



SUPPLEMENT

TO

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TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1874.

War Office, March 17, 1874.

A DESPATCH, of which the following is a copy, has been received from Major-General Sir Garnet J. Wolseley, K.C.M.G., C.B., Commanding the Troops on the Gold Coast:—

Camp, Fommanah,
February 13, 1874.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 9th instant a messenger from the King of Ashanti arrived in my camp at Detchiasu, expressing the King's desire to make peace, and offering to accede to my terms. I sent him back with a message to the King, and said that I would await his answer here until the evening of the 12th instant. I therefore halted at this place on the 10th with the native troops only, sending on all the Europeans towards Cape Coast.

Last night the messenger returned, accompanied by a chief of Coomassie, deputed to me by the King, and bringing with him one thousand and forty ounces of gold, as an instalment of the indemnity I had demanded, and as proof of his desire to make peace. I have now sent back the messenger with the draft of a treaty of peace for the King's signature, and I anticipate that he will return to Cape Coast within fourteen days from this date. A copy of the proposed treaty is forwarded by this mail to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have to-day also given an audience to Cobbina Obbin, the King of Adansi, who is desirous of leaving the Ashanti territory, and retiring southwards with his people to live near the Denkeras and Wassaws in the old Denkerah bush. I have offered no opposition to his doing so, at the same time informing him that he must make his own arrangements with the Wassaws and Denkeras, and must look for no protection from the English Government.

Yesterday Captain Sartorius, 6th Bengal Cavalry, arrived in my camp with an escort of twenty men. He had left Captain Glover at Essiemampon, about eighteen miles east of Coomassie, and had travelled through Coomassie to Fommanah. He informs me that Captain

Glover had a skirmish with the enemy on the Ennoon River, on the 2nd instant, and had since halted for instructions from me. I have now sent to order Captain Glover to withdraw all his troops immediately behind the River Prah, and march to Accra as soon as possible.

The success which has attended my military mission is, I respectfully submit, satisfactorily proved by the above facts. Our success does not lie merely in our having defeated the enemy's army, and occupied and destroyed his capital, but in our having thoroughly established in this kingdom a wholesome fear of the British power, and a knowledge of the advantages of an alliance with Her Majesty. Three days after we have destroyed his capital and his palace, and commenced our homeward march, the King sends to make peace, and gives a substantial guarantee of his good faith. Five days after the same event, an English officer, accompanied by only twenty men, is able to ride unmolested fifty-five miles through the heart of the invaded kingdom, while one of the principal tributary chiefs beseeches permission to dis sever himself from Ashanti, and cast in his lot with the tribes allied to the British Crown. I venture, therefore, to hope that the objects for which Her Majesty's Government entrusted to me a force of British soldiers have been attained, and that the exertions of the officers and men under my command have not been made in vain.

The European troops are to-day at Barraco, Prahsu, and Essiaman. To-morrow the last detachment of them recrosses the Prah. They will be embarked as soon as possible at Cape Coast, and will sail without an hour's delay to England.

I leave this place to-morrow with my Staff and a rear guard of native troops; and I hope to arrive at Cape Coast on the 19th inst.

I have, &c.,

G. J. WOLSELEY,
Major-General.

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

Colonial Office, March 17, 1874.

DESPATCHES, of which the following are copies, have been received at the Colonial Office from Major-General Sir Garnet J. Wolseley, K.C.M.G., C.B., Administrator of the Gold Coast.

No. 1.

Sir G. Wolseley to the Earl of Kimberley.

*Head-Quarters, Camp, Fommanah,
February 13, 1874.*

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to report that the King of Adansi has applied to me for permission to transfer his whole tribe to the Wassaw country, the Wassaws being willing to receive him and all his people. I told him that there was not land for him in the place he asked first to be allowed to enter, I assured him that I could give him no protection, that he must fight his own battles, and that I could guarantee nothing as to what course Her Majesty might think fit to pursue in the future.

2. But when he declared that he feared the vengeance of the King of Ashantee if he remained here after he had negotiated with me, and when he declared that he and all his people detested the Ashantee rule and were anxious to escape anywhere from it, I did not think I should be justified in interfering with an arrangement which will, at all events, have the advantage that it will to some further extent render the Ashantees less able to invade the Fantee territory.

3. If he had refused, I should be simply handing over the Adansi people to massacre.

4. I have, therefore, allowed the King to migrate, as he proposes, but on the express understanding that it is an arrangement between himself and the Wassaw people, with which Her Majesty does not interfere.

