

Registered for]

[Transmission Abroad.

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.

VOL. XII.—No. 145.]

LONDON, TUESDAY, JULY 29, 1873.

[PUBLISHED MONTHLY.
Subscription, 6s. per Ann.

CONTENTS.

PAGE	PAGE
West African Mails.....	154
Sanitary Improvements in West Africa.....	154
The Debt Prisoners not yet Released.....	154
Immorality in Sierra Leone.....	154
The Ashanti War.....	154
Colonel Harley's Proclamation and Acts.....	154
A Further Proof of the "Considerable Experience on the Coast".....	155
Safety of the Missionary Captives in Ashanti.....	155
Dreadful Condition of Cape Coast.....	155
Elmina Declared under Martial Law.....	155
Letter from the Gold Coast, enclosing a Piece of Chalk.....	157
Official Correspondence re Gold Coast.....	157
Liverpool Markets.....	157
The New Governor-General of the West Coast.....	153
Lagos.....	153
The Ashanti War.....	153
The Loss of the Yornba and the Nigretia.....	153
The Destruction of Elmina.....	153
Cape Coast, June 23.....	153
Col. Harley, the African Times News, and the King of Aquamoo.....	161
Reopened Roads and Markets for Lagos.....	161
Overland News from the Niger.....	161
Claims for Compensation for Property Destroyed at Elmina.....	162
List of Passengers per Senegal.....	163
Ashanti War Expenses.....	163
Appollonia.....	163
Wheat! Wheat! Wheat!.....	163
An "Experienced" Officer's Opinion of Col. Harley's Proceedings.....	163

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.

AUGUST, 1873.

BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY

The Royal Mail Steamship **SENEGAL** is intended to be despatched from **GLASGOW** on **JULY 30, 1873**, and from **LIVERPOOL** on the **6th AUG.**, at **4.30 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, Benin, and Opobo** (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 **Noon** on the **30th JULY**, and at the Loading Berth in **LIVERPOOL** (North Side Coburg Dock) up to **6 P.M.** on the **5th AUG.**, unless previously full. Passengers will embark by Steam Tender from Prince's Landing Stage at **4 P.M.** on the day of sailing.
The following departure is intended to be the Steamship **YOLTA**, which will leave **GLASGOW** on the **12th**, and **LIVERPOOL** on the **19th AUG.**, at **4.30 P.M.**, for **Madeira, Teneriffe, Bathurst, 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 **New Calabar, Brass, Benin, and Opobo**. Goods will be received in **Glasgow** up to **6 P.M.** on the **11th**, and in **Liverpool** up to **6 P.M.** on the **18th**. Passengers will embark at **4 P.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 hulks 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 Sox, 91, Buchanan-street, Glasgow**; and **D. MARPLES, 50a, 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., 48, Castle-street**.

WEST COAST MAIL STEAMERS.

ARRIVALS.
African S.S. Co.'s **Biafra**, July 10.
British and African S.N. Co.'s **Senegal**, July 14.
African S.S. Co.'s **Soudan**, July 26.

DEPARTURES.
British and African S.N. Co.'s **Liberia**, July 6.
African S.S. Co.'s **Biafra**, July 12.
British and African S.N. Co.'s **Congo**, July 18.
African S.S. Co.'s **Soudan**, July 30.

[JULY 29, 1873.]

WEST AFRICAN MAILS.

The African Royal Mail steamer Soudan arrived at Liverpool July 25, with the mails, a full cargo, and a number of passengers from the South-West and West Coasts of Africa, the Canary Islands, and Madeira. Reports from the Coanza district state that the coffee crop was excessively large, but that, owing to the fearful mortality among the natives in the recent small-pox epidemic, hands could not be obtained to gather it. The health of the oil rivers was improving, and trade very brisk. At Lagos the Abeokuta cotton was coming down in considerable quantities; all the roads were open, and a large trade was looked for.

At Cape Coast Castle there had been no recent engagement with the Ashantis, but night attacks on the native quarter of the town were feared. The marines and sailors from the squadron were on shore to assist in repelling any attack.

In the steamer Yoruba, recently wrecked off Cape Palmas, were two boxes containing 2,000*l.*, destined for the Cape Coast authorities. The Liberian Government took possession of them, together with all the other cargo, and as they declined, notwithstanding repeated demands, to give them up, the Seagull has been sent up from Cape Coast by Capt. Harley, with peremptory instructions to recover them by force if need be. The Seagull arrived off Cape Palmas as the Soudan was leaving.

Another of the Royal African Steamship Company's steamers has met with a serious disaster. The steamship Monrovia, in crossing the bar at the mouth of the Brass River, went aground, and suffered very serious injuries. She was, however, eventually got off, but it is reported that all her cargo had to be thrown overboard to lighten her. The Quarrels, a small steamer belonging to the British and African Steamship Company, and built specially for river navigation, went to the assistance of the Monrovia, but herself became a total wreck. The hawser with which she was trying to tow off the Monrovia got foul of her propeller, and she became quite unmanageable and went ashore. The Himalaya, with the head-quarters of the 2nd West India Regiment, was hourly expected at Cape Coast when the Soudan left there.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS IN WEST AFRICA.

Her Majesty's Government have sent out Surgeon-Major A. D. Horne to be Principal Medical Sanitary Officer on the West Coast of Africa.

THE DEBT PRISONERS NOT YET RELEASED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Gambia, Bathurst Gaol, June 13, 1873.

Sir,—According to our promise that we would let you know our state at all times, we are sorry to inform you that we are still suffering in the gaol of Bathurst. We thought you would hear from us by this mail that we were out of prison and restored to our families and friends, but we are sorry you will find it to the contrary; however, we will still hold on and not despair, awaiting God's own good time.

Whatever may take place, whether we are out or not, you will hear from us by the next mail; but the power or strength is not ours, and it is seen that there is none to force or compel our Headmaster to move in haste to do a thing whenever he does not choose to do it. However, God's time will surely come; though it may long delay, yet it will never come too late. Men may not care about the welfare of others in life, but the time will come when all will be done away with. Though we are now suffering and starving, which no one here cares about, yet we thank you and Earl Kimberley. If it had been left in your power, we should have been outside, for you do pity us so much as to send out our release; but it seems as if the feeling here is quite different from that which you have for us. However, we trust that you will still remember us poor debtors in the gaol.—We are, Sir, yours,

POOR DISTRESSED DEBTORS IN THE GAOL OF BATHURST.

IMMORALITY IN SIERRA LEONE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Freetown, June 5, 1873.

Sir,—Allow me only a small space in your valuable columns on the subject of the immorality in Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone contains people of all tribes who come there to settle, or to reap the benefits of the land, and then disperse—viz., Englishmen, Frenchmen, &c., the Akus, Eboes, Houssas, Paupans, and Kroos; besides numerous others. Each of these tribes brought with them either civilization, superstition, bigotry, bigamy, adultery, drunkenness, or such like. Now, Mr. Editor, you know that whatsoever seed is sown, the harvest will surely be of the same. The civilized community of Sierra Leone acted for themselves, and kept their civilization within bounds. The superstitious acted for themselves in remoter parts of the town, and being toler-

ated by the public generally, they have gone without bounds; hence we find them in our capital streets beating drums, singing wanton songs, and disturbing the public. As for adultery and drunkenness, the fathers and mothers tolerated them; and this being a wise age, the children of civilized or superstitious drunkards or adulterers, plunged deeper and deeper in their parents' vices, thereby dooming the colony to intolerable evils.

I call the attention of the Government, pastors, parents, day and Sabbath school teachers, to this. Sierra Leone, as it now stands, seems to be an ungrateful and wretched country. Her old men have gone back to Bial, her young men have served other gods. What will she be ten years to come, I wonder? I shudder while I think of it.

Some of our pastors have seen, and are trying to amend, this state of things. Hence we had that elaborate sermon preached at Buxton Chapel by the Rev. the Superintendent of the Wesleyan Mission, who points out the extent of immorality that many parents have tolerated and patronised. May the Lord strengthen him to point out still the many evils that are choking this land!

When I see and weigh the many evils that exist in this country, my heart sinks within me. Our prison-houses are filled with criminals, costing the colony thousands of pounds annually. Look at the Sabbath-breaking; three-fourths of the population are Sabbath-breakers. Drunkards are found by hundreds in the streets annually; women, too, forgetful of their sex, have been found in the most disgraceful state of intoxication. Numbers of families are plunged into distress annually by strong drink; honest men are made rogues; girls are robbed of their chastity and virtue; and many go down to a drunkard's grave and a drunkard's perdition.

J. W. L.

THE ASHANTI WAR.

Freetown, Sierra Leone, June 22.

The mail steamer Calabar, from Cape Coast Castle, which arrived here yesterday, brings news that the town of Elmina was set fire to by the English troops and sailors on the 14th and completely destroyed.

Her Majesty's ship Barraconta, Captain Fremantle commanding, arrived off Cape Coast on the 8th, having on board Colonel Festing and detachments of Marine Artillery and Marine Light Infantry. Colonel Festing landed at Cape Coast on the 9th, and assumed command of all the troops on the West Coast of Africa.

The Ashantis now hold the entire country right up to Cape Coast and Elmina, and have burnt a village little more than a mile from Cape Coast Castle.

The Calabar also brings news of an engagement between the Fantis and the Ashantis at Dukwa, a village about 15 miles inland from Cape Coast, which is the chief stronghold of the Denkira country. The battle was very severe, and lasted for two days. It began on the 4th, and that day's fighting was indecisive. On the 6th the fight was renewed, the Ashanti forces having been concentrated during the night. After a stubborn resistance, the Fantis were driven from all their positions with great slaughter. No English troops or Houssas were present at this engagement. The Fantis fled in great confusion to Cape Coast and were greatly harassed during their retreat, especially by a band of Ashantis which had been harboured by the Elminas.

