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*Colonial-Office, Downing-Street,
September 30, 1824.*

DISPATCHES, of which—the following are extracts, dated Cape Coast-Castle, 30th of June, 17th and 22d of July, and addressed to the Right Honourable the Earl Bathurst, K. G. have been this day received from Lieutenant-Colonel William Sutherland, of the 2d West India Regiment, and from Lieutenant-Colonel A. Grant, of the Royal African Colonial Corps :

Cape Coast-Castle, 30th June 1824.

MY communication of the 31st of May, duplicate of which is inclosed herewith, would have informed your Lordship of the state of operations on this Coast to that period, except that I omitted to mention I had recalled the troops into the Castle when, on the desertion of the Fantees, I found it would be useless and imprudent to remain in the field. I have now the honour to make you acquainted with subsequent occurrences to this date.

All the prisoners and deserters recently brought in, concur in stating, that Assai Tootoo Quamin, the reigning King at the commencement of hostilities, had lately died at Coomias, and that Adoo Assai, his successor and brother, had left Ashantee, accompanied by all the warriors he could muster, with the determination of destroying Cape Coast, and driving the English out of the country ; and in order that I might not plead ignorance of His Majesty's intentions, he did me the honour, soon after his arrival at Fetue, to send a Fetish (sanctified or sacred) boy to our advanced posts with a message, importing that

“ If the walls of Cape Coast-Castle were not high enough, I ought to build them higher, and if they were not sufficiently furnished with cannon, that I should land those belonging to the ships of war ; but that all could not prevent his throwing the whole into the sea ! ” which was of course treated with contempt.

After about three weeks of preparation during which our scouts and small parties were very successful in cutting off the enemy's foraging stragglers, and by frequent alarms, in keeping him constantly on the alert in his camp, thereby preventing his collecting provisions of which he was very much in want, the above message was followed up by the King's advance from Fetue on the 21st instant with his whole army, to within five miles of the fort, driving in without resistance a party of observation I had left at the Government Garden Hill village, where he established his head quarters.

On the 22d he was again in motion and took up an extensive line or chain of posts round great part of the Settlement, distant about three miles, but in bush so thick that it was impossible to judge of his strength except by the extent of his line, or to discover that, or his position otherwise than by the smoke from his fires.

On the 23d he advanced so close that he was seen in great force from the Hill-Tower, and a signal was made from thence to that effect. I was consequently in momentary expectation of being attacked—the townsmen were ordered to make all possible resistance ; the women, children, provisions, and valuables, were taken for protection into the fort, the seamen and marines were landed from His Majesty's ship Victor and merchant ships in the Roads to man the guns, and every other preparation made for defence—when the enemy, who appeared to have good information of our proceedings hesitated—halted—his resolution seemed to fail him ; and although at dusk and during the night he occupied Parson's-Croon (village), within one mile of the fort, he retired early on the 24th to the encampment he had quitted two days before, from whence to the end of the month he contented himself with detaching strong parties to lay waste the country round about, and to burn and destroy all the villages