



SUPPLEMENT

TO

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War Office, March 7, 1874.

LIEUTENANT the Hon. H. J. L. Wood, 10th Hussars, A.D.C., arrived this morning with Despatches from Major-General Sir Garnet Joseph Wolseley, K.C.M.G., C.B., Commanding the Troops on the Gold Coast, addressed to the Secretary of State for War, of which the following are copies :—

Coomassie,

5th February, 1874.

SIR,

ACCORDING to the intention expressed in my despatch which I had the honour of addressing to you on the 1st instant, I on that day attacked Becquah, about a mile to the west of Amoaful. The operation was successfully carried out under the command of Brigadier General Sir Archibald Alison, Bart., C.B. The forces engaged were as per margin,* and the casualties are shown in the enclosed statement.

On the day following I moved forward to Agemmum, the enemy disputing every mile of ground. There I established a fortified post, where I left all my tents and baggage.

On the 3rd instant I moved forward again, the enemy in great force opposing our advance, and hanging round our flanks. Whilst on the march, I received a letter from the King, begging me to halt, and saying he would consent to my terms. I replied that he had so deceived me before that I could not trust him, but to prove to him how anxious I was for peace, I would halt for the night on the Ordah River, and would not advance beyond it with all my force until the following morning, if he would send to me at once his mother and brother as hostages.

During the night I had a bridge constructed over the river, and gave the enemy nearly two hours of daylight the following morning (4th) before I crossed the river.

The advanced guard, under the command of Colonel M'Leod, 42nd Highlanders, was brought to

a stand-still shortly after the advance began ; and a general action soon developed itself, lasting for more than six hours. The enemy did not, however, fight with the same courage as at Amoaful, for although their resistance was most determined, their fire was wild, and they did not generally attack us at such close quarters as in the former action.

The village of Ordahsu having been carried by the Rifle Brigade at nine o'clock, I massed all my force there, having previously passed all the reserve ammunition, field hospitals, and supplies, through the troops, who held the road between the river and the village, a distance of about a mile. The enemy then attacked the village with large numbers from all sides, and for some hours we could make no progress, but steadily held our ground. The 42nd Highlanders being then sent to the front, advanced with pipes playing, and carried the enemy's position to the north of the village in the most gallant style, Captain Rait's Artillery doing most effective service in covering the attack, which was led by Colonel M'Leod.

After some further fighting on the front line, a panic seems to have seized the enemy, who fled along the road to Coomassie in complete rout. Although the columns they had detailed to assault our flanks and rear continued for some time afterwards to make partial attacks upon the village, we followed close upon the enemy's heels into Coomassie. The town was still occupied by large numbers of armed men; who did not attempt to resist. The King had fled no one knew whither. Our troops had undergone a most fatiguing day's work, no water fit for drinking having been obtained during the action or the subsequent advance, and the previous night's rest having been broken by a tornado, which drenched our bivouac. It was nearly six o'clock when the troops formed up in the main street of Coomassie and gave three cheers for the Queen.

Since my arrival here last night, I have sent several messengers to the King, and used every possible effort to induce him to come in and make peace. Should he refuse my offers, I shall destroy

* Royal Naval Brigade ; Head Quarters and Detachment, 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers ; 42nd Highlanders ; Russell's Regiment ; Rait's Artillery—one 7-pr. gun and one Rocket Detachment ; Royal Engineer Detachment.

his palace and his capital, and march without a day's delay to the Coast.

I avail myself of this halt in Coomassie, the goal of our military enterprise, to bring before you the names of those Officers who have rendered signal service in the operations so far concluded.

It has seldom been a General's good fortune to be assisted by a staff so thoroughly efficient in all branches, as has been that body of carefully selected Officers forming the Staff of this expedition.

To my personal Staff I am deeply indebted for the manner in which they have performed their duties. Captain H. Brackenbury, my Assistant Military Secretary, a highly-educated Officer, has shown much practical ability in the field, and only requires opportunity for the development of great military talents.

Lieutenant Maurice, R.A., my Private Secretary, has carried on my correspondence with the Colonial Office, and I have brought his name to the notice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Both Captain Brackenbury and Lieutenant Maurice have been with me from the first, and have worked indefatigably.

Of Colonel McNeill, who was my Chief of the Staff at the beginning of the war, I have already given my opinion in a previous despatch. His severe wound received in our first fight deprived me of his valuable services. His soldierlike qualities, his powers of mind and body render him an invaluable assistant to any General commanding a force. From the date of his being wounded in October until the 17th December, the duties of Chief of the Staff were ably carried out to my entire satisfaction by Major Baker, the Assistant Adjutant-General, to whose untiring energy I owe much of the success that has attended all our operations. In my opinion he possesses every quality that is valuable in a Staff Officer.

Colonel Greaves assumed the duties of Chief of the Staff on 17th December. His great knowledge of the Army, his experience as a Staff Officer, the zeal and ability he brings to bear upon his work mark him out as eminently qualified for the post he occupied. He has rendered me the most valuable service.

The topographical work was well carried out under Captain Huyshe, D.A.Q.M.G., whose death, at Prahau, on the 19th December, deprived Her Majesty of a gallant soldier. The surveys were made by him, assisted by Captain Buller, 60th Rifles, Lieutenant A. F. Hart, 31st Regiment, and other officers. Lieutenant Hart made nearly all the surveys north of the River Prah.

The duties of the Intelligence Department were most efficiently performed by Captain Buller, D.A.Q.M.G. He is an excellent Staff Officer, and I am much indebted to him for the information of the enemy's doings, that he supplied me with throughout the war. The extensive knowledge he acquired of the native tribes both in Ashanti, and in the territories allied to us, was invaluable to me in my dealings with the Kings and Chiefs.

The medical arrangements for the war were made by Deputy Surgeon-General Home, V.C., C.B. I have in a previous despatch recorded my high appreciation of the ability and energy with which he carried out his duty up to the date of his being invalided, and of the efficient manner in which he prepared for the medical requirements of the troops in the advance upon Coomassie. The organisation planned by him was well carried out by Surgeon-Major Mackinnon, C.B., who joined me on the march at Acrofoomu, and who has since continued to perform the duties of Principal

Medical Officer to my entire satisfaction. Of the Medical Officers employed I wish specially to bring to your notice the services of Surgeons-Major Woolfreys, Mosse, Waters, Jackson, and Turton, and Staff-Surgeon Irwin, R.N., also of Surgeon G. W. McNalty, who has had charge of the Head Quarter Staff since we left Cape Coast Castle on our march to Coomassie.

The Control arrangements have been energetically carried out by Deputy-Controller Irvine, C.M.G., with his usual zeal. I cannot award him higher praise than by saying that the men were well fed, and their wants carefully provided for throughout the campaign. The transport, that at one time caused me serious anxiety, was effectually organised by Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Colley, 2nd Queen's Regiment. He was assisted by twenty-two Special Service Officers, and six officers of the Control Department. It was a happy circumstance that placed at my disposal the services of an officer of such well-known ability as Lieutenant-Colonel Colley. His great talent for organisation soon placed the transport upon a satisfactory footing. To him I confided sole charge of the line of communications. In a war like this it is absolutely necessary that the officer in command of the transport should also have charge of the line of communications. It was, therefore, necessary that these two most important duties should be discharged by a combatant officer.

Among the officers of the Control Department, all of whom have worked with much energy, I would wish especially to mention Commissary O'Connor and Deputy-Commissary Ravenscroft.

Throughout the second phase of the war I have received every possible assistance from Commodore Hewett, V.C., commanding the squadron on the African Station, who accompanied me on the march to Coomassie. I have had to make incessant calls upon him for naval services, and in every instance my requests have been complied with. He kindly placed at my disposal a naval brigade, consisting of 17 officers and 265 selected men, whose services have been of the greatest value, and who all have fought throughout the campaign with the dashing courage for which Her Majesty's Seamen and Marines are so celebrated. When my transport difficulties were greatest, Commodore Hewett helped me most materially by supplying Kroomen to act as carriers, and he allowed no regulations to stand in the way of his exertions to secure the ultimate success of this war, in which he and those under his command have played a prominent part.

Captain Rait has been the Officer commanding the Royal Artillery throughout both phases of this war. He organized a Houssa battery in a most able manner. The officers, English non-commissioned officers, and gunners attached to it worked indefatigably. In all the actions and skirmishes the gun and rocket fire has been most effective, notwithstanding the difficulties of the ground on which we fought. I consider Captain Rait to be one of the best soldiers I have ever served with.

