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*Downing-Street, June 16, 1824.*

**A** LETTER, of which the following is a copy, has been this day received at Earl Bathurst's Office from Major Chisholm, addressed to R. Wilmot Horton, Esq. dated Cape Coast Castle, 23d February 1824:

SIR,

IT is with infinite sorrow I acquaint you, for the information of Earl Bathurst, that since I had the honour of addressing you on the 3d instant, on the subject of the engagement which took place near Assamacow, in the Western Wassaw country, on the 21st ultimo, between a division of His Majesty's troops and native allies, under the immediate command of Sir Charles M'Carthy, and an army of Ashantees, I have ascertained that His Excellency was severely wounded, taken prisoner, and immediately put to death by the barbarous enemy.

I am concerned to state that of eleven Officers of the regulars and militia, who belonged to His Excellency's division, two only have returned here Mr. J. T. Williams, Secretary, and another gentleman are said to be prisoners, and it is understood that the other seven were killed, either in the action or after they were taken prisoners.

It was my intention to have reported in detail by the present conveyance, but the state of my health prevents my doing so

My medical attendant gives me reason to hope that I shall be sufficiently recovered in seven or eight days to write, and as I deem it of the utmost importance to put His Lordship in possession of a perfect knowledge of the state of affairs in this quarter, I purpose sending the Officer next in seniority to myself (Captain Laing, of the Royal African Colonial Corps) with my official dispatches.

The extensive knowledge of the African character possessed by this gentleman, his uninterrupted intercourse with our principal allies, since the com-

mencement of hostilities, together with his general experience, qualify him well to afford his Lordship any information which my letters may fail to convey.

The Ashantees, said to be fifteen thousand strong, have continued at Assamacow since the action of the 21st; but it is rumoured that they are making preparations for advancing on Monday next the 1st of March.

All the force I have been able to collect does not exceed six thousand muskets, and as I do not consider it prudent to hazard a general engagement, I have determined on taking up positions on the bank of the River Boosom-pra, to dispute the passage of the enemy, and I am sanguine in my hopes that the measure will be attended with success.

The natives of an extensive village in the vicinity of Succondee, having fired on the boats of one of His Majesty's ships, disarmed several of our soldiers who were wounded in the late action, and were endeavouring to effect their escape from the Ashantees; and having moreover destroyed Succondee, it was thought necessary by the senior naval Officer and myself to attack it, and a force of one thousand two hundred men was accordingly embarked on board the squadron, and the place was taken possession of on the 17th instant without any opposition, and immediately set on fire.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. CHISHOLM, Admg. the Govt,  
and Major Comdg. the Troops.

*R. Wilmot Horton, Esq. &c. &c. &c.*

*Downing-Street, June 17, 1824.*

**CAPTAIN LAING**, of the Royal African Colonial Corps, arrived this morning at Earl Bathurst's Office, with a dispatch from Major Chisholm, addressed to R. Wilmot Horton, Esq. under date of