The town of Cape Coast is now inundated with Fanti fugitives, over 30,000 people having sought refuge there. Great distress exists among them from scarcity of food and water. The rains are unusually late, being nearly three weeks behindhand. The only drinking water safe to use at Cape Coast is the rain-water, which is stored in large tanks. The water from the wells tend to dysentery, which on the Gold Coast is the most deadly of all diseases to Europeans. The supply of water has run so low that there are only a few inches left in the tanks, and rain is most anxiously looked for. From private letters received from Cape Coast it appears that for some days past the officers quartered there have not been able to obtain any water for bathing purposes. In such a climate this is a dreadful privation, and one likely to lead to much unhealthiness. The sanitary condition of Cape Coast is described as dreadful, from the sudden and unexpected influx of such a multitude of strangers. Much sickness prevails, and besides the usual diseases peculiar to the Coast, there are over 140 cases of small-pox in the Civil Hospital. Dysentery of a very malignant type has shown itself.

The head-quarters of the Ashantis are now at Afootoo, a village about 12 miles from Cape Coast, and it is thought that the King of the Ashantis, Koffi Calcalli, is there in person.

It is impossible to over-estimate the difficulties of Colonel Harley's position in the present unexpected emergency, but great confidence in his skill and experience is felt by all the residents on the Coast.

The arrival of the 2nd West India Regiment is anxiously looked for.

JULY 29, 1873.]

COLONEL HARLEY'S PROCLAMATION AND ACTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Accra, May 16, 1873.

Sir,—I must say a few words through you, if you will allow me, to Colonel Harley and the British Government, about our country in its present wretched state, for which they ought to be held responsible. What is the use (I would say to them) of sitting with folded arms and crying out, "Go and fight for your country, you cowards!" How can you expect peaceable communities of cultivators and fishermen to turn out the moment you cry, "Go out and fight;" or to know what to do when they go out? Where is the leading—where is the teaching? You have taught the people to disregard their chiefs, encouraged them to disobey their natural heads, and now you wish it to appear that the fault lies with those chiefs whose authority you have done all you can to nullify. Why do not you bestir yourselves to arouse the whole country; take the trouble (you get your salaries to do something, surely) to organize a defence, and make the whole population understand that they must support each other? And how can you expect us to fight for the restoration of peace, that you may continue your amusement of "collecting" in quiet, when you supply neither arms, men, nor ammunition? Some people think that this is the whole power of Ashanti which is now in our country. The sooner they disabuse themselves of that notion, the better. In less than three months we shall have the King upon us in person.

You will probably hear something very different in Parliament, for a three months' residence here gives great experience of West African matters; but three months are not long to wait to see. It is said you will give us over to Ashanti rule. Whenever you choose to quit, you must leave us in real peace and equal security as we were in 1843; there must be no telling your Ashanti protégé, "We are going, now is your time." Eh, Mr. Usher? "Oh, well, if you won't do as I command you, I shall take away my flag, and tell the King of Ashanti you are no longer under my protection." This is how we consult with the chiefs. You say, "A cat may look at a king;" but when we become Governors of Cape Coast, oh dear! we do not then condescend to give our evidence on oath—of course not; we give evidence on our honour, and the judge receives it. You must look this in the face, and must be earnest about it. If you think all you have to do is to defend Cape Coast and Elmina, you will be disgracefully driven out of the country. Give them as sound a dressing as they got before, make the King give security to behave himself, and let us have no more bribing him to be kind enough to be quiet, no more sending Ashantis and disaffected Elminas to treat with Ashanti; and learn that you do not know the country so well as the natives; and take the chiefs into counsel, and not think things are to be done by the sound of a bugle or issuing some proclamation.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

SCHWARZMANN.

A FURTHER PROOF OF THE "CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE ON THE COAST."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Gold Coast, May 26, 1873.

Sir,—You, who really have had "great experience in West African matters," will, no doubt, hardly credit the fact that whilst we are at war with the King of Ashanti and his allies and tributaries, our Government is keeping up friendly communications with Aquamoo, and has recently dispatched to the King of that place sundry costly presents purchased with our money. The Aquamoos have been, as you are aware, enemies of the tribes within the Protectorate for many years past, and have been the prime instigators of all the wars and disturbances on the Volta and in the Eastern districts for eight years. It was the Aquamoos who invited the King of Ashanti to send his armies down to devastate the Eastern districts in 1869 and 1870, and to carry off the European traders in Crepee, and half the inhabitants of that country, into captivity, after lamentable atrocities in the line of murder and devastation.

Although the Aquamoos gave the British Government two hostages as a guarantee for the restoration of the Europeans so treacherously seized by the Ashantis and themselves in Crepee in June, 1869, yet they have never ceased to do us harm when they had it in their power to do so, and the European prisoners are still in captivity at Comassie. One of these hostages effected his escape about six months ago, and proceeded direct to Aquamoo, since which he has been employed by the King of Aquamoo as agent for the purchase of arms and munitions of war for the Ashantis from the traders in Pomra. The remaining hostage was sent to Aquamoo about two months ago by order of Colonel Harley, loaded with presents from his Excellency for himself and his treacherous master. Our "experienced" ruler's object in taking this step was, of course, with a view to conciliate the

* On the River Volta.

King of Aquamoo, and bribe him into neutrality in the war now raging between us and his master, the King of Ashanti. Not a single native chief, nor any other individual in the district, was consulted in this matter, which so seriously affects the most vital interests of the whole of the allied tribes within the Protectorate. Pray, which of the protected tribes cares a fig for the alliance or the neutrality of the Aquamoos—a tribe that has been for the last century notorious amongst its neighbours as the most treacherous of the treacherous, and which is never more friendly than when it contemplates some act more than ordinarily atrocious in its treachery? It is clear that the Administrator, with all his "experience," knows nothing of the affairs of this part of the West Coast.

This act on his part has furnished the kings and chiefs of Akim, Aquapim, and Accra with an additional and, I think you will agree with me, a most substantial cause of complaint against the British Government. Whilst Colonel Harley positively refuses to listen even to the cries of our people for aid out of their own funds, to enable them to dispatch assistance to their distressed allies, the Fantis, in defending their soil against the common enemy, his Excellency is lavishing those very funds in expensive presents upon one of the enemy's closest allies.

The King of Aquamoo, who is a very needy and greedy creature, of course, is only too glad to find that we have at the head of our affairs one whom he is not obliged to go out of his way to "take in." It would almost appear as if Providence had decreed that the ridiculousness of a stranger, like the present Administrator, pretending to ignore our chiefs, and to treat direct with our enemies, should not long remain unmanifested, if there be such a word. Hardly one month had elapsed after the receipt of the presents which, it is alleged, were intended to secure the neutrality, if not the active alliance of the King of Aquamoo, when King Attah, our faithful watch-dog of Eastern Akim, makes a seizure of a quantity of munitions of war which the former was sending to the Ashanti General in Fanti. It appears that during the battle of Yankumassie, the Fantis captured several Ashantis, from whom they derived the information that the enemy was procuring supplies of arms and ammunition from the Volta through the Aquamoos. Accordingly, the allied chiefs in the field sent messengers to King Tackio at Accra, and King Attah in Akim, with this information, charging them with the duty of putting a stop to supplies reaching the enemy from that quarter. King Attah on his part directed a captain, with 500 men, to occupy the roads that convoys passing from Aquamoo would traverse in going to the Ashanti Camp in Fanti. The result was that in a few days this captain came across a party of about 200 men who were escorting supplies of arms and ammunition from Aquamoo to the enemy, and, having attacked them, succeeded in capturing nine men, all of whom carried either a load of guns, powder, or lead bars. The rest succeeded in making good their escape, most of them returning to Aquamoo to report to the king.

The king at once dispatched a messenger, through his friend Sakkitay, the Chief of Eastern Crobo, and another of the King of Ashanti's suspected paid agents, to complain to the Government of King Attah's conduct.

Immediately the latter is called upon by Colonel Harley to explain his conduct in molesting the friends of the British Government, and the foes of his country. I cannot pretend to speak with any degree of authority as to the nature of King Attah's reply, but King Attah's message to King Tackio and the Accra chiefs was to this effect: "My captain discovered a party of the enemy conveying powder to their friends in camp, and having attacked them, he succeeded in capturing nine of the party with their loads. Seven of these being Aquamoos, I at once ordered their heads to be cut off; but the two others, being real Ashantis, I shall keep in confinement, so that they may bear witness at some future day as to how and from whom they obtained these supplies."

The cane bearer, who delivered this message, stated that the reply to the Government was to the same effect. I learn from the same source also that the two Ashantis remaining in the hands of King Attah report that their friends in the field are fearfully hard up for powder and lead, and find it next to impossible to get supplies to reach them in safety. They have, it is alleged, made revelations which, if true, will seriously compromise certain parties, and go to show that we have traitors in the Eastern districts who are open to sell their country for a consideration, just as well as our friends the Fantis had amongst them. Very possibly these parties will excuse their acts somewhat in this manner: "We saw the British Government sending presents to the King of Aquamoo; therefore, we thought there could be no harm in our selling him guns, powder, and lead, especially as the heavy duties which we paid on those articles will enable the Government to purchase more presents for him." It would not at all surprise me if it be hereafter discovered that the tariff was raised in order to acquire funds for getting up a heavy

purse for presentation to the King of Ashanti in case he should overcome the Fantis, so as to induce him to leave the forts alone. This would not be a little more outrageous than taxing us to make "dashes" to his vassal of Aquamoo.

No doubt this giving of presents encouraged the King of Aquamoo in his audacity to request the Government to demand from King Attah an explanation of his conduct.

The rainy season will be now setting in, so that at present any operations on the Volta, in the neighbourhood of Aquamoo, would be attended with difficulty; but I believe that had we been in December instead of May, King Attah, upon being requested to furnish an explanation, would have called in person on the King of Aquamoo and explained himself by simply wiping him and his gang of robbers out. A ruler of Governor Maclean's ability and real experience, instead of throwing away our money upon our enemies, would have availed himself of such a rare chance to subsidize the Akims to clear the country of all obstacles to its peace and prosperity, such as these accursed Aquamoos.