In this force, where every white man has had hard work, and where especially previous to the arrival of the English troops, all the selected officers that I brought out with me, were untiring in their exertions, Major Home, the Commanding Royal Engineer, has had his full share of hard work, and most admirably has he performed it. Putting the troops, constructing fortified posts, making a road practicable for all arms up to within a few hundred yards of the

position where the enemy fought their first battle in their own territory; bridging the River Prabh, an obstacle of considerable magnitude, and subsequently the River Ordah also, besides a large number of smaller streams and rivers—the Royal Engineers, under Major Home, R.E., have worked with the zeal for which their corps has always been conspicuous, and I cannot sufficiently thank him for the manner in which he has carried out the numerous and arduous duties that have devolved upon him.

Brigadier-General Sir Archibald Alison, Bart., C.B., commanding the European Brigade, has rendered me every possible assistance, and has carried out his orders to my entire satisfaction. He has brought to my notice the valuable assistance he has received from his Brigade-Major, Captain Robinson, Rifle Brigade, and his Aides-de-Camp, Captain Russell, 12th Lancers, and Lieutenant Fitzgerald, Rifle Brigade.

Colonel McLeod, C.B., 42nd Highlanders, commanded the advanced guard during the march from the Adansi Hills to Coomassie, conducting his operations with cool gallantry in the most skilful manner. The forcing of all positions occupied by the enemy in our front devolved upon him, and I consider myself most fortunate in having had so able an officer to select for that very trying duty.

Colonel McLeod has brought specially to my notice the names of his Acting Staff-Officers, Captain Farquharson, V.C., and Lieutenant Wauchope, both of the 42nd Highlanders, the latter of whom was, I regret to say, twice wounded.

The Officers commanding English Corps were Captain Grubbe, R.N.; Lieutenant-Colonel Mostyn, 2nd Battalion 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers; Major Macpherson, 42nd Highlanders, and; subsequently, when that officer was wounded, Major Scott, of the same Regiment; and Lieutenant-Colonel Warren, 2nd Battalion, Rifle Brigade, to all of whom my best thanks are due.

The two Native Regiments raised on the coast were commanded throughout the war by Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. Wood, V.C., 90th Light Infantry, and by Brevet Major B. C. Russell, 13th Hussars. Both these

Officers have upon many occasions been placed in very difficult positions, requiring the exercise of high military qualities, and have invariably carried out their very arduous and trying duties most efficiently. I take the liberty of bringing to your especial notice, as those upon whom the brunt of this war has fallen, these and the other combatant officers named below who originally came out with me, or followed by the first mail steamer.

Personal Staff.

Captain H. Brackenbury, Royal Artillery, Assistant Military Secretary.

General Staff.

Colonel McNeil, V.C., C.M.G., Colonel on the Staff, severely wounded.

Major T. D. Baker, 18th Royal Irish, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Captain R. H. Buller, 60th Rifles, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, wounded.

Major R. Home, Royal Engineers, Commanding Royal Engineers, wounded.

Captain A. J. Rait, Royal Artillery, Commanding Royal Artillery.

Special Service.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. Wood, V.C., 90th Light Infantry, wounded.

Brevet Major B. C. Russell, 13th Hussars.

Captain G. A. Furze, 42nd Highlanders.

Captain A. A. Godwin, 103rd Royal Bombay Fusiliers, severely wounded.

Captain C. J. Bromhead, 24th Regiment.

Captain R. Gordon, 93rd Highlanders (invalided.)

Lieutenant A. Saunders, Royal Artillery.

Lieutenant R. O. Richmond, 50th Queen's Own.

Lieutenant H. F. S. Bolton, 1st West India Regiment.

Lieutenant J. F. Maurice, Royal Artillery.

Lieutenant E. R. P. Woodgate, 4th King's Own.

Lieutenant E. F. Lord Gifford, 24th Regiment, wounded.

Lieutenant W. T. Dooner, 8th King's.

Lieutenant A. F. Hart, 31st Regiment, wounded.

Lieutenant J. W. Graves, 18th Royal Irish.

Lieutenant M. S. Bell, Royal Engineers.

Lieutenant G. F. Mann, Royal Engineers.

also Captain Gordon, 84th Regiment, who was on this coast before my arrival.

Of the original party of thirty-four officers named in the margin* have been killed in action, three have died from the effects of climate, and seven of the remainder have been wounded.

I beg to bring to your especial notice the bearer of this despatch, Lieutenant Honourable H. Wood, 10th Hussars, my Aide-de-Camp, who has rendered me valuable services throughout this campaign.

I have, &c.,

G. J. WOLSELEY,

Major-General.

*The Secretary of State for War,
War Office, London.*

*Army Head Quarters, Coomassie,
February 5, 1874.*

NOMINAL RETURN of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men, Killed and Wounded in Action, at Becquah, on February 1, 1874.

Officers Wounded.

Russell's Regiment.

Lieutenant Lord Gifford (24th Regiment), gunshot wound of right thumb; slight,

Non-Commissioned Officers and Men Wounded.

Russell's Regiment.

Private Thomas George, gunshot wound of right elbow; slight.

Private Mouroo (1st), gunshot wound of left leg; severe.

Private Adiami, gunshot wound of right arm and right knee; very severe.

Private James Garbar, gunshot wound of left hip; severe.

Private Adoubbadowri, gunshot wound of left little toe; severe.

Private Haggigowri, gunshot wound of left shoulder; severe.

Corporal Aodozerma, gunshot wound of left forearm; severe.

* Killed in action.—Lieutenant E. Wilmot, Royal Artillery; Lieutenant Eyre, 90th Light Infantry; Captain Nicol, Hants Militia; Captain Buckle, Royal Engineers.

Died of effects of climate.—Lieutenant Honourable A. Charteris, Aide-de-Camp; Captain Huyshe, Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General; Lieutenant R. H. Townshend, 16th Regiment.

NOMINAL RETURN of Officers Wounded in Action between Amozful and Adwabin, on 2nd February, 1874.*Officers Wounded.**42nd Highlanders.*

Lieutenant A. Wauchope, gunshot wound of right hand (contusion); slight.

Russell's Regiment.

Captain A. H. Gordon, 84th Regiment, gunshot wound of right elbow; slight.

Lieutenant F. Hart, 31st Regiment, gunshot wound of left hand (contusion); slight.

NOMINAL RETURN of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men Wounded in Action on the March between Agammamu and the River Dah on 3rd February, 1874.*Officer Wounded.**Russell's Regiment.*

Lieutenant G. Barton (7th Regiment), gunshot wound of right arm; slight.

*Non-Commissioned Officers and Men Wounded.**2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade.*

1217 Private William Ray, gunshot wound of neck; severe.

1583 Private William Anglis, gunshot wound of lobe of ear; severe.

1969 Private W. Smith, gunshot wound of right shoulder; very severe.

1643 Private J. Langley, gunshot wound of right thumb; slight.

1598 Private S. Wyndham, gunshot wound of right thigh; slight.

1551 Private J. Lomas, gunshot wound of head; slight.

Russell's Regiment.

Private Aliqua, gunshot wound of left side of neck and ear; severe.

Private Moonena Deckala, gunshot wound of right breast; slight.

Private Mahadoo Seriki, gunshot wound of right shoulder; severe.

Private Ali Baringe Sorkie, gunshot wound of left thigh; severe.

Private Mamadoo Ketchirie, gunshot wound of left side of neck; severe.

Private Albert Norris, gunshot wound of right forearm; severe.

Private Joseph Lawrence, gunshot wound of abdomen (contusion); slight.

Serjeant J. Brooks, gunshot wound of right clavicle (contusion); slight.

Private Babinanga, gunshot wound of left thigh; slight.

NOMINAL RETURN of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men Killed and Wounded in Action at the River Dah on 4th February, 1874.*Officers Killed.**Wood's Regiment.*

Lieutenant A. H. Eyre, 90th Regiment, gunshot wound of abdomen.

*Non-Commissioned Officers and Men Killed.**Wood's Regiment.*

14 Private Amramama, gunshot wound of right temple.

*Officers Wounded.**Head-Quarters Staff.*

Captain Buller, 60th Rifles, Deputy-Assistant-Quartermaster-General, gunshot wound of right shoulder (contusion); slight.

42nd Highlanders.

Lieutenant A. Wauchope, gunshot wound of left shoulder; severe.

Captain Moore, gunshot wound of right side of chest and right temple; slight.