5. The whole subject has caused me very great embarrassment. I have been influenced in the decision I have arrived at by the consideration that the Adansi people, who formerly formed a part of the same tribe as the Wassaws, are now only imitating the example which was set them some years ago by that portion which now passes under the Wassaw name; and, moreover, before the question had to be decided by me the Adansi and Wassaw people had arranged the matter together, and I should have had to exercise an authority I did not feel myself altogether entitled to employ in forbidding a tribe always so vaguely under our influence as the Wassaws, to enter into such an arrangement calculated, as it is, to contribute to their national safety. Moreover, at the time the application was first made to me, the King of Ashantee had not given any trustworthy indications of a wish for peace. To refuse, therefore, an important occasion of strength would have been, on military grounds, an action scarcely defensible.

6. I very much regret that the point should have arisen at all, because it seems to me surrounded with difficulty. But under the conditions of time and place at which I had to decide, I do not think I could have arrived at any other solution.

7. I hear that the powerful Becqua tribe is anxious to follow the example of the Adansi; but I intend, now that the preliminary negotiations as to the Treaty have been completed, to evade, at least for a time, their embarrassing questions by referring to the coast.

I have, &c.

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

No. 2.

Sir G. Wolseley to the Earl of Kimberley.

*Head-Quarters, Camp, Fommanah,
February 13, 1874.*

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival in this camp of Captain Sartorius with a letter from Captain Glover of which I enclose a copy. Captain Sartorius left Captain Glover's forces eighteen miles to the eastward of Coomassie. He took with him only twenty armed men and had no occasion to fire a shot during the entire journey, though he rode through Coomassie and followed the road by which we returned.

2. This is the most striking illustration I have yet received of the effect that our recent victories have had upon the Ashantee Kingdom.

3. Your Lordship will see that Captain Glover fancied that he was only seven miles from Coomassie at the time he wrote.

4. From Captain Sartorius' report, it appears that Captain Glover spent ten days at Abogo, after the capture of that village, waiting for stores; that he then advanced to Conomanga, and thence to Adomassie, where he appears to have halted his main body until he, on the 8th instant, received intelligence of the capture of Coomassie. Then advancing for two days he dispatched Captain Sartorius on the 10th. I have sent Captain Glover a letter in French, informing him of what has taken place.

I have, &c.

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

Inclosure in No. 2.

Essiamampon.

SIR, February 10, 1874, 12.30 p.m.

I HAVE the honour to report my arrival at this place with 700 Houssas and Yorubas, three 7-pounder guns, three rocket troughs, 204 spare rounds ammunition per man. Last engagement with enemy was on 2nd instant, when they were driven from line of Amoon River. King of Duabin has sent in his submission. I sent his messenger back ordering King to go to your Excellency at Coomassie.

I have with me some 1,600 allies and 5,000 over River Prah coming up; I suppose myself to be seven miles from Coomassie, and shall halt at Atrirea, the next village, until I receive orders from your Excellency.

My men have had only one ounce of salt meat per man since 18th January, and that once, four days since.

Captain Sartorius, 6th Bengal Cavalry, who takes this has done excellent and hard service.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. GLOVER, R.N.
Major-General Sir G. Wolseley, C.B.,
K.C.M.G., &c., &c.

No. 3.

Sir G. Wolseley to the Earl of Kimberley.

Head-Quarters, Camp, Fommanah,

MY LORD,

February 13, 1874.

I HAVE the honour to report that, on the 9th instant, at Detchiasu, I received from the King of Ashantee a fresh messenger, who assured me that the King was most anxious now to accede to all my terms and to make peace.

2. I told him at once that I was quite as desirous of peace myself, and that as the

Ashantee Kingdom had been already so severely punished I would waive the question of the hostages, who were no longer necessary, and if the King would send to me 5,000 ozs. of gold dust, as an earnest of his sincerity and as a first instalment of the indemnity, I should be willing to arrange the terms of a Treaty of Peace with any envoy of sufficient authority whom the King would send to Fommanah, where I would wait till the evening of the 12th, to allow sufficient time for him to communicate with the King, and collect the money.

3. Last night I was informed that Envoys from the King had arrived at a point about two miles from my outposts, and that they desired permission to treat with me, saying at the same time that they would not have come had they not fulfilled all the conditions I had demanded.

4. This morning I received the messengers here, but found that they had only brought with them 1,000 ounces of gold. They declared, however, that the King could not at the moment produce more, that 1,000 ounces was more than had ever been demanded of them before, Governor McClean having only required them to deposit 600 ounces as a temporary security, to be subsequently given back to them. I thought it exceedingly probable that additional pressure might have induced them to produce the larger sum; but I considered that the main point was to obtain the Treaty of Peace, and that the money being important chiefly as a proof of complete submission, the quantity actually now paid was a matter of comparatively secondary importance.

5. I therefore allowed the Envoys to go into the question of the Treaty, the nature of which was carefully explained to them. They made objection to two clauses only.