Fancy Lord Kimberley and Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen talking about Colonel Harley having "taken every possible step to unite and combine the tribes of the Protectorate!" This simply is not true. Colonel Harley may have ability and military skill (I should be a fool to touch upon that subject), but as to his having any "experience" of the Gold Coast, you may tell that to his "horse marines" *alias* "mounted police." I should like to know what he would do if the enemy were to pay Accra a visit. Having all the forts there in ruins, he would be compelled to abandon Accra and seek refuge on board one of his ships of war. Of course you are aware that the allied tribes in camp have sent in a written application to Colonel Harley to request the Accras to come up to their assistance. Colonel Harley, having already told the Accras to go to — when they applied for aid to enable them to proceed to the assistance of their friends in Fanti, of course, does not know now how to go to work to call them out. This is "uniting and combining," with a vengeance!

Yours, &c., A LOOKER-ON

SAFETY OF THE MISSIONARY CAPTIVES IN ASHANTI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Accra, May 29, 1873.

My dear Sir,—I quite forgot to write you before this, that news has been received from Coomassie of the safety of the European captives there.

It was reported some time ago that the King of Ashanti had caused them, as well as sundry natives whom he had prisoners in his capital, to be put to death; but I never believed the report for a moment, knowing the Ashantis to be fully aware of the importance to themselves, in more ways than one, of preserving the lives of the Europeans, and also of all the Fantis and Accras in their hands.

Mr. Ramseyer, one of the German missionary captives, writes, in a letter dated March 24, that he and the rest of his fellow-prisoners were in good health and spirits, considering all things. This letter was brought down by the messengers who were the bearers of the King of Ashanti's declaration of war against the British Government.—Yours, &c.,

TRUTH.

DREADFUL CONDITION OF CAPE COAST, 5TH TO 8TH JUNE.

(Extracts of Letters from Friends at Cape Coast.)

"Cape Coast, June 10, 1873.

"To describe the present state of Cape Coast to you is utterly impossible, but it is awful. All the time we were talking about the Ashanti war, it was mere child's play; it is now that there is war. On the 5th instant—a never-to-be-forgotten day—from 9 o'clock in the morning, the bush people commenced coming into town with their property, their children, their sick, aged, lame, blind, wounded, and killed. It was a dreadful sight to witness. Between 2 and 7 o'clock, the influx of people was indeed great, and the effluvia arising as they passed was awful. The crowd was so thick, that the poor people were almost treading on each other; the very little were being dragged along; all rushing to Cape Coast for safety, for the Ashantis were pursuing them. The men who went to fight also returned, every one of them, in great fright and confusion. The excitement was intense. The people were flocking in all night long; and there was such weeping and wailing all night. Some missed their wives, some their husbands, and others their children; and others again their money and other things. We had no sleep that night, and on the morning of the 6th the excitement was worse. The Ashantis were said to be only five miles from Cape Coast—that is, at Sweet River. A great many warriors went out, but returned again. On that day they brought nine Ashantis altogether—six living ones, a seventh very badly wounded (he said the Ashantis were

determined to come to Cape Coast to fight), and the heads of two others. Two men's heads were cut off at Sweet River, a third by Mr. Taylor's farm. On the 7th, it was reported that Ashantis were at Mrs. Barne's farm, at Abboom, and at Salt Pond near us. You can just imagine what a panic the town was in: people running every way; some going into town, some going up street. All the brick-sheds were occupied by the bush people; they cook and sleep all about in the streets. Our cellar under the balcony is thick with people. The people from Commenda (the other side of Elmina) are all coming to Cape Coast. The Ashantis are after them, too; they cannot pass through Elmina, as the Elmina people do not like them, so they come by water, and every day some of them die at the landing. In one hour eight boats were sunk; the other day five men were drowned; the day before that, two; yesterday one. Mr. F. C. Grant kindly sent a sailing vessel to bring the women; she brought 300 of them yesterday, and is going back for more. The water the bush people drink is enough to kill them, and there has been no rain for some time now. They begin to die already. Yesterday they buried two in the field near us. There is never any market now at all; they have rooted up all the plants everywhere. On Tuesday, the 10th June, we had a very heavy shower of rain, of which the bush people were all very glad. Yesterday they buried two bush people again in the field. The sea is so rough that I do not think I shall be able to come. All the soldiers' wives are going to be sent to Sierra Leone, except four. There are 100 white soldiers now in the Castle, and the West Indian troops are expected. The Ashantis are said to be at Elmina now. All that part of Elmina that are for the English and the British Subjects, are all in the Castle there now. Achampong and other Ashantis are in the town. The man-of-war, Druid, is gone there this morning to watch their movements. They passed many people with small-pox on the day they came to town, all naked. The Ashantis have captured a great many Fantis and some Cape Coast people; some were killed, others taken to Coomassie. The merchants and the educated natives have formed themselves into a company, and go patrolling every night; besides, other patrols go out; the Houssas go out also. The people that came into the town on the 5th were said to be about 20,000, but I think they must have been more; and from that day to this they are coming in from all parts; but some of them have left Cape Coast and gone to Anamaboe and other places, as they could not get food here."

ELMINA* DECLARED UNDER MARTIAL LAW, JUNE 12, CAPE COAST.

By THE QUEEN—A PROCLAMATION.

Settlement of the Gold Coast. (To wit):

Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of all the colonies and territories thereof, Queen, Defender of the Faith.

R. W. Harley, Colonel, Administrator-in-Chief.

To the Officers commanding our Land and Naval Forces in this settlement and its waters, and all other our Officers, and all else whom it may concern.

Whereas it has become known that a hostile force of Ashantis has encamped in the vicinity of Elmina, and that disaffected and evil-disposed persons are traitorously procuring and supplying to our enemies warlike munitions and intelligence whereby they may be better enabled to accomplish their hostile purposes; and whereas for the effectual and speedy punishment of the malefactors, and the repression of their machinations and the protection of peaceable and well-disposed persons, the ordinary course of law and justice does not sufficiently provide:

Now know ye that we do hereby proclaim and declare that from and after the day of the date hereof, until our pleasure herein shall be further known, Martial Law is, and shall be in force within and throughout the town of Elmina and the surrounding districts where the Ashantis have entered.

Witness his Excellency, Colonel Robert William Harley, C.B., Administrator-in-Chief in and over the West African Settlements at Cape Coast Castle, this 12th day of June, in the year of our Lord, 1873.

God save the Queen.

By his Excellency's command,
FOSTER FOSTER, Acting Colonial Secretary.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, June 18, 1873.

Sir,—At last the Government has been roused out of its apathy. As I write Elmina is being bombarded, and is committed to the flames. From the Salt Pond you can see the smoke of its burning ascending up to heaven. It is to be hoped that, since Her Majesty's Government has put its hand to the plough, there will be no looking backwards until Coomassie itself has been

* The destruction of the town commenced at 10 A.M. on 13th.

levelled to the ground, and its proud monarch brought a captive to Cape Coast.

The Ashantis are men to whom no quarter must be given; for if mercy is shown to them, they will but recruit their forces and husband their strength for another desperate attempt at supremacy on the Coast. They are not possessed of the "manly canonicity" attributed to them, but are a treacherous, cunning, rascally race. I preach no war of extermination, but I contend that they should have their fangs drawn, and be rendered ever after harmless.

We must expect an attack from them soon, as when pushed in a corner they are a desperate set of fellows, and the Elminas will be sure to lead them on. Our people are turning out, in expectation of such an event occurring.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

ONE OF THE FANTI CONFEDERATION.

LETTER FROM THE GOLD COAST, ENCLOSEING A PIECE OF CHALK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Gold Coast, May 29, 1873.

Sir,—In my country, when an individual has been accused of doing what he has not done, and his innocence is clearly established, it is customary to give him a piece of chalk with which he has to chalk himself, and then to go about visiting his friends, so as to proclaim the fact of his innocence. Now, for ten years you have laboured under the charge of having unjustly accused the Colonial Office of supplying the West Coast Settlements with an inferior class of officials. What does the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies say? His Lordship, in replying to the deputation of merchants connected with the West Coast which waited on him, observed that it "was almost impossible, after searching all over England, Ireland, and Scotland, to find qualified persons to occupy judicial offices, and he was obliged sometimes to appoint men who were not so good as he could wish, because no better ones presented themselves!" William Alexander Parker, for example. Please accept the enclosed piece of chalk from, yours truly,

[SAMBO.]

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE RE GOLD COAST.

Letter of F. FitzGerald to Earl Kimberley.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street,
July 1, 1873.

My Lord,—The people at Accra seem to entertain the opinion that, as Colonel Harley does not even acknowledge the receipt of their communications addressed to him, though they consider the matter of vital importance to them, so neither does Colonel Harley forward them, or copies of them, to your Lordship. They have therefore entreated me to bring their letter of 20th Feb. and petition of 8th May under your Lordship's notice, and I therefore take the liberty of enclosing printed copies of the same (as published in the *African Times* of the 30th June) for your Lordship's information.—I remain, my Lord, your obedient servant,
F. FITZGERALD, Editor *African Times*.
To the Right Hon. Earl Kimberley, K.G., &c.

Reply of Earl Kimberley.

Downing street, July 9, 1873.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st inst., transmitting printed copies of a letter dated the 20th February, addressed to Colonel Harley by the Kings, Chiefs, and Caboceros of Accra, and of a petition addressed to his Lordship on the 8th of May by the Kings, Chiefs, Headmen, Merchants, and other inhabitants of the Eastern districts of the Gold Coast, neither of which, it is stated, has received acknowledgment.

Lord Kimberley desires me to say that your letter will be forwarded to Colonel Harley for his report; and I am at the same time to observe that the petition of the 8th May has been duly received at this office, and that the letter of the 20th of Feb., which appears not to have been transmitted, was written when Colonel Harley was very seriously ill.—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,
F. FITZGERALD, Esq.

F. FitzGerald to Earl Kimberley.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street,
July 2, 1873.

My Lord,—I have refrained from intruding on your Lordship with any remarks on the new Gold Coast Duties Ordinance of 17th April last, because I have not believed that your Lordship would sanction a measure so ill-timed, destructive, exorbitant, and unjust.