Lieutenant Grogan, gunshot wound of neck (contusion); slight.

Russell's Regiment.

Lieutenant Lord Gifford, 24th Regiment, gunshot wound of right thigh (contusion); slight.

Her Majesty's Ship "Active."

Lieutenant A. B. Crosbie, Royal Marine Light Infantry, gunshot wound of left breast; slight.

*Non-Commissioned Officers and Men Wounded.**23rd Regiment.*

897 Private J. Maynard, gunshot wound of right side of neck; slight.

42nd Highlanders.

476 Corporal Thomas Milne, gunshot wound of right knee; slight.

1000 Corporal John Cochrane, gunshot wound of neck; slight.

120 Private Henry Jones, gunshot wound of left fore-arm; slight.

1690 Private John Gordon, gunshot wound of right forearm; slight.

114 Private Jabez McLean, gunshot wound of forehead; slight.

85 Private George Sutherland, gunshot wound of left clavicle; slight.

113 Private Gilbert Laurie, gunshot wound of left jaw; slight.

3454 Serjeant James Butters, gunshot wound of left thigh; severe.

3375 Private G. Dudley, gunshot wound of left arm with fracture, and penetrating wound of chest; dangerous.

2152 Private R. Morton, gunshot wound of left thigh; severe.

2039 Private W. Shiel, gunshot wound of right ear; slight.

2020 Private G. Brown, gunshot wound of right thigh; slight.

1534 Private J. White, gunshot wound of right wrist; severe.

134 Private Thomas Pickard, gunshot wound of left side of chest; severe.

2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade.

5458 Serjeant Matthews, gunshot wound of fore-arm; slight.

1764 Private J. Kerran, gunshot wound of penis; severe.

1714 Private W. Walker, gunshot wound of ear; severe.

1594 Serjeant S. Kelly, gunshot wound of nose; slight.

2026 Private J. Mahon, gunshot wound of head; very severe.

1605 Private S. Nicholl, gunshot wound of thigh; severe.

1987 Private J. Browne, gunshot wound of loin; very severe.

2252 Private J. Gemming, gunshot wound of shoulder; slight.

- 1512 Private J. Wearne, gunshot wound of forearm ; slight.
 2139 Private J. Lyons, gunshot wound of arm ; severe.
 1793 Private S. Connel, gunshot wound of forehead ; slight.
 1778 Private J. Brazier, gunshot wound of eyebrow ; slight.
 1290 Private T. Cunningham, gunshot wound of neck ; slight.
 1469 Serjeant E. Baker, gunshot wound of forearm ; severe.
 1935 Private A. Jones, gunshot wound of head ; slight.
 2060 Private W. Steele, gunshot wound of forehead ; slight.
 1286 Private D. Barker, gunshot wound of jaw ; slight.

Her Majesty's Ship "Argus."

- A.B. Thomas Spain, gunshot wound of left side of neck.
 R.M.A. Nathaniel M'Dermott (? M. McDonald), gunshot wound of right side of head ; dangerous (since dead).

Her Majesty's Ship "Active."

- R.M. John Wells, gunshot wound of head ; very severe.
 Serjeant R.M.A. George Taylor, gunshot wound of right leg ; very severe.

Wood's Regiment.

- Private Belerforü, gunshot wound of scalp ; slight.
 Private Aria, gunshot wound of right side of face ; slight.
 Private Jemmamano, gunshot wound of right arm ; slight.
 Private Sabitay, gunshot wound of forehead ; severe.
 Private Akeke, gunshot wound of back ; slight.
 Private Nashifah, gunshot wound of left arm ; slight.
 Private Obokoshoofofe, gunshot wound of left arm ; slight.
 Private Oboma, gunshot wound of lip ; slight.
 Private Wakama, gunshot wound of knee ; slight.
 Private Tubomea, gunshot wound of left ankle ; slight.

Russell's Regiment.

- Private Aodoogangui, gunshot wound of right hip ; slight.
 Private Arandoo, gunshot wound of left shoulder ; slight.

Rail's Artillery.

- Gunner Soulay, gunshot wound of right knee ; severe.
 Gunner Ardulai, gunshot wound of right forearm ; severe.
 Gunner Ary, gunshot wound of right thigh ; severe.
 Serjeant-Major James, gunshot wound of right shoulder ; slight.
 Gunner Abadoo Kedere, gunshot wound of right middle finger ; severe.
 Gunner Mammadoo, gunshot wound of left side of neck ; slight.
 Gunner Bombardie Crofty, gunshot wound of head ; severe.
 Gunner Dogo (2nd), gunshot wound of left upper jaw ; slight.
 Gunner Alliday, gunshot wound of back and right hip ; severe.
 Gunner Adamo Ballachino, gunshot wound of right cheek ; severe.

Gunner Owdow, gunshot wound of right forearm ; severe.

Gunner Isa, gunshot wound of left thigh ; slight.

Out of a strength of 68 scouts who crossed the Prah under the command of Lord Gifford, 4 have been killed and 28 wounded, inclusive of the 6 shown in return of killed and wounded in action on 31st January ; and of a strength of 130 native engineer labourers who crossed the Prah, 6 have been killed and 36 wounded, some of them very severely.

W. A. MacKINNON, Surgeon-Major,
 Principal Medical Officer.

Agemnum,

February 7, 1874.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 2nd inst. the enemy attacked my fortified post at Fommanah, and were repulsed with loss. Captain A. W. Duncan, R.A., and subsequently Lieutenant-Colonel Colley (2nd Queen's Regiment), were in command of the post during the action.

I enclose a list of casualties.

I have, &c.,

G. J. WOLSELEY,
 Major-General.

*The Right Honourable
 the Secretary of State for War,
 War Office, London.*

NOMINAL RETURN of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men Wounded in action at Fommanah, on 2nd February, 1874.

Officers Wounded.

Royal Artillery.

Captain A. W. Duncan, gunshot wound of leg ; slight.

47th Regiment.

Captain D. North, gunshot wound of right side of chest and right elbow joint ; dangerous.

Non-Commissioned Officers and Men Wounded.

42nd Highlanders.

1889 Private John McArthur, gunshot wound of back ; dangerous.

2058 Private William McKendrick, gunshot wound of face ; slight.

2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade.

2064 Private C. Chapman, gunshot wound of thigh ; slight.

1st West India Regiment.

340 Private J. Coggin, gunshot wound of scalp ; slight.

457 Private J. Crutchley, gunshot wound of thigh and back ; severe.

777 Private J. Mares, gunshot wound of chest ; severe.

743 Private W. W. Barratt, gunshot wound of thigh ; severe.

W. A. MacKINNON, Surgeon-Major,
 Principal Medical Officer.

SIR,

Agemnum, February 7, 1874.

I HAVE the honour to enclose lists of the casualties in the affair at Borborassie, on the

29th ult., and in the defence of the convoy between Insarfua and Egginassie, on the 31st ult.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. J. WOLSELEY,
Major-General.

*The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for War,
War Office, London.*

NOMINAL RETURN of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men Killed and Wounded at Borborassie on 29th January, 1874.

Officer Killed.

Russell's Regiment.

Captain James Nicol (late 13th Regiment), Captain and Adjutant Hampshire Militia, gunshot wound of neck and chest.

Man Killed.

Russell's Regiment.

Private Copper Nail, gunshot wound of neck and chest.

Non-Commissioned Officers and Men Wounded.

Russell's Regiment.

Private Quashie Ahidi, gunshot wound of left side; very severe.

Private Amoano, gunshot wound of left arm; very severe.

Private Wrappa, gunshot wound of back; dangerous.

NOMINAL RETURN of Man Wounded when escorting Stores between Insarfua and Egginassie, on 31st January, 1874.

Man Wounded.

2nd West India Regiment.

30 Private Charles Dunn, gunshot wound of right fore-arm; severe.

W. A. MACKINNON, Surgeon-Major,
Principal Medical Officer.

Agemnum,

February 7, 1874.

SIR,
ON the 5th instant I had the honour to address you from Coomassie, and to inform you that if the King refused to come in, I should destroy his capital. I now regret to have to report that all my efforts to induce him to come himself, or send a prince of the royal blood to treat with me, failed; and that the King only continued that policy of falsehood and deception which have marked all his dealings with me. Messengers who arrived throughout the 5th were abusing the liberty which I allowed them, by carrying off arms and ammunition from the town; and on the evening of that day I decided upon withdrawing my troops, and destroying Coomassie.