6. First they professed not to have understood that the sum of money demanded was so large as 50,000 ozs. When, however, I informed them that the King had already expressly agreed to this sum, they withdrew the objection. I fancy that it is very doubtful whether the whole of the money will ever be obtained by Her Majesty's Government; but as the payment of a few thousand pounds cannot be a matter of relatively so great importance as the maintenance of peace, I have caused the wording of this clause to be carefully so framed, so as to make it clear that the money is only to be paid in such instalments, and at such times, as Her Majesty may direct. The whole question of the money will thus be open for solution in any way Her Majesty's Government may think fit.

7. The second point to which objection was raised is one which has caused me much more anxiety. As I have already explained in my despatch of this same date, I have not felt myself justified in refusing absolutely to allow the King of Adansi and his people, on their earnest petition, to join with the Wassaw people and occupy their lands together.

8. I considered, therefore, that it was indispensable, in order to avoid future trouble, that the King of Ashantee should distinctly acknowledge the independence of the Adansi people.

9. I carefully explained to the Envoys at the same time, that I had taken no steps whatever myself in this matter, that the action on the part of the Adansi people was purely voluntary, and that it was one with which it was impossible for me to interfere.

10. It has been agreed that within a fortnight the King shall send to Cape Coast the Treaty signed by himself. I incline to believe, that the danger of breaking up to which his king-

dom is exposed, unless we are on friendly terms with him, will induce him to fulfil, with as much punctuality as he is capable of, the conditions of the Treaty.

11. For not only have the Adansi people begged to be allowed to migrate, but I have heard through the King of Adansi that the much more powerful Becwa tribe is quite as anxious to do the same, and only awaits my decision on the case of the King of Adansi, before declaring its intention to join some tribe nearer the Coast.

12. These and other indications that only very slight action on our part is required to cause the complete dissolution of his kingdom, will, I believe, be for the fulfilment of the engagements he has now entered into, better securities than any others we could have.

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

Inclosure in No. 3.

TREATY of Peace between Major-General Sir Garnet Joseph Wolseley, K.C.M.G., C.B., acting on behalf of Her Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and Saibee Enquie, acting on behalf of His Majesty Koffee Kalkali, King of Ashantee.

ART. I. THERE shall be hereafter perpetual peace between the Queen of England and her allies on the coast on the one part, and the King of Ashantee and all his people on the other part.

ART. II.—The King of Ashantee promises to pay the sum of 50,000 ounces of approved gold as indemnity for the expenses he has occasioned to Her Majesty the Queen of England by the late war; and undertakes to pay 1,000 ounces of gold forthwith, and the remainder by such instalments as Her Majesty's Government may from time to time demand.

ART. III.—The King of Ashantee, on the part of himself and his successors, renounces all right or title to any tribute or homage from the Kings of Denkera, Assin, Akim, Adansi, and the other allies of Her Majesty formerly subject to the Kingdom of Ashantee.

ART. IV.—The King, on the part of himself and of his heirs and successors, does hereby further renounce for ever all pretensions of supremacy over Elmina, or over any of the tribes formerly connected with the Dutch Government, and to any tribute or homage from such tribes, as well as to any payment or acknowledgment of any kind by the British Government in respect of Elmina or any other of the British forts and possessions on the coast.

ART. V.—The King will at once withdraw all his troops from Appolonia and its vicinity, and from the neighbourhood of Dixcove, Secondee, and the adjoining coast-line.

ART. VI.—There shall be freedom of trade between Ashantee and Her Majesty's forts on the coast, all persons being at liberty to carry their merchandize from the coast to Coomassie, or from that place to any of Her Majesty's possessions on the coast.

ART. VII.—The King of Ashantee guarantees that the road from Coomassie to the River Prah shall always be kept open and free from bush to a width of 15 feet.

ART. VIII.—As Her Majesty's subjects and the people of Ashantee are henceforth to be friends for ever, the King, in order to prove the sincerity of his friendship for Queen Victoria, promises to use his best endeavours to check the practice of human sacrifice, with a view to hereafter putting an end to it altogether, as the practice is repugnant to the feelings of all Christian nations.

ART. IX.—One copy of this Treaty shall be signed by the King of Ashantee and sent to the Administrator of Her Majesty's Government at Cape Coast Castle within fourteen days from this date.

ART. X.—This Treaty shall be known as the Treaty of Fommanah.

Dated at Fommanah this 13th day of February, 1874.

No. 4.

Sir G. Wolseley to the Earl of Kimberley.

Camp, Prahsu,

February 15, 1874.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to report that, as the war with the King of Ashantee has now been brought to a satisfactory termination, I have not considered it necessary to maintain any longer the state of martial law, which has been in force in the town of Elmina and the surrounding districts since the 12th day of June, 1873.

By a Proclamation, therefore, dated 12th of February, 1874, published by my command, the state of martial law in Elmina and the surrounding districts has been declared at an end.

I have, &c.,

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