I now, however, feel it to be my duty to bring the matter under your special notice, having been urged so to do, with reference to the aggravated injustices involved in the very oppressive proceedings instituted by the Executive at Cape Coast. When the said ordinance was received and promulgated, amid

general trading consternation, at Pram Pram, Accra, &c., the authorities who proclaimed this new, sudden, and odious increase from and after the date of such proclamation; but the Executive now claims, and declares its intention to enforce, payment of the new scale of duties at such places from the day of the date of the said ordinance being enacted at Cape Coast—viz., 17th April, instead of from the dates of promulgation at Pram Pram and Accra—viz., the 23rd and 25th April; insisting that even in cases where the local authorities had received the old rate of duty between the 17th and 23rd or 25th of April, and given receipt for the same, the difference to make up the amount of the new duty must and shall be paid.

Your Lordship can scarcely be surprised that such an aggravation of the injuries widely inflicted by the sudden and exorbitant increase of duties has evoked a spirit of resistance, even among the proverbially patient people of Her Majesty's West African Settlements on the Gold Coast. The destructive course pursued by the British Executive at Cape Coast with regard to the Ashanti invasion, in refusing adequate help at the proper season, had already created a breach between Her Majesty's Government and the unfortunate inhabitants now being ruined and massacred, or imminently exposed to such calamities, by the invading forces of the King of Ashanti; and such claims as are now made and enforced by the Executive are lamentably calculated still further to widen that breach, at a time when a perfect and hearty co-operation of British and native authority is most essential, if it be desired that a remnant of the people shall be preserved. Your Lordship will therefore permit me to express the hope, that if Her Majesty's Government have not hitherto officially condemned the said new Duties Ordinance of the 17th April, and such proceedings under it, your Lordship will hasten to do so (and order the immediate repayment of any moneys that may have been exacted under its provisions), in the interest alike of Her Majesty's Government and of the merchants, traders, and people above mentioned, whose opinions and feelings are set forth in the printed extracts from the *African Times* of the 30th June last, which I now take the liberty to enclose.—I have the honour to remain, my Lord, your obedient servant,
F. FITZGERALD, Editor *African Times*.
To the Right Hon. Earl Kimberley, K.G., &c.

Reply of Earl Kimberley.

Downing-street, July 8, 1873.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant (but received on the 4th instant) on the subject of the recent Customs' Duties Ordinance of the Gold Coast.

I am to state that the question whether any remission should be made in the case of goods indented for before the passing of the ordinance has been referred to the Administrator-in-Chief for his further consideration.—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,
F. FITZGERALD, Esq.
W. S. HOLLAND.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

These quotations are from Official Lists.

JULY 5 TO 12.

CAMWOOD.—7 tons at 25l.

PALM OIL.—450 tons sold on the spot and to arrive; Irregular at 31l. to 34l., Accra at 34l. 5s., Old Calabar at 35l., Lagos at 35l. 10s., and New Calabar at 37l. 5s. to 37l. 10s. per ton.

COTTON.—Dull market, with further decline. Sales of the week, 70,000 bales. African 6d. and 7d.

JULY 12 TO 19.

PALM-KERNELS.—113 bags at 13l. 5s. to 13l. 7s. 6d. per ton.

CAMWOOD.—5 tons at 26l. per ton.

PALM-OIL.—The demand is only moderate, and prices are slightly in buyers' favour; 500 tons sold; irregular at 29l. to 35l., Bonny at 34l. 15s. to 34l. 10s., Old Calabar at 35l. to 34l. 17s. 6d., Benin at 35l. 5s., and Lagos at 35l. 10s. per ton.

COTTON.—The market has rallied, there has been more business done, and prices are more firm.

Sales of the week 71,300 bales. Prices, Lagos quality 6d. to 7d.

JULY 19 TO 26.

CAMWOOD.—5 tons at 26l. 5s.

PALM-KERNELS.—20 tons at 13l. 5s. to 13l. 7s. 6d. per ton.

COPRA.—170 bags at 16l. 10s. to 17l.

PALM OIL in limited request, and prices favour buyers; 450 tons sold; Irregular at 29l. to 34l., Bonny at 34l. 10s. to 34l. 5s., and Old Calabar at 34l. 15s. to 34l. 10s., and Lagos at 35l. 10s. per ton.

COTTON.—Good demand, but freely supplied by sellers so that there is very little change in quotations.

AFRICAN.—Ordinary and middling, 6d.; fair and good fair 7d. to 7d.; good and fine, 8d.
Sales of the week, 78,000 bales.

The African Times.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY. PRICE 5s., STAMPED.

You are earnestly requested to allow your name to be added to the list of yearly subscribers. Price 5s. per annum for each copy, payable in advance.

The African Times.

TUESDAY, JULY 29, 1873.

THE NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE WEST COAST.

We must confess to having experienced a great relief when we became aware of the appointment of the late Administrator of Lagos, Mr. Berkley, to be Governor-in-Chief over the West African Settlements. The wretched entanglement of Gold Coast affairs under the administration of Colonel Harley, did not indicate the latter as a proper officer to be appointed permanently to that supreme command which he has held provisionally since the death of Governor Keate. Governor Berkley has a great difficulty to cope with in the Ashanti War. We have heard much in his favour from Lagos, and we can now only express the hope that we shall find in him an enlightened and liberal Governor, free from all unworthy prejudices against any portion of the African people; not regarding the educated ones as "black beasts," an expression which we have heard attributed, on good authority, to one of his present subordinates,—but zealous in every way for the general advancement of the countries and peoples over whose affairs he has been called by Divine Providence to preside, as representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. If he prove to be such a Governor, we shall only be too happy to give him all the moral support in our power. The recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee of 1864 have yet to be carried out in their integrity. *Verb. sap.*

LAGOS.

We are now assured that the heavy cloud which has so long hung like a funeral pall over the trade of Lagos has blown away; that both roads and markets are reopened, and that within a few weeks trade will have fully resumed its ordinary course. It is a great relief to our mind that Lagos should no longer oppress it, now that the affairs of the Gold Coast hang so heavily upon it. We have had a wearing battle to fight for present relief and future security to Lagos trade with the indispensable interior, and yet we much doubt whether all our efforts to obtain those great objects for the trading community of that place have secured us even one additional friend, or produced a feeling of gratitude or affection for us in a single heart. The people of every African settlement are ready enough to appeal to us when trouble falls upon them individually or collectively—they seem to have fully imbibed the idea that it is our duty to help them, but it rarely or never enters their heads even, to say nothing of their hearts, that it is their duty to help us. Be it so; yet none the less do we give to one and all at Lagos our most hearty and sincere congratulations that they are now once more at liberty to resume those profitable labours which the suspension of trade so long interdicted. Our task for them, however, is by no means at an end. We have, in their interest, to elucidate yet further those Government measures which produced so much evil. The papers asked for by Mr. John Laird in the House of Commons, in May, 1872, at our instigation, have never yet been granted by the Government, and the veil of official secrecy (though we know pretty well what it covers) is still spread over the record of the birth of that stupid Ordinance which, in the evil hands of the then Administrator, Captain Glover, prostrated the trade of Lagos, and involved its commerce in a loss which, by moderate computation, cannot have been less than from one hundred thousand to two hundred thousand pounds sterling. We have every reason now to believe that the trade of Lagos has passed through its last great struggle, its last period of

adversity. But this will not cause us to sleep at our post. We shall watch, and endeavour, so far as may be in our power, so to govern events that Lagos may advance steadily and securely to that great commercial pre-eminence, that great pacific and beneficial influence in the promotion and spread of Christian civilization, which we have always contemplated as her noble destiny.

THE ASHANTI WAR.

THE state of affairs on the Gold Coast is now truly alarming. There is not now a mere invasion of the "protected" territories, but a war between the protecting Power, Great Britain, and the Ashantis. Up to the 13th June it might have been alleged that Her Majesty's Government had given only "moral aid" to the invaded people, accompanied by dribbles of arms and ammunition; and that any slight departure from this by the Houssas having operated for a short time in one engagement on the side of the Fantis, and some rockets having been thrown among the Ashantis, did not really compromise Her Majesty's Government, because they were not in conformity with their general orders and instructions. But this cannot be any longer urged. We have now declared war in a very decided and practical manner. Over and over again have Her Majesty's Government and their authorities on the Gold Coast proclaimed that, notwithstanding certain acts and doings difficult to reconcile therewith, Great Britain had no possession or jurisdiction outside the walls of the forts occupied by her on the Coast. In the parliamentary paper now before us we find the Inspecting Officers, Dr. Rowe and Lieutenant Hopkins, limited to the ridiculous moral aid dodge (for it does not deserve any better appellation). But on the 13th June we not only destroy unnecessarily a town that, according to some proclamations and acts, was, and according to others was not, our own, but we engage in full conflict with the Ashanti invaders, to their great loss and discomfiture. That this constitutes an actual state of war between Great Britain and Ashanti, is past all question. We are at war; and, as the Duke of Wellington most truly declared, "England cannot have a little war." Being at war, we must put forth energies quite equal to what the occasion demands. Now, an extra contingent of 39 men sent out by the Simoom (we hope we are not wrong in the number) is not such a putting forth of energy as the occasion demands. The acts of the invading forces since they entered the Protectorate differ from the usual practice of the Ashantis. As a general rule, they devastate the countries they invade; but in this instance, although they have destroyed all the villages in their line of advance and within reach from it, they have preserved all the plantations, in order that they may have the produce for their sustentation. Everything seems to indicate that they purpose a prolonged or permanent occupation of the territories. Now, this is a very serious matter. There is such a thing as British honour; and where this is at stake, the vindication of it is supreme, and must prevail over all other considerations. We refused in a time of peace to take advantage of the strongly-expressed desire of the native kings and people, and the educated classes, to organize for defence against their always threatening enemy, Ashanti; and even went so far as to charge those who made the initiatory move in that organization with high treason, and imprison them. True, Her Majesty's Government did not advise the prosecution of such a charge, and ordered the release of the prisoners; but they did nothing to counteract the evil which the local authorities had done in such proceedings; and the authors of such proceedings remained Government pets. Instead of organizing the people of the territories, the policy pursued was that of spreading dissension, treachery, and suspicion among them. Acting thus in presence of, as we have before said, an ever-threatening and unprincipled enemy, we sowed the wind; and now we reap the whirlwind. However unpleasant the truth may be, it must be looked steadily in the face; British honour requires it. We cannot any longer restrain our action within the limits of a mere defence of our forts. We cannot allow any settlement of the Ashantis within the Protectorate. We must organize the natives efficiently; we