My decision to withdraw immediately was strengthened by the fact that tornados appeared to have set in, and that the passage of the rivers in my rear might be rendered more difficult by delay.

I had in the morning sent off all the wounded who were unable to march under escort of Wood's and Russell's Regiment, and a Company of the Rifle Brigade, and I now issued orders for an advance, on the morning of the 6th, of all the remaining troops beyond Coomassie, the dispositions being such, that on the facing about of the column, all would be in order for the homeward

march. Prize agents were appointed, and the most valuable articles left in the Palace packed up, the King having, evidently, removed or concealed his treasure. A party of the Royal Engineers was engaged during the night mining the Palace.

Early on the 6th our homeward movements commenced, headed by the Naval Brigade, and covered by a rear guard of the 42nd Highlanders, which did not retire till the town had been set on fire in every quarter, and the mines in the palace fired. A tornado had raged during the previous day and night, but the destruction of the town by fire was complete.

In the despatch which I addressed to you on the 13th October last, asking for English troops to be sent out to enable me to accomplish my mission, I stated that that mission—to ensure a lasting peace with the Ashanti kingdom—could only be fulfilled in one way, by defeating the Ashanti army, by pursuing it, if necessary, to the capital of the Ashanti kingdom, and by so showing to the King and all those Chiefs who urged him on to war, that the arm of Her Majesty is powerful to punish her enemies even in the very heart of their own country.

That mission I conceive I have now fulfilled by the aid of the troops which Her Majesty's Government confided to me for its accomplishment. Yet I can truly state that no means were left untried by me to bring about a peaceable solution of the campaign. Up to the last hour I left the King's palace untouched, in hopes that he would return. The troops refrained with the most admirable self-control from spoliation or plunder; and they left the capital of this kingdom, so famed for its gold, without carrying away as plunder one article of value.

All the troops have now reached or passed this point. The return march was not made without difficulty. The streams and rivers had become so swollen from the effect of the tornados of the last few days, that the shallow swamps had become waist deep, and the water in the River Ordah had yesterday submerged the bridge constructed on the night of the 3rd instant, and was still rising when the troops passed the river. But the convoys were all taken over in safety, and the men of the Rifle Brigade and 42nd Regiment, before whose arrival the bridge had commenced to give way, undressed, passed their clothes over the heads of natives, and themselves forded the stream, in one part fully five feet deep.

I shall continue my homeward march to-morrow by as rapid stages as the nature of the country will allow and with every military precaution.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. J. WOLSELEY,
Major-General.

*The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for War,
War Office.*

SIR, *Agemnum, February 7, 1874.*

IN my despatch of this day's date, I have given you the latest information as to the movements of the column under my immediate command.

As regards the three other columns last mentioned in my despatch of the 30th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that I have no news of Captain Glover since that date. All Captain Butler's force of Akims deserted him without warning or reason, and he has returned south of the River Prah; while Captain Moore

has arrived in this camp, stating that Captain Dalrymple has utterly failed to induce any men to cross the Ashanti frontier, and is himself on the road to my Head Quarters.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. J. WOLSELEY,
Major-General.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for War,
War Office.

Camp, Amoaful,
February 8, 1874.

SIR,

I HAD scarcely sent off my despatches yesterday when Captain Butler, half-pay, 69th Regiment, arrived in my camp, and as his mission to the Western Akims is now completely closed, I feel it my duty to bring at once to your notice the admirable manner in which he has conducted a most trying and difficult task.

That Captain Butler failed in his effort to lead a force of Akims to Coomassie is not his fault, but is solely due to the ineradicable cowardice and sloth of the people with whom he had to deal. In the face of great difficulties he succeeded in raising a force of Akims and leading them across the Prah. Although they deserted him at the very time when a junction with me was within their reach, these troops did, by their partial advance, effect that diversion which was the object of Captain Butler's labours, drawing off from opposition to the column under my immediate command the whole fighting force of Kokofoo, one of the six great tributary principalities of the Ashanti Kingdom.

The high opinion of Captain Butler, which caused me to give him an independent command, is strengthened by his conduct in this war; and I beg to recommend him especially to your notice as an officer of great ability, of remarkably ready resources, and of untiring powers of action.

Captain Dalrymple, 88th Foot, has also worked indefatigably under most disheartening conditions. He too has been vanquished by the *vis inertiae* of the people amongst whom his task lay. But he, like Captain Butler, has rendered me real service, for the Becquah fighting men were drawn off to meet an attack from the Wassaw frontier, which Captain Dalrymple's movements led them to expect. I beg to recommend Captain Dalrymple to your favourable notice.

I have to-day received further despatches from Captain Glover. He writes last from Odumassie, on the 28th ultimo, being then one march advanced from Obogo, whence he dated on the 17th ultimo, and about 20 miles, according to his estimate, from Juabin or Coomassie. Copies of his despatches are sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. He had with him all his Houssas and Yorubas, and 700 Akims, and was expecting immediate reinforcements of Aquapims and Croboes. I have sent him orders to fall back behind the River Prah, and though I regret that he is not likely, owing to difficulties of communication, to receive these instructions for some time, he should meanwhile, with the force at his command, be quite able to hold his own against very superior numbers of the enemy. I reserve further remarks till Captain Glover's mission is concluded.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. J. WOLSELEY,
Major-General.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for War,
War Office, London.

Colonial Office, March 7, 1874.

THE following Despatches were received at the Colonial Office this morning from Sir Garnet Wolseley:—

No. 1.

Sir G. Wolseley to the Earl of Kimberley.

Camp Agiamum,
February 7, 1874.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to report that immediately after the despatch from this station of my last letter on the 3rd instant, I forwarded a flying column, taking with me five days' provisions, and marched upon Coomassie. The enemy's resistance on the 3rd was considerable, very large numbers being in our front. I halted on the River Ordah.

During the course of the day's march I received from the King a letter, of which I inclose a copy, with a letter from Mr. Dawson also inclosed, and returned at once the inclosed reply.

On the 4th I advanced again at daybreak. The enemy had occupied a position of considerable strength near the village of Ordasu. This they held against us from about seven till a quarter to two, when they yielded, and on my advance-guard, under Colonel McLeod, being pushed on against them, broke and fled in all directions, leaving behind, strewed along the road, the Chief's umbrellas and chairs, &c., and the food which had been carried with the army.

In the course of this day's march I received from Mr. Dawson two letters, of which I enclose copies. I ordered that the troops should be pushed on at once. No opposition was offered to our entry into the town.

We occupied the town. Mr Dawson was met, at full liberty, walking in the streets.

I immediately issued stringent orders for the protection of the inhabitants and the safety of the town. But night fell almost immediately after our entry, and in the darkness it was impossible to prevent some of the numerous camp followers from pillaging. The Fantee prisoners had also been released, and, in all probability, were largely engaged in the same pursuit. The result was the outbreak of many fires. Captain Baker, Inspector-General of the Police, and several officers, were engaged nearly all night in the suppression of the pillaging and in putting out the fires. One policeman taken in the act was hung.

I endeavoured immediately on my arrival to communicate with the King through Mr. Dawson, and through every channel that appeared to offer an opportunity. A Chief having come into Coomassie who was said to be sent by the King, I saw him myself, and impressed upon him my wish to spare the town, and my desire to impose on the King no severer conditions than those he had already accepted.

Moreover, I told this man that, now that I had shown the power of England, I was ready, if the King would make peace at once, to accept a small indemnity, and not to exact the half I had previously required to be paid in ready money.

Other messengers were obtained who undertook to reach the King. To these I entrusted the letter dated Coomassie, 5th February, 1874.

All was, however, of no avail.

The men whom I endeavoured to employ as messengers, and who came avowedly as envoys of the King, were found treacherously removing powder and gold dust from the houses.

The whole scheme of Ashantee politics is so based upon treachery, that the King does not either understand any other form of negotiation.

or believe it possible that others can have honest intentions.

Under these circumstances, my Lord, it became clear that a Treaty would be as valueless to us as it was difficult to obtain.

Nothing remained but to leave such a mark of our power to punish as should deter from future aggression a nation whom Treaties do not bind.

I had done all I could to avoid the necessity, but it was forced upon me. I gave orders for the destruction of the palace and the burning of the city; I had at one time also contemplated on the destruction of the Bantoma, where the sacred ashes of former Kings are entombed, but this would have involved a delay of some hours. Very heavy rain had fallen. I feared that the streams might have risen in my rear sufficiently to seriously delay my march. I considered it better, therefore, not to risk further the health of the troops, the wet weather having already threatened seriously to affect it.

