



SUPPLEMENT

TO

The London Gazette

Of TUESDAY, the 17th of MARCH.

Published by Authority.

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. Wolselley, 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, Prah-su, 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.