must give them all the aid that may be necessary for clearing the Protectorate of every Ashanti foe; and if we are wise, and are true to our national honour, we must incapacitate the Ashanti enemy from ever again causing us such involvement. What may be necessary for effecting this we do not pretend to say. If what we have pointed out from time to time as necessary to be done had been done, there could never have been such an Ashanti invasion, and we could not have ever become involved in a war which, whatever we may effect in it, cannot bring us any military or naval renown. Our correspondent, John Thomas, (Black man), calls especial attention to our having published, on the 30th January, intelligence sent to us from Cape Coast, under date 19th and 20th December, 1871, that the Ashanti invasion had commenced by the Ashantis having crossed the "Prah" and burnt several villages in Assin. We suppose it was a "masterly inactivity" in Colonel Harley not to receive the fact of the invasion into his administrative consciousness until the 31st January, and even then as being only the operation of a mere party of marauders. We are sorry, therefore, on this and on many other sufficient grounds, in not being able to repose that confidence in Colonel Harley which Earl Kimberley has constantly maintained, notwithstanding evidence which we think would have annihilated such faith in any other man than a high official determined *fas et nefas* to uphold his protégé—a confidence and a faith which will, if we mistake not, involve the loss of many valuable lives and the expenditure of at least a million or two of British money. We have in all this only one consolation. We believe all such errors to be overruled by the Supreme Governor of the Universe to the working out of His great purposes of good; and we look forward to beneficial results to Africa, which Great Britain never would have opened her purse-strings to effect, save under the pressure of imperial necessity.

THE LOSS OF THE YORUBA AND THE NIGRETIA.

We have to express our deep regret at the loss of those two fine steamers, the Nigretia and the Yoruba, belonging to the African Steamship Company, both on their outward voyage; the former on Carpenter's Reef, near Sierra Leone; the other at Cape Palmas. Happily, there was not any loss of life, but the withdrawal of two of the largest steamers from the West Coast trade must cause inconvenience and delay to many; while those who had goods on board the wrecked steamers will have been inconvenienced, though they may not sustain eventual loss. The non-arrival of letters due by those ships must also have caused perplexity and uneasiness in the minds of many. We sincerely hope that long years may pass away before we shall have occasion to deplore the loss of any other ship of either of the West African lines of steamers.* As they have no race against time in their voyages, as is the case with the great Transatlantic lines, we think they ought to enjoy almost an immunity from such disasters as have befallen the Yoruba and the Nigretia, which seem to us almost inexplicable.

THE DESTRUCTION OF ELMINA.

ELMINA has been destroyed by the garrison of its Castle and Her Majesty's war steamers. This is one of those disastrous and unpleasant facts which make the task of an impartial editor one of extreme difficulty. Had it not been the work of British military and naval officers, we should denounce it in much more severe terms than we shall use. But, cognizant as we are of all that takes place on the Coast, our first exclamation was, "Who is really responsible for this?" There was such an unmistakable semi-official air about the unofficial report which first appeared, that we took it to be a consistent prelude to the contents of the then expected official despatch; and we waited with impa-

* We think it right, however, to state that there was a rumour in Lagos, when the Sudan left that port, that the Monrovia had also been wrecked leeward of Lagos, and that the Kwarra, which had gone to her assistance, had met with a similar fate. We hope and trust that there was no real foundation for this report.

tience and anxiety to see what justification of so barbarous a proceeding would be attempted. To one assertion, however, made in that semi-official report, we felt it to be our duty to enter an immediate denial. It is totally false that "great confidence in the skill and experience of Colonel Harley is felt by all the residents on the Coast." Every communication we have received, with one solitary exception, gives the lie to this; and, for our own part, we are sick of that word "experience" as applied by Colonel Harley to himself, and by Earl Kimberley to him. It has become as disgusting as the absurd declarations of the Solicitor-General during the first Tichborne trial. For ourselves, we boldly charge Col. Harley, his infatuated self-conceit, and lamentable ignorance of the country, its people, and their enemy, with all the terrible evils that have flooded the Protectorate during his disastrous rule. Our columns have contained ample evidence of the feelings of the residents as regards Colonel Harley's wretched administration; and we must confess that we are at a loss to account for Earl Kimberley's infatuation respecting this by him be-praised official. Since the receipt on the Coast of the various reports of Earl Kimberley's utterances regarding Colonel Harley, all our correspondents (with, as we have before stated, one only exception) have expressed unmingled contempt for that "great experience in West African matters" which Earl Kimberley attributes to Colonel Harley. Some of them want to know whether it was gained at "Mansu" in 1863, when he had under his command 20,000 men, natives and West Indian troops, and remained, they say, inactive there during three weeks; while the Ashantis were committing their ravages at no great distance from him, and overpowering the native forces there. Certainly, if Colonel Harley has had "vast experience," he has profited marvellously little by it, so far as West African matters are concerned. The destruction of the country and its people while under his rule proves this most undeniably. But to return to Elmina, and the work of destruction there. The despatches have arrived, and been published. We cannot find in them any statement of sufficient cause for what was done. We will do the naval and military commanders the justice to say that they do not attempt to show that there was any necessity for the destruction of the place. It was thought necessary or advisable that the malcontent portion of its inhabitants should be disarmed, and for this martial law was proclaimed; but surely, a few searching patrols of soldiers and sailors through the place, while the issues were guarded, would have effected this. To destroy it, with the fifty or sixty thousand pounds worth of goods and produce belonging to innocent traders, who thought themselves secure under British protection, seems, from the point of view at which we regard it, to have been a most monstrous thing. It will be seen by official correspondence which we publish, that we applied without delay for compensation for losses sustained by two of our trading friends. Of course, we knew better than to suppose that Her Majesty's Government would hasten to relieve the sufferers; but it was desirable we should hear from the Government themselves what they purposed to do, or not to do. Their ground of non-liability is military necessity; but we contend that nothing short of the most undeniable proof that the continued existence of the town would be fatal to the safety of the garrison and Castle, and that there was no other possible road to safety than by the ruthless destruction of the place, without giving notice of time to the innocent property-holders to withdraw their goods,—that nothing short of this could constitute such a military necessity as may be held to exonerate Her Majesty's Government from liability to satisfy compensation claims for the property plundered and destroyed. The Elminas, since the surrender to us by the Dutch of all their rights, stood in the same position to us as did the people of Cape Coast; and yet we allow the riff-raff of the latter to plunder what the flames may have spared. The malcontents of Elmina and their Ashanti allies stood in need of a severe lesson from the British garrison and fleet, and we rejoice that they have had it. Not that it was a feat for British officers to boast of. The wretchedly armed Ashantis, however personally brave they may be, are but as sheep for the slaughter when before the Snider rifle, in the open.

[JULY 29, 1873.]

It is so much the more to be deplored that Elmina should have been sacrificed to them. We cannot believe, after again and again perusing the despatches, that this destruction of Elmina was really and truly the act of Col. Festing and Captain Freemantle. We look upon them as mere instruments in the work of destruction, and shall be much surprised if we do not arrive, sooner or later, at the knowledge of the idea and decision having been the result of some "vast experience" enthroned at Cape Coast. In conclusion, we would advise all who have innocently suffered loss of goods and produce by the destruction of Elmina, not to be discouraged by the replies we have received from the Colonial-office. Let them send in their claims—rigidly true claims, without exaggeration of any kind—and combine for obtaining that compensation to which we consider that they are most justly entitled.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, June 23, 1873.

Sir,—My last, conveying to you information of the bombardment of Elmina, missed the mail, so it will reach you at the same time as this.

The attempt at disarming the Elminas was made too late; the Government ought to have taken this step months back, but with its usual ignorance and stupidity it put it off till the last moment, and has thus caused a destruction of property wholly unnecessary. There was more than ample proof, months ago, of the leanings of many of the Elmina people towards Ashanti, and that there was collusion between them and the enemy, and that they were in communication with him, and intended declaring for him as soon as he was conveniently close to their town; yet the local authorities sat sucking their thumbs, and would not give credence to what were notorious facts. Whatever roused Colonel Harley—the man with "vast experience"—from his lethargy, is as yet unknown to us. If the Elminas had been called upon to give up their arms at the time their King was arrested, we should not have had the Ashantis so near us as they are now, nor more than four or five miles from Cape Coast Castle, within which his Excellency has quietly bestowed himself, as the Government-house is under repairs. Unfortunately, we cannot all be permitted to take up our residence in such a convenient locality, for want of a similar pretext.