The demolition of the place was complete. From all that I can gather I believe that the result will be such a diminution in the prestige and military power of the Ashantee monarch as may result in the break-up of the kingdom altogether. This I had been anxious to avoid, because it seems impossible to foresee what power can take this nation's place among the feeble races of this coast. I certainly believe that your Lordship may be well convinced that no more utterly atrocious Government than that which has thus, perhaps, fallen ever existed on the face of the earth. Their capital was a charnel-house; their religion a combination of cruelty and treachery; their policy the natural outcome of their religion. I cannot think, that whatever may be the final fate of the people of this country, the absolute annihilation of such a rule, should it occur, would be a subject for unmixed regret.

In any case, my Lord, I believe that the main object of my expedition has been perfectly secured. The territories of the Gold Coast will not again be troubled by the warlike ambition of this restless Power. I may add that the flag of England from this moment will be received throughout Western Africa with respectful awe, a treatment which has been of late years by no means its invariable fate among the savage tribes of this region.

The troops are now on their march homewards, and will embark for England immediately on reaching Cape Coast.

As the mission entrusted to me has now, I may say, have been brought to an end, I avail myself of this opportunity for bringing to your Lordship's most favourable notice the valuable services rendered to me throughout the war by Lieutenant Maurice, R.A., my Private Secretary. I would also take the liberty of mentioning the name of Captain Lanyon, 2nd West India Regiment, who for some time performed the duties of Colonial Secretary, and whose knowledge of Colonial duties and regulations were of great service to me since my arrival in this country.

The police duties in connection with the recent military operations have been most effectively performed by Captain Baker, Inspector-General of Police. He has rendered the force under my command most valuable service, and his zeal and energy mark him out as peculiarly suited for the post he occupies.

My Aide-de-Camp, Lieutenant the Honourable H. L. Wood, 10th Hussars, who is the bearer of

this despatch, I have the honour to recommend to your Lordship's favourable notice.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. J. WOLSELEY,
Major-General and Administrator,
Gold Coast.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Coomassie,

February 4, 1874.

MY GOOD FRIEND,

I BEG to write this to acquaint your Excellency that I am willing to meet your Excellency's demands, but only your Excellency's very rapid movement puts me into confusion. Regarding the hostages and the money, if your Excellency would allow me, I beg that you will let us do it in the same as late Governor Maclean did. Because my old mother and brother are my both counsellors and helpers in every way. I acknowledge the wrong done by Ammankwatea, and he will surely be punished by making to pay the sum your Excellency demands. About the prisoners: fearing that some may be excited and hurt himself I have put them all in iron, and as soon as your Excellency stay to give the time I will send them all.

J. W. Dawson, your messenger, begs to add few words of his.

Your Excellency will to listen your humble servant's entreaty now to stay few days where your Excellency has reached with the forces, as our lives are now in danger. I was taken from iron to write this letter, and instead of being together we are placed in different places. I beg to say that they feel now the strong battle they have had, and the King now say he will withdraw his forces if your Excellency would promise to remain where you are to have the matters properly arranged. No doubt we will all be killed if your Excellency do not stay. I send now my cane-bearer instead of my servant.

The King is anxious to meet your demands, but he finds the money too heavy. He desires to hint your Excellency with his best respect.

We beg, &c.

(For His Majesty Kofi Kalkalee),

(Signed)

YAW BUSUMMURUTINGES,

his X mark,

KUEKA BUSUMUMMARUGWIRA,

his X mark,

King's Private Counsellors.

His Excellency Major-General

Sir G. Wolseley, C.B., K.C.M.G.,

&c. &c. &c.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

SIR,

Coomassie, February 3, 1874.

AFTER the first letter dictated by the King, his Chiefs have also begged me to beg of your Excellency to stop your forces where you have reached, and that they will see that every demand is attended to amicably. The prisoners will be sent directly this messenger returns with your Excellency's promise to stay them. I humbly beg your Excellency on my knees to let the forces stop, and everything will be settled. I see now they have bend to do what is right, and trust your

Excellency will not fight them again, as they intend to withdraw the forces.

I am in haste, yours, &c.

(Signed) JOS. DAWSON.

His Excellency Major-General

Sir G. Wolseley, C.B., K.C.M.G.,

&c. &c. &c.

P.S.—The Chiefs desire me to ask your Excellency to stop the Court, if your Excellency agree to stay and send my cane-bearer to take the prisoners directly. I pray your Excellency to stop the forces from fighting, if his troops do not bring it to your Excellency. The King says now that he will do your wishes.

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) COFI BUAKI, his X mark,
Linguist.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

KING, *On the March, February 3, 1874.*

YOU have deceived me so before that I cannot halt until the hostages are in my possession; as time presses I will consent to accept for to-day your mother and Prince Mensah. Both shall be well treated by me.

You can trust my word. If you send them to me this evening I will halt my army this side of the River Ordah. Unless you send them at once, my army will march upon Coomassie.

I am, King, your true friend and well-wisher,

(Signed) G. J. WOLSELEY,

Major-General and Administrator,
Gold Coast.

*To His Majesty Coffee Kalcully,
King of Ashantee, Coomassie.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 1.

SIR, *Coomassie, February 4, 1874.*

I FIND things have come to a crisis concerning the lives of us all here, that I am bound to run to your Honour to beg of you to plead with the Major-General for us all concerned.

Finding that my cane-bearer foolishly denied of the men, I mean the prisoners here, being put in irons ever since last Monday, and remaining in them to this day, I beg to be believed that I would not dare to write nonsense to the Major-General or my master. Both he, the cane-man, and I were taken out yesterday morning about 3 o'clock to write the letters which he brought, and I have been since left at liberty, but every one else, except my cook, whom I have got released this morning, and two other servants, is in iron, and as soon as the Ashantees are driven very close to Coomassie we all shall be killed. My boy Robert comes now, and your Honour will see the marks of the beating he has had. It is true the King was not at Coomassie, he had gone to see some great fetish of his, and his chief Procurator and Privy Counsellor thought some bad fellows would hurt us, or some of us might, through the excitement in the country, commit suicide; but this ought to be without beating. As this Chief could not find room for all in his house, he shared us to some of his Captains under him, and it is only those who were kept in his house escaped the being beaten. May I beg to ask your Honour to plead with the Major-General to defer his personal coming, which frightens the people so much, and appoint an officer of rank, if he could not spare your Honour, and then the Major-General might demand two or three of his (King's) principal cap-

No. 24073.

B

tains; for instance, Essamuah Iukwauta, Busumarengwira, and Prince and Captain Berrempa, instead of giving the mother and brother, Royal lineage which is against their superstitions to give for hostages. Then let him withdraw all his forces, and leave the path between entirely free for the time being in the hands of the Major-General, so that his forces are allowed no chance of doing any mischief.

Matters might be very well settled in this manner, and we may be saved, since the destruction of the whole blessed kingdom after we are killed would not bring us back.

I know now the Ashantees will yield to all the terms of the Major-General for peace, except the sending their Royal lineage out of the kingdom, which is against their superstitious notions, so much so that they would rather die or perish foolishly than doing it; I would not care a button if they could do it without us.

The Major-General might, after things being put straight in this manner, come for a day or two to see the King and then march to the coast.

The question about the money can be very soon arranged if the Governor, with security, allow them to pay it instalmentally. On my knees I pray your Honour to do all you can for us in this my petition.

As it regards Ashantee power now being broken is very evident; they now beg me, which they have never done before, to do all I can to save them. The King himself sent his step-father to tell me that he now acknowledges the superiority of the white men, and crave pardon that he may be allowed to treat for peace.

I pray your Honour, therefore, to do all you can to pacify the Major-General to halt at the river, that the prisoners may be sent at once and have everything settled, as the distance is only about three hours within Coomassie. May the Lord aid you in your endeavours, is the prayer of your Honour's humble and obedient servant,

(Signed) JOS. DAWSON.

Captain Butler, &c. &c. &c.

Inclosure 5 in No. 1.

SIR, *Coomassie, February 4, 1874.*

FOR Heaven's sake I pray your Excellency to halt the forces for to-day and to-morrow. All the Ashantee forces are coming back home, and I think I will succeed in getting what I have written Captain Butler. If your Excellency do not halt, and do not hear from me about 12 to-morrow noon, then all is over with me.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) JOS. DAWSON.

