mark. } Fanti Confederation.
W. E. DAVIDSON, Vice-President thereof, for said Kings, Chiefs, and others.

To his Excellency Sir A. E. Kennedy, Governor-in-Chief of the West African Settlements.

Certified true copy.
J. H. BREW, Under-Secretary.

Secretary's Office, Mankessim, Nov. 24, 1871.

Mankessim, November 24, 1871.

Sir,—We have the honour to forward to you, for your information, triplicate copies of the Constitution of the Fanti Confederation, and of Resolutions Nos. I. and II.; with a letter to his Excellency Sir A. E. Kennedy, Governor-in-Chief of the West African Settlements.

We beg that you will be pleased to transmit two copies of the Constitution and Resolutions I. and II., with the enclosed letter, to his Excellency.—We have the honour to be, Sir your most obedient humble servants,

(Signed) QUESSIE EDOO, X, his mark. } Kings President of the
ANFOO OTOO, X, his mark. } Fanti Confederation.
W. E. DAVIDSON, Vice-President thereof, for said Kings, Chiefs, and others.

To his Excellency C. S. Salmon, Acting Administrator of the Gold Coast.

Certified true copy.
J. H. BREW, Under-Secretary.

Resolutions referred to in letters addressed to the Administrator-in-Chief and the Acting Administrator at Cape Coast.

1. That Kings Eddoo, of Mankessim, and Anfor Otoo, of Abrah, be elected and appointed to perform jointly the duties of the Office of the KING PRESIDENT of the FANTI CONFEDERATION, pending the Election of the said King President.

2. That the following gentlemen be appointed to the Offices attached to their names, viz.:—

William Edmund Davidson, Vice-President.
James Faustus Amissah, Secretary.
James Hutton Brew, Under-Secretary.
Francis Chapman Grant, Treasurer.
Josiah Myles Abadoo, Assistant-Treasurer.

Secretary's Office, Mankessim, Nov. 24, 1871.

Certified true copy.
(Signed), J. F. AMISSAH, Secretary.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

DECEMBER 23 TO DECEMBER 30, 1871.

All markets were closed until Wednesday, the 27th, and the business of the week was not important.

STOCK OF COTTON declared at 566,000 bales, being 84,000 above the estimate.

Price of West Africa 7¼d. to 8d.

JANUARY 6 TO JANUARY 13, 1872.

EBONY.—20 tons 9*l.* 10s. to 10*l.*, and 2,319 billets at 8*l.* 10s. per ton.

BARWOOD.—Sales at 3*l.* 10s. per ton.

CAMWOOD.—5 tons at 19*l.* 10s.

BENNI-SEED.—140 bags at 61s. to 62s. 6d. per quarter.

PALM KERNELS.—1,400 bags, at 13*l.* 7s. 6d. to 13*l.* 15s. for fine

COTTON-SEED.—1,000 bags African, at 4*l.* 15s. per ton.

GROUND-NUTS.—10 tons at 16*l.* 12s. 6d. to 16*l.* 17s. 6d. and 3,558 bags at 17*l.* 7s. 6d. per ton, for sound.

PALM-OIL in moderate request, and 600 tons sold; New Calabar at 40*l.*, Bonny at 37*l.* Irregular at 38*l.* to 37*l.*, Lagos at 38*l.* 10s.; and to arrive, Brass and Congo at 40*l.* 10s., Cameroons at 37*l.* 15s., and Old Calabar at 38*l.* per ton.

COTTON.—In unusual demand throughout the week, and prices have materially advanced.

Sales of the week, 186,240.

Price of African 7½ to 8¼.

JAN. 13 TO JAN. 20.

EBONY.—1,585 pieces at 9*l.* 15s. per ton.

BENNI-SEED.—161 bags at 61s. per quarter.

PALM-KERNELS.—170 bags at 13*l.* to 13*l.* 2s. 6d. per ton.

PALM-OIL continues in moderate demand, and 500 tons sold; Irregular at 34*l.* to 37*l.*, Bonny and Benin at 37*l.*, Lagos at 38*l.* 5s. to 38*l.* 10s., New Calabar 39*l.* 15s., Brass 40*l.* to 40*l.* 5s.

COTTON.—Market quiet, but quotations maintained.

Sales of the week 180,880 bales.

Price West Africa 7¼d. to 8¼d.

"NOTICE.

"THE Undersigned begs to state for general information, that whilst he takes this opportunity of returning his thanks to his

FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

for their kind patronage, he would, nevertheless, for the interest of his

BUSINESS,

disregard All Orders from parties whose Accounts with him have not been closed with the year 1870.