Lieut. Colonel Festing went up to Elmina on the night of the 12th for the purpose of disarming the people, and called upon them early the next day to give up all their arms by 9 A.M. This they did not do, and when the time expired, the town was bombarded. That part of the town known as Elmina, directly in front of Fort St. George d'Elmina, was the only portion of the town shelled. The garden part, as it is called, was untouched. The greater number of the people fled into the bush, others joined the Ashanti division encamped but three-quarters of a mile from the town, or foolishly remained in their houses, or made attempts to get over to the garden part. Shot and shell flew about in all directions, till the town was cleared of the malcontents, and then there was a lull. Towards 5 P.M., however, the Ashanti division, numbering some 3,000 men, advanced to attack the town, having provided themselves with scaling ladders for the purpose of scaling the forts. They were met by 500 or 600 of the white and black troops, and after a conflict lasting two hours, and after losing over 200 men in killed and a larger number in wounded, they retired from the field. In this combat none of the native forces were engaged; it was entirely a fight between the troops and the Ashantis, who showed magnificent courage. The casualties among the troops were, one white and two black soldiers killed, and about eight or ten wounded. The enemy stood but little chance against troops armed with the Snider, although he had so great an advantage in numbers. This closed the day's proceedings, which had resulted in the loss of a large number of lives, and the destruction of property to the amount of 50,000l. or 60,000l.; and this is to be attributed to the blundering of Colonel Harley. On the 13th, 14th, and 15th numbers of people left here and proceeded to Elmina, for the sole purpose of plundering what had been left untouched by shot and shell; some with pickaxes and spades, to rifle the graves of the dead for loot; others, with any quantity of rope and twine, to tie up pigs, sheep, and everything upon which they could lay hands. Some persons have made a good thing by it; others have been incarcerated for the share they took in the plunder. Meanwhile the main body of the Ashanti army has been slowly but steadily advancing on Cape Coast, their right wing resting on Trappoo (where the Fanti forces encamped before Elmina in '68), their left beyond Abbokeo, the main division on Impey-arsum, and their advanced guard in some of the villages this side of the Sweet River. For the last ten days I don't believe any one outside the walls of the

Castle has had a sound night's rest; every night the enemy has been expected, and there is such a want of organization, that the town can be entered and sacked before the troops could be of any use, except to knock down the town about our ears, and to slaughter us indiscriminately with the foe. During this period the enemy has been permitted to approach nearer and nearer the town, till now one cannot go more than four or five miles outside the town without falling into the hands of his scouts. Last night, as an attack was imminent, Lieutenant-Colonel Festing was brought down from Elmina, to take command here; nothing, however, transpired, but every one has a sense of insecurity—so much so, that the principal merchants addressed a letter to his Excellency, claiming protection for themselves and property, at any rate for the latter, and they have been referred to Lieutenant-Colonel Festing. This letter conveyed the first intelligence to his Excellency of the proximity of the Ashanti army to this place, and it was the cause of some little stir among the powers that be for a day or two. It is not astonishing that his Excellency should be without information, as he apparently cares not for any intelligence but that which he himself may afterwards be compelled to admit to have been inaccurate. The merchants and almost everybody else in town can obtain information where he would fail, and for the simple reason that his Excellency has heard so much of his "vast experience" that he has really come to consider himself infallible; and believes that he knows all that the enemy can do and will do; therefore, when any report is brought to him, he receives it with a "just-as-I-expected" air. Almost every person—I can say with a certainty, the whole of the educated community, and the majority of the uneducated—would be glad to see him removed to some other sphere more fitted to his abilities, and the conduct of the war placed in abler, more active, and energetic hands. "Veritas" is right in saying that Colonel Harley has not been the cause of the war; but it is no less true that he has been the cause of all our disasters, of the devastation of some of our finest districts, of the immense loss of life, and destruction of property amounting to some hundreds of thousands of pounds. Had he not pooched the intelligence given him in January last of the Ashantis having crossed the Prah in a large force—had he not put them down (their numbers being then stated at 40,000) as a mere marauding party—had he not written home to say that they did not number more than 4,000, subsequently to admit his error—had he not given such instructions as he did to Lieutenant Hopkins, before the battle of Yankumassi—had he not been so niggardly in his supply of powder to our forces, knowing, as he did, that our people never fill their guns with a charge less than eight drams—had he given them what they had a right to expect—money and officers to organize their forces—had he not trifled with the Elmina question, and had he taken steps for the protection and defence of the town, and not left everything that he ought to have done undone,—the fate of the Protectorate would not be depending upon what may occur within the next few hours, and British supremacy here would not be tottering on its base. The blowing down of the town in case of the Ashantis entering it, as we learn has been proposed, will of course enable certain obnoxious parties to be got rid of, but can be nothing less than a wanton destruction of life and property, utterly uncalled for, as the town can be defended, and the forts preserved intact, without resorting to such extreme measures. Instead of organizing the native forces, and handing them to the command of Colonel Festing, our able Administrator appears to be wool-gathering. If the British Government really intends carrying the war up to the walls of Coomassie, it will require a native auxiliary force of at least 10,000 men, who will have to be organized and disciplined, and put into some kind of uniform to distinguish them from the enemy; and Colonel Harley would be leading no slight aid to the undertaking by setting on foot such a move without further delay. On the 7th of June, when the kings and chiefs called upon his Excellency, he desired them to elect any man they liked to the command of their forces, and he would recognize and support him; this I omitted to state in my last. Well, on the 18th, the Headman of Cape Coast, styled King Attah, the captains of the Companies of Cape Coast, and the other kings and chiefs, appointed Mr. W. E. Davidson and Mr. J. S. A. Fynn respectively as chief and second in command of the Cape Coast forces, and a day or two after King Attah and the captains called upon his Excellency to inform him of it. Colonel Harley refused to recognize these appointments, and stated as his reasons that these gentlemen had belonged to, and are still members of, the Fanti Confederation, the object of which was to wrest all authority out of the hands of the kings and chiefs and vest it in that of the educated classes; to turn out the Government, and take the country entirely into their hands; and that he did not wish to hear mention made of the names of these two gentlemen, or that of any other educated gentleman, as he desired to have nothing to do with the educated class at all; and wound up by promising King Attah and the Companies some rice and

JULY 30, 1873.]

money, the former of which he will dole out to them at the rate of twelve tumblersful to 700 men, as he did with King Eddoo, and the latter of which, being scarce, is likely to be 8s. per head for the king and captains only. So you see that we of the Fanti Confederation still have hard raps across the knuckles occasionally from the powers that be here, and the educated class is always sat upon when opportunity offers; they will not recognize us because they fear us; they cannot conveniently tamper with us, unless we are of the stamp of one or two who call themselves chiefs.

We learn that the Government is likely to prosecute the war to the bitter end. It is to be hoped that it will; for, to say nothing on the head of teaching his Majesty of Ashanti a severe lesson, the gain to commerce, civilization, and Christianity will be incalculable. The immense wealth hidden in the interior would be open to legitimate commerce, once that barrier to the progress and development of civilization inland from this part of the coast—the kingdom of Ashanti—were removed. Tribes from the far distant interior would flock down to the coast; the gold mines of Ashanti would be open to the civilized world; immigration would turn its steps hitherward, to go over the length and breadth of a country not less rich in mineral wealth than the famed El Dorado; and an empire, in course of time, would grow out of this at present miserable country that would vie with Ind. This is no Utopian dream; those who have watched our old and young washing the sand on the sea-shore, and even the dust in our streets after a heavy rain, know that this is no chimera, but that our soil contains riches as yet undeveloped, of which no estimate can be formed.

It is reported that the Home Government have drawn up a memorandum of some kind or other about the Fanti Confederation, and that in all probability some of us who were incarcerated by Mr. Salmon are to receive a moderate compensation. This is tardy justice; but I suppose we must say "Better late than never," and we shall be only too glad to see the memorandum, and the compensation too, as it will right us in the eyes of the community, who have been humbugged—to use an Americanism—by Mr. Salmon and others. I suppose, nevertheless, we shall have to wait for another couple of years, till something else turns up, then we shall have the memorandum spoken of, and receive the compensation. It is a pity that the Government—i.e., the local authorities—will not recognize the fact that the educated class is necessarily out here the party of order; for we are aware that we would be readily sacrificed for the interests of either party, the illiterate or the Government; and that we have our own self-preservation to look to, as well as the interests of the whole, which are not sufficiently recognized and known by the chiefs, and which the Government, on the other hand, purposely ignores.—For the present, I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,

ONE OF THE FANTI CONFEDERATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Cape Coast, June 23, 1873.

Dear Sir,—Colonel Harley is thoroughly incompetent for his post and is causing great dissatisfaction. I fear he will effectually ruin the prospects of the Protectorate for the next fifty years. He has taken no steps for the protection of the town, and talks about shelling it as soon as the enemy enters it. This would be a wanton act of destruction, for which there can be no justification, and Her Majesty's Government will have a large bill to pay for property destroyed. . . . If you hear the town is knocked down, and any cause is assigned for it, and several of us, such as Mr. Davidson and others, are *non est*, you will know exactly what to put it down to. With kindest wishes from all, I remain, yours truly,

ONE OF THE FANTI CONFEDERATION.

COLONEL HARLEY, THE "AFRICAN TIMES" NEWS, AND THE KING OF AQUAMOO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Gold Coast, July 1, 1873.

Dear Sir,—Pray do not lose sight of this charge we have against the Government, that they are responsible for all this ruin, caused by this Ashanti war; for if their agent, Colonel Harley, had listened to the advice of King Attah on the 17th December, instead of snubbing him, we should perhaps have had no war at all; or, at any rate, if Harley had acted like a sane man, the war would never have reached even Assin. I am surprised you have not, month after month, called the attention of the Colonial Office to this very important fact, which, indeed, had almost escaped my notice, viz., how comes it to pass that the *African Times* of 30th January last could publish news of the Ashantis having crossed the Prah, and burnt several villages in Assin; and yet Colonel Harley, on the 31st January, only knew of them as "marauders," and did not issue his proclamation notifying the fact of the invasion until 8th February? The *African Times* of 30th January states that it received its intelli-

gence by the Roquette, which left Cape Coast on the 19th or 20th December, and arrived in Liverpool on the 14th January. Therefore the news of the actual invasion must have reached the coast before the 18th December, which it did, as Attah's messengers were the first to repeat it to Colonel Harley through the commandant of Accra on the 16th of December. Why, then, did he not take steps at once to do something in the way of defence, if not offence. He never stirred a finger until some time in February, when—what does he do?—he sends Dr. Rowe, a man just like himself, to the interior, to report a lot of nonsense. Do you not believe that Colonel Harley had sufficient time from 18th December to 8th February (fifty-two days) to "unite and combine the native tribes" to attack the Ashantis long before they reached Mansue? Why, any governor with a head on his shoulders would by the 8th February have mustered an army of 60,000 Akims, Assins, Accras, Fantis, Denkeras, &c., &c., under good officers, and supplied with ammunition in front of Mansue, and crushed the Ashantis at one blow. But what does Colonel Harley do? Fifty-two days after the receipt of the news of the enemy's crossing the Prah only, does he think of acting; and then he issued a proclamation saying he has heard that the Ashantis had crossed the Prah and invaded the Protectorate, and no one is to sell them any munitions of war; nothing more! Pray when, where, and how did he "unite and combine the native tribes?" And which tribes were they that he "united and combined?" He not only did not do anything of the kind, but on the contrary he has done, and is, at this very hour, still doing all he can, to disunite our people. He is so annoyed at the truth respecting his conduct to King Attah having oozed out through the *African Times*, that he is mad against Attah, and he has written to King Attah threatening to attack him if he does not deliver up the Ashantis whom he arrested about two months ago conveying ammunition from the King of Aquamoo to our enemies in the camp! So Colonel Harley is really backing our mortal enemies, the Ashantis and Aquamoos, against us, whilst we are in the midst of war with them. You will hardly believe this, I am sure, but it can be proved. And then, again, just fancy him writing to the King of Aquamoo to say that he (Harley) has conquered the Ashantis, and has now got leisure to attend to him if he does not keep quiet. And Colonel Harley writes this bosh whilst the inhabitants of Cape Coast are hourly expecting the enemy whom he has "conquered" to come and sweep them off the face of creation. Colonel Harley may be able to mislead Lord Kimberley and Mr. K. Huggessen, but he will not find it an easy job to mislead the King of Aquamoo.—Yours very truly,

JOHN THOMAS, black man, Africa, No. 3.