His Excellency Major-General

Sir G. Wolseley, C.B., K.C.M.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

Inclosure 6 in No. 1.

KING, *Coomassie, February 4, 1874.*

YOU have deceived me, but I have kept my promise to you.

I am in Coomassie, and my only wish is to make a lasting peace with you. I have shown you the power of England, and now I will be merciful.

As you do not wish to give up your mother and Prince Mensah, send me some other hostages of rank, and I will make peace with you to-morrow on the terms originally agreed upon.

If either your Majesty, or your Royal mother, or Prince Mensah, will come to see me to-morrow morning early, I will treat you with all the honour due to your royal dignity, and allow you to return in safety. You can trust my word.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. J. WOLSELEY,
Major-General and Administrator,
Gold Coast.

To His Majesty Coffee Kalcully,
King of Ashantee, Coomassie.

No. 2.

Sir G. Wolseley to the Earl of Kimberley.

Head Quarters, Camp, Agiamun,
February 7, 1874.

MR LORD,

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a report just received from Captain Butler. Your Lordship will perceive that it represents the complete collapse of the expedition under his orders.

2. From Captain Glover I have received no report since that of the 17th from Opogo, the contents of which I forwarded to your Lordship from Fonimanah, and which represented him as short of ammunition and awaiting its arrival, after the success which placed him in possession of the town.

From Captain Dalrymple I have received no official report, but I hear that the Chiefs under his orders have almost entirely deserted him.

Since the above was written, Captain Butler himself has arrived. I cannot express too strongly my sense of the efforts which he, and the officers under his orders, have made for the cause in hand. In so far as failure represents an additional trouble, which has to be undergone by a man of energy and resource, and an additional hardship from which he suffers, Captain Butler has had all the bitterness of it. He has failed to induce the miserable Chiefs of this district to do all that he, in his fine belief in native character fancied that he would be able to induce them to do. But so far as the interests of the expedition under my orders are concerned, Captain Butler has not failed, but most successfully achieved the very object which I had in view in detaching him for the work he so cheerfully and skilfully undertook. He has effected a most important diversion in favour of the main body, and has detained before him all the forces of one of the most powerful Ashantee Chiefs.

For any purpose for which energy, practical ability, high spirit, and much knowledge of character are required, I cannot too highly commend Captain Butler to your Lordship's attention. All these qualities have been, under the most trying circumstances, displayed by him upon the present occasion.

In speaking of Captain Dalrymple I must point out that his position has been in some respects a far more difficult one than ever Captain Butler's. Captain Butler is not only a man well known to the world at large, but I have on a previous occasion had opportunities myself for recognizing his ability. He was known personally to all those officers who were with me in Canada, and of whom many are here. Captain Dalrymple came as a perfect stranger to most of us. The difference is very considerable in the situation of two men each in positions of somewhat painful isolation. Under these most difficult circumstances, Captain Dalrymple has worked with a heartiness and energy which I cannot too highly commend.

Captain Glover's position before the world is so conspicuous, and your Lordship's knowledge of his ability is so complete, that I scarcely think it would be suitable for me to report upon him as if he were one of the Officers in any ordinary sense under my orders. In fact, since his military operations have been carried out under my orders, I have received but one report from him, and know nothing of what has been the history of his force.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. J. WOLSELEY,
Major-General and Administrator,
Gold Coast.

Inclosure in No. 2.

SIR,

Tribee, February 2, 1874.

After the dispatch of my letter of the 29th and 30th ultimo, a rapid retreat commenced in the whole Akim force. So universal was the panic that during the greater portion of the night bodies of men continued to move south, and early on the morning of the 31st Yancoma was reached and left behind. No attempt was made on the part of the Kings to excuse or explain their gross treachery, and I could elicit nothing more tangible than that they were too far advanced into Ashantee territory, and that they must be cut off before assistance could reach them.

My belief is that the statements of a blind Ashantee prisoner taken at Nansuah, coupled with a verbal message sent by King Attah of East Akim, the purport of which I was not made aware of, did much to induce the disgraceful flight.

In the hasty postscript to my letter of the 30th ultimo I had only time to make you acquainted with the fact of the retreat.

No previous warning—no intimation whatever—had been given to me that it was the intention of the Kings and Chiefs to abandon Akina; indeed, up to the very moment that the retreat began I was moving through the camps, endeavouring to get the Akims to move to Dadiasso, *en route* to Amoaful, and I had actually engaged a party of hunters to proceed through the bush to the main line near the latter place. Yet, so complete was the flight; that within two hours, not a man was left in Akinée, and long before midnight every Akim was behind the Ennoou River, ten miles distant. All this without a reverse having taken place, and after a loss of only two killed and two wounded in the entire force.

I cannot express to you the feelings with which I beheld this total break up of the movement. Little by little, step by step, I had succeeded in leading these savages to within a very trifling distance of the point aimed at.

It is true that there were many indications of how utterly untrustworthy was the composition of the force under my command; but, nevertheless, at Akina I naturally looked at the task as all but accomplished, and my junction with the main body at Amoaful, within a few miles of Coomassie, as only a question of some hours. Encumbered with baggage without carriers, save those given me by the Kings, and with three of my officers sick from actual fever or its recent presence, I dare not await at Akinée the chance of communication from the main body. I had to abandon the fruits of no little labour at the moment success seemed most assured.

The Kings, with about a quarter of the original force, are now encamped close to the Prah at Embronon; they have refused to move to Prahsu.

The remainder of the men are scattered or dispersed to their homes.

I will proceed to head-quarters with all speed, and afterwards be ready to undertake such punishment as the Major-General may determine to inflict upon the Akim Chiefs.

Captain Paget has had a relapse of fever. He proceeds with carriers to Prahau.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. BUTLER, Captain.

To the Chief of the Staff.

No. 3.

Sir G. Wolseley to the Earl of Kimberley.

Head-Quarters, Camp Ampaful,
February 8, 1874.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of two reports which have just arrived from Captain Glover. Your Lordship will perceive that the last is dated January 28, eleven days ago, and that Captain Glover speaks of being then within 20 miles of Coomassie.

I am making every effort to send him news of our success, and orders to fall back behind the Prah. I have offered large rewards to messengers if they succeed in reaching him, and have sent to him by several different routes. In any case, in the utterly crushed state of the Ashantee forces, I have every hope that Captain Glover will be able to hold his own against any army they could bring against him, and, at the worst, he certainly will be able to secure his own retreat.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) G. J. WOLSELEY,
Major-General and Administrator,
Gold Coast.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

SIR,

Abogoo, January 21, 1874.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatches dated 31st December, 1873, 8th January, 13th January, and your Excellency's communication of the 14th instant.

2. My entire force of Houssas and Yorubas, which are capable of being brought to the front, are now up as per state inclosed, and Mr. Ponsonby, R.N., joined head-quarters on 18th, and Dr. Rowe on afternoon of 19th instant.

3. Yesterday came up 23 boxes of Snider and 20 boxes of Enfield ammunition, 2 cases of rockets, and 1 trough.

4. This afternoon came in other loads, completing spare ammunition, 458 spare rounds Snider for 350 men, and 55 spare rounds Enfield for 500 men, one 7-pounder gun, and 15 charges for ditto, 4 troughs, and 72 rockets.

5. To-morrow I am expecting 2 boxes containing fuses, friction-tubes, slow-match, &c., 4 cases of shot for 7-pounder guns, 16 cases of shell (common), 5 cases double shell, 17-pounder gun, and 7 cases of charges for 7-pounders.

6. I regret to have to report that I received yesterday the news of the death of Dr. Paule, R.N., who died at Assoom of fever and jaundice, followed by dysentery, on the 19th instant. The loss of this Officer is very much regretted by the Officers of this Expedition, as well as by myself. His kindness and genial disposition had endeared him to all, and since the 27th ultimo, owing to the illness of Lieutenant Cameron, 19th Regiment, he had been in command of an advanced detach-

ment of force until it reached Assoom on the 10th instant.

7. On the 19th instant came up the Chief of Assoom with 120 men. Yesterday the King of Eastern Akim came with 300 more, and to-day some 50 others have arrived.

8. On the 17th a broad road leading northwards was reconnoitred for three miles by Lieutenant Barnard, 19th Regiment, with 100 men, but was found to end in farms. On the 18th the same officer and force examined road to Conomo for three or four miles without seeing any one. Reconnaissances were pushed out five or six miles towards the villages of Bangsu and Ja-Ashi. On left flank and left rear nothing was seen, remainder of force being occupied in unroofing and loopholing houses and cutting patrol paths through forest around village.