(Signed), "J. TAYLOR.

"Oxford and Gloucester-streets,
Freetown, Jan. 2, 1871."

THE above Notice appeared in the *West African Liberator*, a Sierra Leone paper, during the first four months in 1871. As the undersigned has, however, found that, notwithstanding that Notice, several parties have not yet made good his claims on them, he again begs to renew his respects to his Friends and Customers, and to assure them of his determination to afford them every satisfaction; but at the same time he will, for the interest of his Business, refuse All Orders in future from those who think that Goods are purchased by means of a few scrawls on paper, and named an "order;" and that Twelve Months having expired, legal measures will of necessity be instituted against those who have refused to pay up their accounts since the appearance of the Notice above referred to. J. TAYLOR.

Oxford and Gloucester-streets,
Freetown, Sierra Leone, January, 1872.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

FOR the convience of persons wishing to make small remittances between the Gold Coast and Sierra Leone, the undersigned will be prepared to ISSUE DRAFTS at five days' sight from One Pound to Fifty Pounds sterling every month at a premium of 5 per cent.

Foreign coins at par.

WM. R. TAYLOR,
Merchant and Government Contractor.

Fort-street, Cape Coast,
September 2, 1871.

COTTON, WOOL, and other Material, PRESSED and PACKED by WALKER'S PATENT ROTATING PRESS, in HALF the USUAL TIME. Sugar Mills for Splitting the Cane, Palm Nut Assorters, Nut Crackers, and every kind of Machine for Africa or India.

12, JAMES-STREET, CITY-ROAD, LONDON.

African Gold Ornaments, Brooches, Earrings, Rings, Chains, &c.

MR. W. R. TAYLOR begs to inform his numerous customers and the public generally that from and after the date hereof he will be prepared to execute all orders for Gold Trinkets, &c., forwarded to him, provided always that such orders are accompanied with remittances. A moderate commission of ten per cent. will be charged, and none must expect their orders to be executed unless accompanied with a remittance.

Fort-street, opposite the Castle, Cape Coast.
December 22, 1870.

BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

SHIPPERS are respectfully informed that this Company now despatch TWO STEAMERS MONTHLY to the WEST COAST of AFRICA.

The fine new Screw Steamers

BONNY . . . . . LIBERIA
ROQUELLE . . . . . VOLTA
CONGO . . . . . LOANDA

Will SAIL TWICE MONTHLY between LIVERPOOL and the following Ports on the West Coast of Africa (calling at MADEIRA)—viz., SIERRA LEONE, MONROVIA, CAPE PALMAS, CAPE COAST CASTLE, ACCRA, JELLAH COFFEE, LAGOS, BENIN, BONNY, FERNANDO PO, and OLD CALABAR. The days of Sailing from Liverpool are the 6th and 18th of each month.

For further information apply in London to Messrs. MALCOLM, HUDSON, and Co., 5, Crosby-square; in Glasgow, to TAYLOR, LAUGHLAND, and Co., 24, Oswald-street; and in Liverpool to ELDER, DEMPSTER, & CO., 2, Brunswick-street.

SYDENHAM HOUSE, 50, LUDGATE HILL, LONDON.

SAMUEL BROTHERS,

MERCHANT TAILORS AND OUTFITTERS.

On the System of Charging the Lowest Price possible for Ready Money.

LONDON CLOTHING.—Perfection in Style and Fit is supplied by the aid of the new Self-measure Rules, as given below During twenty-five years their Clothing has been celebrated for sound economy, perfect fitting, and the most gentlemanlike style.

THE WORLD-FAMED SYDENHAM SUITS AT 59s.

Are manufactured in suitable styles for all occasions, and in the various substances of Cloth for all Climates.

MORNING AND BUSINESS SUITS	42s. 0d.	to	84s. 0d.
TROUSERS	14s. 0d.	,,	26s. 0d.
DRESS AND PROMENADE SUITS	59s. 0d.	,,	114s. 0d.
TROUSERS	17s. 6d.	,,	30s. 0d.

STATE, LAW, AND CLERICAL ROBES SUPPLIED AT VERY ADVANTAGEOUS PRICES.

THE NEW BOOK ON GENTLEMEN'S ATTIRE

Contains Forty-three Engravings to represent the Fashionable Styles.
Price 1s., deducted from a purchase (post-free).

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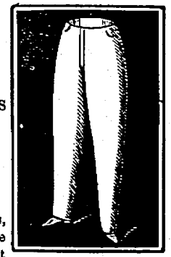
SYDENHAM



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