

masses to turn and to attack, without however making the least impression.

Our loss in killed and wounded (as per annexed return) I am sorry to say has been considerable. One Officer Lieutenant Swanzy, Royal African Colonial Corps, a most zealous and promising young man, and twice slightly wounded before the fatal shot took effect, and one hundred and three men killed, and four hundred and forty eight men wounded: but it is matter of great satisfaction, and a proof of how well the action must have been sustained although fought in thick bush, that the enemy, by his own account, has not to boast of having cut off a single head from our killed, or of having taken even one prisoner from us of any description, a circumstance the more remarkable if the numerical disparity of the contending bodies is considered; ours, in position, where a strong reserve was always kept, not exceeding nineteen Officers and five thousand and fifty three rank and file, of whom only two hundred and eighty five were regulars (vide margin\*); whilst the Ashantee force, as seen during the morning, cannot be estimated at less than sixteen thousand fighting men. Their loss in killed and wounded on this day could not be ascertained, but their dead are very numerous on the scene of action, and numbers of prisoners and deserters brought in since, state it to be great, and that many Chiefs or Captains were killed and wounded.

On the 12th the enemy again appeared drawn up in the valley, apparently with the design of making another attempt on our positions; and in order to draw him into some movement that might expose his intentions, I twice or thrice ordered a body of skirmishers to creep up to, open a fire on him, and then retire.

This fire was each time returned with great animation from the enemy's whole line for about half an hour (his divisions, it is said, and as I thought at the time, firing on each other,) after our skirmishers had, agreeably to their orders retired unobserved. But as he made no demonstration of advance up to two in the afternoon, I directed a few random shot from a field piece to be fired through the bush in his direction, on which he retired towards the head of the valley, where he still remained on the 13th, during the night of which he disappeared altogether, taking the direction of the Government Garden, Elmina, and Fetue, towards Doonquah, which is on the direct route to Ashantee.

We have since heard that the result of the action and unpopularity of the war, together with the enemy's horrible sufferings and losses, from disease and want of provisions, had elicited strong symptoms of insubordination and discontent in

the Ashantee army; that as early as the night of the 11th whole bands had deserted from the King; that four out of six Captains, who had been retaken, had been beheaded after being tortured, the other two remaining prisoners in heavy logs; but that, notwithstanding these examples, His Majesty was now making his way back, accompanied by only a few hundreds of followers, in proof of which, it is said, he was yesterday obliged to move with his own guard to cover a convoy of gunpowder from Elmina, which had been assailed, and three barrels captured by fifty or sixty scouts I had ordered out in that direction, with a view of ascertaining his hiding place; and I have little doubt that numbers of the Ashantees will be cut off, during their retreat, by the Wassaws and Fantees.

I am happy to inform your Lordship, that I have reason to approve of the conduct of every individual, whether of the army, navy, or marines, employed in these operations, which, if not brilliant, were at least extremely harassing and arduous, and throughout which I trust His Majesty's Government will be satisfied that all did their duty, and that up to this period as much has been effected as our means, the nature of the country in which we acted, and circumstances we were placed in, would permit.

Where all evinced zeal and alacrity in the discharge of their several duties, it may, perhaps, be deemed supererogatory to particularize any; but I cannot, in justice to the service, omit to direct your Lordship's attention to the merits and devotion to the public service always displayed by Major Chisholm, Royal African Corps, whose conduct in command of the right brigade, which bore the brunt of the battle of the 11th, was every thing I could wish, as was that of Captain David Campbell, of the same corps, at the head of the Cape Coast Division, on the extreme right, which was warmly engaged throughout the day; of Captain Dowson, of that regiment, commanding the reserve (regulars and militia) also engaged; and of Lieutenant W. O. Aitchison, Royal Marine Artillery, in charge of the field-pieces in position on this occasion.

I beg leave also to request your Lordship's notice of the services of Major Purdon, Royal African Corps, commanding the left brigade; of the zeal and enterprize of Captain Blenkarne, of the same regiment, who some time ago volunteered to proceed to Accra, in an open canoe, to assist in collecting these auxiliary forces, whose opportune arrival at this crisis is to be mainly attributed to his praiseworthy and indefatigable exertions, and who, in these operations, commanded the British Accra Division (in the left brigade), part of which on the 11th burnt two of the enemy's camps; of the important services of Captain Ricketts, 2d West India Regiment, Brigade Major to the Forces, in performance of various essential duties, and who was wounded in the action in which the late Governor was killed; of Captain Hutchison, Annamaboe Militia, who having been severely wounded in the affair of the 21st of May was placed, on his partial recovery, in command of the Hill-Tower, where he gave up his whole time

	Officers.	Serjeants and Rank and File.
* Royal Marine Artillery - - -	1	2
2d West India Regiment - - -	1	90
Royal African Colonial Corps - -	15	193
<b>Total Regulars -</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>285</b>
Militia - - -	2	118
Unorganized - - -	0	4650
<b>Total strength -</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5053</b>