9. To-day Captain Larcom, R.N., and Lieutenant Barnard, 19th Regiment, with 100 men, examined country 10 miles on left rear, burning two deserted villages, and King of East Akim drove out the enemy from Bangsu, a village 11 miles on left flank, which he burned, having four men wounded. To-morrow Lieutenant Barnard, in command of 160 Houssas and Yorubas, with Mr. Ponsonby, in charge of rocket party and 300 Akims, will occupy Bargens, and day after to-morrow move upon Jaashu for the purpose of dislodging the enemy from that place, and opening communication with Captain Butler, whose force cannot be more than four hours to the westward, in neighbourhood of Atcheyasswah.

10. Jaashi like this place is five hours' distant from Conomo, which will be occupied by force not later than 25th or 26th, and is three from Coomassie or Daubin. I calculate approximately the position of this place to be in latitude 6° 30' N. and 57° 30' W.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER,
Special Commissioner.

His Excellency Major-General

Sir G. Wolseley, K.C.M.G., C.B.,

&c. &c. &c.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

SIR,

January 28, 1874.

SINCE date of my last despatch to your Excellency of the 21st instant, Lieutenant Barnard, having with him Mr. Ponsonby, R.N., who was in charge of rocket troughs and 160 Houssas and Yorubas, with 200 Akims, occupied Bangsu and the next day drove out the enemy from Jaashu, ten miles south-west of this place; casualties, nil. 25th, 200 Akims more despatched to attack a small village to left rear were repulsed; loss of 2 killed and 4 wounded; 20 Akims only being engaged, the rest retreating Akims reporting that from loudness of the guns they believed the village to be occupied by Cobrah Fuah's army (Western Akim), and requested Lieutenant Barnard some Houssas; but fearing an attack from this place, which was known to be occupied by the enemy, Lieutenant Barnard sent only a bugler and 4 men with a red English flag. The men reported that the Akims could not be induced to proceed more than a mile, and on their return were only prevented from bolting to Abogoo by a rocket being directed down the road to head them back. The next day Lieutenant Barnard was to have effected a junction with me at this place at 1 P.M., so was compelled to leave Assufoo. He left Jaashie at 10 A.M., but did not reach this

place until 3.30 p.m., and carried it after fifteen minutes' firing.

Mr. Ponsonby was hit by a spent ball which caused him to fall, also two Houssas hit, one seriously. The enemy held the bush or border of the village for about five minutes until dislodged by two rockets, when they retreated in direction of Coomassie or Juabin.

In the meantime I had left Abogoo at 7 a.m., and forming junction with 100 men under Captain Sartorius, who had left the day previous and encamped two and a-half hours in advance, I proceeded for Conomo, three miles due east of this place. It was quite dark when we arrived within a mile of this place, and I encamped intending to attack at daybreak, but a reconnoissance made by the King of Eastern Akim and twenty men found it deserted, and it was immediately occupied by his force, about 400 men.

On the 27th I moved to this place, leaving Dr. Rowe and 200 Houssas and Yorubas with King of Akim to prevent Akim force from going off in a sudden panic. The King himself is brave, so is his General, and, perhaps, 100 out of 700 of the entire Akim force with me.

Captain Butler does not inform me of his line of march after crossing Prah, and the few Ashantee prisoners with me give no information. The slaves taken know nothing except the road from the farm they work on to the village in which they are taken. I cannot get the Akims to reconnoitre, so that unless Captain Sartorius should succeed in getting this despatch to Captain Butler, I do not know how I shall effect communication with your Excellency.

I am awaiting reinforcements of Aquapims with spare ammunition, also King of Crobo with a large force, all of whom are within three or four marches of not being in lat. 6° 38' N. and long. 1¼ W. 15 or 20 miles from Coomassie or Juabin.

From such information as I can gather, the enemy will oppose my crossing the river. Assoom six hours from this.

Excepting "Abogoo," every place occupied has been found swept of sheep and fowls, consequently my force has been living on yam and plantains for the last seven days, and the officers have no preserved meat up of any description.

One of my messengers was robbed and flogged by some West India soldiers, consequently the Akims at Assoom refuse to convey letter, and I am too far in advance to influence them.

I shall endeavour to get duplicate of this and previous one of 21st instant, sent to your Excellency by route south of Prah.

Inclosed is a copy of Lieutenant Barnard's (19th Regiment) report of attack and occupation of this place, Odumassie.

It is with much pleasure that I bring to the notice of your Excellency the conduct of Lieutenant Barnard, 19th Regiment, a most promising and indefatigable young officer. Captain Sartorius, in command of the advanced force which carried Abogoo, brought to my notice his gallant bearing on that occasion; and he displayed great discretion and judgment while in command of the column which I found in possession of this place yesterday. I therefore hope your Excellency will remember Lieutenant Barnard's gallant conduct on this second occasion when this campaign is finished.

I take the opportunity of bringing to the notice of your Excellency the invaluable assistance which I have received from Captain Sartorius, 6th Bengal

Cavalry. It was entirely owing to his indefatigable exertion and great personal influence that the Croboes and Aquapims were induced to move on the Volta, when they did, thereby showing the Acceras and enabling me, with the assistance of Dr. Rowe on the seaboard, to cross a large force of 17,000 men over the Volta by 27th December, nor could any force have reached the Prah on 15th instant, but for the amount of pressure put upon the King and Chiefs of Eastern Akim by Captain Sartorius. I shall, on another occasion, bring this Officer's service more fully to the notice of your Excellency, trusting that you will forward them to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER,
Special Commissioner.

His Excellency Major-General
Sir G. Wolseley, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Admiralty, March 7, 1874.

THE following Despatch and Enclosures have been received by the Secretary of the Admiralty from Commodore W. N. W. Hewett, V.C., Senior Naval Officer on the Gold Coast:—

Transmitting Reports of Movements of Naval Brigade, received from Captain W. Hunt Grubbe.

"Active," at Cape Coast,
February 7, 1874.

SIR,

ADVERTING to my letter of the 2nd February, 1874, I have now the honour to forward for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of letters I have received from Captain W. Hunt Grubbe, detailing the movements of the Naval Brigade under his command during the three engagements at Bobo-assie, Amoaful, and Becquah, which have already been reported by me.

In continuation of my despatch above referred to, I request you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty a further letter which has been addressed to me by Captain Grubbe, giving an account of the proceedings of the Naval Brigade at the engagement which took place on the 4th instant, during the crossing of the River Dah, and subsequent movements.

The European troops having captured and burnt Coomassie are now on their way back to Cape Coast.

I have much pleasure in informing the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the conduct of the Naval Brigade during the whole time it has been disembarked has been unexceptional, and, when in action, the men have behaved with great coolness and courage.

I cannot pass by the zeal and energy displayed by Dr. Henry Fegan, Staff-Surgeon 2nd Class, of Her Majesty's ship "Active," in his arrangements for the care of the sick and wounded.

His kind attention to their wants has been unceasing, notwithstanding the great fatigue he must have often been suffering, during the trying time experienced since crossing the Prah, and I beg to call the attention of their Lordships to the paragraph in Captain Grubbe's letter, wherein he mentions the gallant conduct of this officer, who, while the rear guard (to which he was attached) was being attacked, succeeded in bringing in a wounded marine at great personal risk.

I enclose a list of casualties in the Naval Brigade during the engagement at the River Dah.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. N. W. HEWETT,
Commodore.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

Medouma,

January 29, 1874.

SIR,
IN compliance with orders received last night from Colonel McLeod, C.B., covering the advanced guard, I this morning moved the Naval Brigade to take part in the reconnaissance of the village of Borborassie, situate about six miles S.W. by W. of Kiang Boassu, preceded by a company of Russell's Regiment, and supported by Head Quarters of 23rd Welsh Fusiliers, we started at 8.15 and, after traversing a very narrow bush path, arrived at this village at 10.40, the Brigade immediately coming into action with the Ashantis who were in considerable force under a general of some note.

The village was soon cleared, the Ashantis retreating into the bush, but not until Captain Nicholls had been killed, and two seamen of the brigade, and some men of Russell's regiment wounded. Fourteen prisoners, eight-and-twenty muskets with accoutrements, and thirteen kegs of powder, a chief's umbrella, &c., fell into our hands; the muskets and powder were destroyed before leaving.