REOPENED ROADS AND MARKETS FOR LAGOS.

The following are among communications received relative to this so long desired and now happily realized event:—

Lagos, June 6.

"The roads were declared open by the Abeokuta authorities on the 3rd instant, and canoes are going up the river for produce. May God bless you, and spare you to reap the benefits of your labours for Africa."

"The road to Abeokuta is now open, and canoes are coming down with cotton. It is said Abeokuta is groaning under the burden of wealth in cotton, palm-oil, kernels, &c. Thanks to God; and thanks next to Mr. FitzGerald, whose indefatigable exertions have contributed in no small degree to expedite the present satisfactory position of affairs."

"There is no longer any doubt as to the reopening of the roads, and a very large trade may be expected. It is reported that there is such an abundance of produce that markets will be held on five days in the week instead of on two only."

"The bar of Lagos is now very bad, however—so bad that very often the boats cannot go over it—and there is a great lack of bar-boats, so many having been destroyed in the great gale which took place sometime ago. Scarcely any produce for sale has come down yet, but in two or three weeks' time it will no doubt be abundant."

OVERLAND NEWS FROM THE NIGER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Eggin, April 5, 1873.

Dear Sir,—I have written you several letters since the roads have been blocked up; whether you received them or not, I do not know, therefore I take upon myself the duty of writing to you these few lines by a present opportunity. I am sorry to have to inform you of the death of King Massaba, which has so troubled the minds of everybody, that Beedah is upside down. Some people have been running out of the town, fearing the princes will fight among themselves; but I am glad to say that everything is at ease now, for Imoni, a man next to him, is now crowned King of Nupe, and he is called by the Nupes "King of

Peace," for he has said that in his time everybody will enjoy their labours, whether poor or rich.—Yours truly,

R. T. B.

CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTY DESTROYED AT ELMINA.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street, July 15, 1873.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to inclose copies of two communications, received by me per *Senegal*, from J. A. de Vier and Samuel Davies, detailing losses sustained by these my correspondents, owing to the destruction of Elmina by Her Majesty's land and naval forces, on the 13th June, without any previous notice given to British subjects and others having property in the town to remove the same or take other measures for its safe custody. My correspondents believed themselves and their property to be in perfect security, under the protection of a fort garrisoned by Her Majesty's troops, and could never have supposed that it would be there destroyed and imperilled by the garrison of that fort and Her Majesty's ships of war without adequate previous warning.

It will be within your lordship's knowledge that the proclamation placing Elmina under military law, was only signed at Cape Coast on the 12th June; that it did not reach Elmina until early on the 13th June; that the commander of Her Majesty's troops ordered the disaffected people in Elmina to deliver up their arms before 9 a.m.; that this, not having been done, the town was set on fire by Her Majesty's forces and bombarded, and that the pillage of unconsumed property (which was not in any way protected by Her Majesty's troops, although the Ashantis and disaffected Elminas had been defeated and driven away), took place on the same night. It is therefore indisputable that my correspondents had not sufficient warning to remove their property, or opportunity of removing it. Under these circumstances, and more especially as your lordship is reported to have said last night in the House of Lords, "It is to be regretted that such a step should have become necessary in a case where there was only suspicion; but it had been thought desirable, not only in consequence of the reason I have just stated, but also from sanitary considerations." I have the honour to bring under your lordship's notice the sad case of these my two correspondents, who have lost all their property as above mentioned, and to solicit compensation from Her Majesty's Government to the amount of the loss they have thus sustained.

I have the honour further to solicit that, if practicable, I may receive your lordship's reply to this urgent solicitation not later than the morning of the 17th inst., so as to afford me the opportunity of forwarding your lordship's reply to my suffering correspondents by the mail steamer leaving Liverpool on the 18th inst.

F. FITZGERALD, Editor *African Times*.
To the Right Hon. the Earl Kimberley, K.G., &c.

Letter No. 2.—Earl Kimberley (per W. S. Holland) to F. Fitzgerald.

Downing-street, July 17, 1873.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., on the subject of losses sustained by Messrs. J. A. De Vier and Samuel Davis, owing to the destruction of a portion of Elmina by Her Majesty's forces on the 13th ultimo.

In reply, I am to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government cannot admit any liability on their part to compensate the persons to whom you refer, however much they may regret the losses which those persons may have sustained from the measures which it was necessary to take for the protection of the forts.

I am to add that the passage quoted by you from the report of Lord Kimberley's answer in the House of Lords, is incorrect, as his Lordship did not say that it was "a case where there was only suspicion," nor did he intend to convey the meaning that the step was taken on sanitary grounds; although the removal of the town will be, his Lordship is informed, advantageous, in a sanitary point of view, to the fortress. The grounds upon which the British authorities acted are stated in the despatches which have been published.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
F. Fitzgerald.

W. S. HOLLAND.

Letter No. 3.—F. Fitzgerald to Earl Kimberley.

Destruction of Elmina.

African Times Office, 121, Fleet-street, E.C.,

July 18, 1873.

My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Holland's letter of the 17th inst., and to thank your Lordship for so prompt a reply to mine of the 15th inst.

In this reply your Lordship informs me that H.M. Government

cannot admit any liability to compensate the merchants and traders whose property has been destroyed in deed through the bombardment of Elmina.

I shall confine myself at this moment to an expression of deep regret at such a decision on the part of H.M. Government, and of my sanguine hope that they will reverse it after a more mature consideration of the facts connected with the said bombardment.

Your Lordship further informs me that the passage quoted by me from the report of your Lordship's speech in the House of Lords "is incorrect." I beg leave respectfully to state that I quoted, word for word, from the *Times*, with the exception of change of pronouns.

Your Lordship also informs me that you did not intend to convey the meaning that the step (the bombardment) "was taken on sanitary grounds, though it may prove advantageous in a sanitary point of view," but that "the grounds on which the British authorities acted are stated in the despatches" that have been published.

I beg leave to state that I had attentively read those despatches before applying to your Lordship by my letter of the 15th for compensation to my correspondents whose property was destroyed and plundered; and it was because I did not find in those despatches any one plea of that military necessity which, to my mind, could alone justify such a proceeding, that I was strengthened in what seems to have been an error on my part, viz., that your Lordship's speech had been faithfully reported and correctly understood.

Referred thus by your Lordship to Colonel Festing's despatch, I have again perused it, and again fail to find any plea of absolute military necessity, such as alone might be put forward as an argument against liability on the part of H.M. Government for the losses in question.

The despatch states that at a council at Cape Coast it was resolved that martial law should be proclaimed at Elmina; that Colonel Festing returned to Elmina with the necessary document (which is given at length in the *Gazette* of the 14th inst.); that at 3.30 A.M. on the 13th June he caused the disaffected quarter to be surrounded; that martial law was proclaimed, and that orders were issued to take all arms, but otherwise to molest no one.

Nothing can be more evident than that in all this the disarmament of the people, and not the destruction of the place, was the professed object in view.

The despatch proceeds to state that to bring matters to a crisis one hour was given to the people to send in their arms or have their town destroyed; that the arms not having been brought in, and "wishing to leave no stone unturned to invite them, if possible, to listen to reason, and to become loyal and obedient people, a further half-hour's time was allowed; and that at the expiration of that time they opened fire upon the town and destroyed it." And here the despatch ends, in so far as the destruction of Elmina is concerned.

I trust I may be permitted to remark that it seems to me the greatest living casuist would have difficulty in construing from this despatch, which I have fully quoted in every essential point, that the destruction of the town was determined on as a necessary measure for the protection of the forts, which were not besieged, and of danger to which from the neighbouring enemy not the slightest pretext is advanced. The fact, as it stands out in the despatch, is that some of the people of Elmina had been tampering with the Ashantis, against whom, be it observed, Her Majesty's Government had never yet declared war; that the British authorities claimed a right to the loyalty and obedience of those people; that, finding them to be disobedient, recourse was had to threats of punishment; and that, finally, as the penalty of disloyalty and disobedience in a portion of the people, the town was destroyed. It is, I think, impossible to put any other fair construction on this despatch. The town was destroyed, not because the destruction was a measure necessary for the protection of the forts, but because a portion of the people were disobedient and disloyal. In and as a consequence of this mode of punishing disloyalty, the property of innocent and loyal traders was plundered and destroyed, and it is for the losses thus sustained that I have put forward the claim for compensation. No sufficient notice having been given or necessary time allowed for loyal subjects to remove their property from among the disobedient people, your Lordship appeals to the despatch in question in justification of the decision of Her Majesty's Government not to admit such claim for compensation on the ground that this despatch establishes as a fact that the act which gave rise to such claim was necessary for the protection of the forts. I beg leave respectfully to maintain that the despatch neither declares nor even insinuates that any such necessity existed; and I can well understand that a brave British commander would shrink from asserting or insinuating that such a measure could possibly be necessary for

the defence of such a fort as the Castle of St. George d'Elmina, ready to be defended by the guns and crews of several British ships of war, and a sufficient garrison (the despatch proving that from 500 to 600 men were subsequently brought into the field), against a possible demonstration or attack of naked savages armed only with guns of the most inferior description—without artillery rockets, or any effective war material for attacking a fortification defended as above mentioned.

In justice, therefore, to men who have been ruined (unless they obtain compensation) by the mode of punishing alleged disloyalty and disobedience adopted on this occasion at Elmina, I beg leave to solicit a reconsideration by Her Majesty's Government of the claim to compensation thus put forward in their behalf.—I have the honour to remain, my Lord, yours, &c.,
F. FITZGERALD.

The Right Hon. Earl Kimberley, K.G. &c.

Letter No. 4.—Earl Kimberley (per W. S. Holland) to F. Fitzgerald.

Downing-street, July 23, 1873.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th inst., and to acquaint you, in reply, that his Lordship sees no reason to modify the views expressed in my letter of the 17th inst.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
F. Fitzgerald, Esq.
W. S. HOLLAND.

LIST OF PASSENGERS PER S.S. SENEGAL.

Messrs. Whittaker, Nesbitt, and Fairfield, from Bonny; Mr. and Mrs. Mohr and child, Miss G. Mader, and Mr. Kamerer, Accra; Captain R. S. Turton, 2nd West India Regiment, Elmina; Mr. Lipson, Sierra Leone; the Count of Veza Grande, Miss A. del Castillo, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Mr. Swanson, and Mr. J. B. Torrens, Grand Canary; Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, four children, and maid, Madeira; and three distressed seamen.

ASHANTI WAR EXPENSES.

In a supplementary Civil Service Estimate for the sum of 386,392l., we find among the items, and under the head of "grants in aid of expenditure in certain colonies," 40,000l. set down as required for the Gold Coast for a contribution in aid of expenditure consequent on the Ashanti War.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AFRICAN TIMES.

Apollonia, June 23, 1873.

Sir,—This is merely to inform you that we are feeling in danger here now from the Ashantis. Atjempon, the Ashanti chief, who did such bad things in Elmina two years ago, is now behind this district with 6,000 men, and has had three engagements with the Wassaws. The Wassaws are very brave, but it is said they have no powder. They have sent here to try to buy some.—Yours, &c.,
MERCATOR.

WHEAT! WHEAT! WHEAT!

When going to press we received the following:—

Foreign-office, July 23, 1873.

Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 10th of February, applying for a sample of Bouchy cluster wheat from Egypt, I am directed by Earl Granville to state to you that Her Majesty's Consul at Alexandria has reported that he forwarded by the Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Golconda, on the 7th inst. about eight gallons of the wheat in question.

Mr. Stanley further states that Mr. Alexander Adib, who procured this sample, will have some of the wheat ripe in about three weeks' time, and would be able to supply more if required. The bill of lading, which is made out in Lord Granville's name, is in this office.—I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,
ENFIELD.

AN "EXPERIENCED" OFFICER'S OPINION OF COLONEL HARLEY'S PROCEEDINGS.

An officer of long experience on the West Coast writes to us "Colonel Harley may have been able to administer the affairs of Honduras or St. Vincent without any *fiasco*, because the skill requisite for such an administration was not greater than is required for the winding-up of one's watch; but he has shown an utter incapacity for dealing with the loyal chiefs of the Protectorate of the hostile Ashantis, either as a soldier or as a statesman. As a soldier, he should have encouraged and assisted the Akims to attack the Ashantis in flank and rear, and the Commandant of Accra should have been sent to encourage and lead on the Akims, in place of being withdrawn to Cape Coast; as a statesman, he should have treated the loyal offers of the chiefs with courtesy and respect, unless he had secret instructions to disgust and insult them; but no high-minded British statesman would stoop to such falsehood, and Lord Kimberley must be incapable of such a thought. The onus is, therefore, on Colonel Har-

ley. That officer's former service on the Coast, in 1863, was certainly not of so meritorious a nature as to lead one to hope anything but failure from his rule, and the present crisis is not a very wonderful result of his incapacity. If any desire to save the Coast exists in the minds of the Colonial Minister, he ought not to hesitate at once to appoint some officer whose former services and success on the Coast (if there be such an one) would lead people to hope for a change of prospects: even say that the newly-appointed be only on probation, until he gave proof of his capacity for dealing with existing difficulties and complications. If this officer were at once directed to take all proper measures for driving out the Ashantis by organizing and gaining the confidence of the natives, they would gladly combine, and entire victory would be the result. The Ashantis are now establishing themselves on the territories they have won, and will soon draw such a cordon round the forts and towns as to make them untenable. Once they are in quiet possession of the mountain ranges of Adjumani and the Akim hills, and those near Assin, they cannot be driven out; and Colonel Harley, with the merchants, may pack up traps and be off, as they will not have any occupation in them. The Ashanti King will not pay Custom dues, you may be sure; and we shall thus have the satisfaction of being kicked off the Coast by a naked savage, and, after millions have been spent to repress the atrocities of the slave trade, to abandon the Coast to, if possible, a more terrible rule. If England's privilege be not even considered, is it right to abandon the Gold Coast people to such a fate?"

ROYAL MARRIAGE.—His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh has been accepted by His Imperial Majesty the Czar of Russia as husband for his only daughter. The marriage is expected to take place in St. Petersburg in January next.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO THE RIGHT REV. THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER.—This celebrated son of the great Wilberforce was thrown from his horse when riding with Earl Granville on the 19th inst., near Dorking, in Surrey. He was killed by the fall. His death was instantaneous.

BRITISH AND AFRICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

SHIPPERS are respectfully informed that this Company now despatch a STEAMER from LIVERPOOL to the WEST COAST OF AFRICA on the 6th and 18th of each Month, except when these dates fall on a Monday, when the departure is deferred to the day following.



The Royal Mail Steamers
BONNY ROQUELLE LIBERIA
CONGO VOLTA
LOANDA

And SENEGAL
Will SAIL TWICE MONTHLY between LIVERPOOL and the undermentioned Ports on the West Coast of Africa (calling at MADEIRA and the CANARY ISLANDS)—viz., SIERRA LEONE, MONROVIA, CAPE PALMAS, CAPE COAST, ACCRA, JELLAH COFFEE, LAGOS, BENIN, BONNY, FERNANDO PO, and OLD CALABAR. The Steamers of the 18th also call at Bathurst and Half Jack.

For further information apply in London to MATCOLE, HUDSON, and Co., 5, Crosby-square; in Glasgow, to TAYLOR, LAUGHLAND, and Co., 24, Oswald-street; and in Liverpool to ELDER, DEMPSTER, & CO., 49, Castle-street.

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.

In the Press, crown 8vo., price 12s. 6d. DISEASES OF TROPICAL CLIMATES, AND THEIR TREATMENT;

WITH HINTS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF HEALTH IN THE TROPICS.
By J. A. B. HORTON, M.D., Edin., F.R.G.S.,
Staff Assistant-Surgeon of the Army Medical Department; Associate of King's College, London; Foreign Fellow of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, Corresponding Member of the Medical Society of King's College; late President of the Pathological Society of Edinburgh; Member of the Institute d'Afrique, of Paris, &c.
London: J. & A. CHURCHILL, New Burlington-street.

AFRICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

THE COMPANY'S FAST AND COMMODIOUS ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS,

Ethiopia	...	1,750 Tons	...	Captain Croft.
Africa	...	1,650	...	" J. W. Davis.
Soudan	...	1,550	...	" D. Weston.
Benin	...	1,500	...	" Simmonds.
Biafra	...	1,300	...	" R. Stone.
Calabar	...	1,208	...	" D. Crook.
Eboe	...	750	...	" Addison.
Monrovia	...	1,260	...	" Coward.
Elmina (New)	...	1,260	...	Fitting out.

ARE INTENDED TO
LEAVE LIVERPOOL ON THE 12th, 24th, AND 30th OF EACH MONTH,
(Except when those dates fall on Monday, when the Departure is deferred to the day following.)

NOTICE.—Shippers are respectfully informed that, owing to Contractors' delay in delivery of the Company's new Steamers, the sailings of the Packets of the 24th of each month, from Liverpool, must again be suspended until further notice. The Rivers Benin, Brass, New Calabar, and Opobo will meanwhile continue to be served by the Company's branch Steamers from Bonny, in correspondence with the Packets leaving Liverpool 12th and 30th of each month. When the new Steamers now under construction for the Company are available, the sailings on the 24th of each month will be resumed, and in addition to calling at the usual Ports, they will deliver Goods outside the Bars at Benin, Brass, New Calabar, and Opobo.

The SOUDAN, 30th July (2 p.m.), will proceed to Madeira, Teneriffe, Sierra Leone, Monrovia, Cape Palmas, Cape Coast Castle, Lagos, Bonny, Old Calabar, Fernando Po, Gaboon, Black Point, Landana, Congo, Ambrizette, Kinsembo, Ambriz, and St. Paul de Loanda. Also taking Goods for transshipment, by Branch Steamer, from Bonny to Opobo, New Calabar, Brass, and Benin. All Goods for Branch Steamer must be specially engaged. Passengers embark at the North Landing Stage at 1.30 p.m.

For further information apply in London at the COMPANY'S OFFICES, 14, LEADENHALL STREET, and in Liverpool to

FLETCHER & PARR,

6, DALE STREET.

July, 1873.

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 64s. 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).



Any garment can be supplied by sending the following measures: Give, in inches, whole height of person. For a Coat: Round the breast, round the waist, from centre of back to the wrist; for length of sleeve, arm bent. For Waistcoat: Round breast and waist. For Trousers: Length outside seam from top to bottom, length inside seam from fork to bottom, round the waist, round the seat.

PATTERNS AND LIST OF PRICES POST FREE.

SAMUEL BROTHERS GUARANTEE TO SUPPLY, IN EVERY CLASS, PERMANENT COLOURS, GENTLEMANLY STYLE SOUND WORKMANSHIP, AND PERFECT FIT.

Messrs. Samuel Brothers find it necessary to state that the Postage of Letters must be Prepaid, or they will not be received.

SAMUEL BROTHERS, 50, LUDGATE HILL, LONDON, ENGLAND.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor by WILLIAM JOHN JOHNSON, 121, Fleet-street, in the City of London.—JULY 29, 1873.



TROUSERS.