On our return to our camp, which we reached at 3.30 P.M., the 23rd Regiment formed the advanced guard, and a brisk fire was kept up between them and the Ashantis, who were blowing their horns and shouting in all directions. A guide was killed close to the head of their column. The rear was brought up by the Naval Brigade, and A Company, in charge of Lieutenant Pipon, of Her Majesty's ship "Active," was much harassed in rear and both flanks for upwards of an hour. The men behaved very steadily, killing a considerable number of the enemy, with loss to themselves of one seaman only, badly wounded.

Colonel McLeod expressed himself pleased with conduct of the Naval Brigade, and I have great pleasure in testifying to the good behaviour of the officers and men under somewhat trying circumstances. Dr. Fegan, as usual, was unremitting in his attention to sick and wounded.

I have the honour to enclose a list of the casualties to the Brigade. The loss of the enemy I should roughly estimate at fifty.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. HUNT GRUBBE,
Captain Commanding Naval Brigade.

To Commodore Hewett, V.C.

Report of Proceedings of Naval Brigade at the Attack on Amoaful on the 31st January.

Amoaful,

February 18, 1874.

SIR,
IN compliance with orders, I moved the Naval Brigade yesterday morning from Ahquonknessie to Egginassie in two divisions, the left under the command of Acting Captain Luxmore, and the right, which I accompanied myself, under that of Lieutenant Noel, of Her Majesty's ship "Active."

At 8 A.M., Colonel McLeod, C.B., who commanded the left rank, directed me to cut through the bush in a line parallel to the Coomassie road. A party of cutters, under Captain Buckle, R.E., assisting, we had cut about forty yards, when a heavy fire was opened by the

enemy from the left, and Captain Buckle was mortally wounded. I then commenced cutting to the hill from which the fire came, and succeeded in clearing a space on the top and turning their flank. Major Russell's Regiment then came to our support, and leaving him to guard the flank, which still kept up a heavy fire, I recommenced, by Colonel McLeod's orders, cutting in a northerly direction; and after about two hours we reached the main road. The same heavy fire was kept up the whole time, and the thickness of the bush was such that at no time during the day could I see our opponents. From 2 P.M. until 5, we lined the road in skirmishing order, occasionally replying to the fire of the Ashantis, who had closed in from the right flank, after the splendid rush of the 42nd had cleared the centre, and were endeavouring to gain the road to Bequoi. I have great pleasure in reporting that the Brigade behaved extremely well.

I enclose, with Captain Luxmore's report, a list of our casualties.

At 6.15 I marched to Amoaful and billeted the men.

Our entire strength was 200 officers and men.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. HUNT GRUBBE.

Report of proceedings of Left Wing of Naval Brigade attack on Amoaful.

SIR,

February 7, 1874.

I HAVE the honour to give you the following information relative to the proceedings of the wing of the Naval Brigade under my command on 31st January: The wing with the other troops on the right flank of attack, under command of Colonel Wood, V.C., having cut a short distance into the bush, the enemy opened a very heavy fire, which was replied to. Colonel Wood was wounded shortly after the action commenced, and the command of the right flank devolved upon myself.

We had to remain in this one place for some hours, the enemy continuing to pour in a very heavy fire. At last their fire becoming slack, the Engineers cut into the bush and the enemy retreated. I then passed into the main road, and thence I again cut into the bush, 300 yards east, and then due north, so as to reach Amoaful.

In doing this, we passed through a very large encampment, in which the fires were still burning and great quantities of provisions had been left. Having reached the road just below Amoaful, the Brigadier-General ordered me to go on to the village and billet the men.

I need hardly state that all the Officers and men did their duty thoroughly. Dr. Fisher was unremitting in his attention to the wounded. My best thanks are due to Lieutenant Bell, Royal Engineers, and his men, for the manner in which they carried out their dangerous work of bush-cutting under the fire from the enemy.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PERCY P. LUXMOORE,
Acting Captain.

Captain Grubbe, R.N.

Casualties of Royal Naval Brigade at the Battle of Amoaful.

Officers.

Captain Hunt Grubbe, very severely.
Lieutenant McLeod, slightly.
Acting-Lieutenant Maltby, slightly.
Sub-Lieutenant Mundy, very dangerously.
Sub-Lieutenant Rawson, very severely.
Midshipman Ma, slightly.

Men.

William Havery (? Avery), Private R.M., very severely.
 T. Jones, Captain Main-top, very severely.
 J. Walters, Serjeant R.M., very severely.
 G. Alford, A.B., dangerously.
 J. Bell, Private R.M., dangerously.
 J. Leane, Captain F.C., severely.
 W. Hart, Leading Seaman, very severely.
 J. F. Lemm, A.B., very severely.
 J. Murphy, A.B., very dangerously.
 J. Silence, Private R.M., very dangerously.
 E. Gilbert, A.B., severely.
 R. Sykes, A.B., dangerously.
 T. Blake, Captain Foretop, very severely.
 F. Watson, Signalman, very severely.
 D. Driscoe, A.B., very severely.
 W. Elkes, Captain Maintop, very severely.
 J. Barnes, A.B., very dangerously.
 J. Wilson, Boatswain's Mate, severely.
 J. Murphy, A.B., severely.
 D. Gavan, Private R.M., severely.
 T. (? W.) Burns, Private R.M., very severely.
 T. Colman, Commodore's Domestic, very dangerously.
 W. Daw, A.B., severely.
 W. Bunt, Boatswain's Mate, very severely.
 H. Darling, A.B., severely.
 B. Vivian, A.B., severely.

Detailing proceedings of Naval Brigade on 1st February, 1874, and destruction of Bequoi.

SIR, *February 7, 1874.*
 I HAVE the honour to give you the following information relative to the Naval Brigade under my command on this afternoon.

The brigade was under the orders of Colonel McLeod.

We left Amoaful about 1 P.M., to attack the town of Becquay. A company being detached and proceeding in advance with Lord Gifford's scouts and part of Major Russell's Regiment.

The enemy's pickets were soon driven in, the scouts and A Company followed them quickly into the town, where the Ashantis opened fire from the houses. We then closed up and doubled in, and the enemy ran. The Brigade was then disposed around the town to repel any attack while it was being burnt. B Company, on the north entrance, was engaged for a short time, the enemy being in the bush close to. The destruction of the town being completed we returned to Amoaful.

I regret to say that our casualties were, one man killed, one wounded. Lord Gifford informed me that A Company advanced into the town most gallantly. The whole Brigade did their duty to my entire satisfaction.

I have, &c.,
 (Signed) PERCY A. LUXMOORE,
 Acting Captain.

Captain Hunt W. Grubbe, R.N.

Report of proceedings of the Royal Naval Brigade at the Battle of Dah.

SIR, *Coomassie, February 3, 1874.*

I HAVE the honour to report that yesterday the Naval Brigade were ordered to join the rear guard during the crossing of the River Dah and subsequent movements.

The Rifles, 42nd, and Native Levies were so obstinately opposed that it was not until 12.35 P.M. that the rear guard crossed. Our great object was to get the convoy of provisions and reserve ammunition into the village of Dahsu, held by the Rifles, but surrounded by the Ashantees, and we succeeded in doing this by 1.15, though heavily attacked. The Naval Brigade then relieved the Rifles, and for two hours held the village, whilst the Rifles followed the 42nd towards Coomassie. At 2.45 the Ashantees retreated, and at 3.30 we reached Coomassie without further opposition.

I beg to enclose a list of the casualties.

Though nothing could have exceeded the good behaviour of the Brigade, both officers and men, I must specially mention that of Doctor Henry Fegan, who, while the rear-guard was being attacked, succeeded in bringing in a wounded Marine at great personal risk.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. H. GRUBBE, Captain.

A NOMINAL LIST of Killed and Wounded belonging to the Royal Naval Brigade, in Action at the Dah, February 4, 1874.

*Officer Wounded.**Her Majesty's Ship "Active."*

Lieutenant A. B. Crosbie, Royal Marine Light Infantry, left breast; slightly.

*Petty Officers, Seaman, and Marine Wounded.**Her Majesty's Ship "Argus."*

Thomas Spain, A.B. neck, left side; very severely.

Gunner Matthew McDonald, Marine Artillery, right side of head; mortal.

Her Majesty's Ship "Active."

Serjeant George Taylor, Marine Artillery, right leg; very severely.

Private John Wills, Marine, right side of head; very severely.

(Signed) H. FEGAN, M.D.
 Staff-Surgeon, 2nd Class, in Medical Charge.