

THE ASHANTEE WAR.

THE TREATY—INCIDENTS OF THE CAMPAIGN.

A supplement to the *London Gazette*, of Tuesday, March 17th, contains the text of the treaty proposed by Sir Garnet Wolseley to the King of Ashantees. The draft had not been returned when Sir Garnet wrote, but he expected to receive it with the King's signature within about fourteen days from the 13th of February. The following is a copy:—

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 Siihoë Enquie, acting on behalf of his Majesty, Koffee Kalkali, King of Ashantee.

Art. 1. 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. 2. 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. 3. The King of Ashantee, on the part of himself and his successor, renounces all right or title to any tribute or homage from the Kings of Denkerá, Assin, Akim, Adansi, and the other allies of her Majesty formerly subjects to the Kingdom of Ashantee.

Art. 4. 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 to Elmina or any other of the British forts and possessions on the coast.

Art. 5. 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. 6. There shall be freedom of trade between Ashantee and her Majesty's forts on the coast, all persons being at liberty to carry their merchandise from the coast to Coomassie, or from that place to any of her Majesty's possessions on the coast.

Art. 7. 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 fifteen feet.

Art. 8. 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. 9. 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. 10. This treaty shall be known as the Treaty of Fomanah.

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

Writing to the War Office on the 13th

ult., from Fomanah, Sir Garnet Wolseley says:—"Our success does not lie merely in our having defeated the enemy's army, and occupied and destroyed his capital, but in 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 had 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 invading kingdom, while one of the principal tributary chiefs beseeches permission to disaveer himself from Ashantee, and cast in his lot with the tribes allied to the British Crown. I venture, therefore, to hope that the object for which her Majesty's Government intrusted to me a force of British soldiers has been attained, and that the exertions of the officers and men under my command have not been made in vain."

A proclamation issued by Sir Garnet Wolseley declares the state of martial law in Elmina and surrounding districts to be at an end.

The *Times* correspondent, writing from Cape Coast Castle of February 13, says: "Coomassie was founded about 1720, and destroyed on the 6th of February, 1874. Like Carthage, it burnt for six days, and was famous for its human sacrifices, but there the resemblance ends. Coomassie had no manufactures, and very little commerce. Its chief exports were armies, and its imports prisoners of war. The slave was an article of foreign trade, but the home consumption was considerable, every occasion of interest being celebrated by decapitation. Within the town was a garden Golgotha—a sepulchral grove—a carrion bower—where the bodies of victims were deposited. It gave the whole city an odour of death. The sight of an executioner in a shaggy cap and vest of black monkey skin—such as are used for ladies' muffs—chopping off the head of a slave is to the Ashantees what the sports of the amphitheatre were to the Romans, and what bull-fights are to the Spaniards of the present day. Nor is this unnatural. Public executions in all countries draw large crowds of admiring spectators; and in Ashantee this penchant of the multitude has been cultivated and developed into an artistic feeling. Decapitation has become with them an art as serious as music—that is to say, their music. There are two movements in vogue—the *allegro*, in which a head is twirled away by a sharp knife with a dexterous turn of the wrist; and the *adagio*, in which the head is sawn off in slow time. According to Bowditch, only persons of rank are allowed to have verandahs; and the first thing I noticed in Coomassie was the number of houses so built. This town was the residence of the nobles, each of whom had a vast crowd of clients and slaves. The people of the provinces belong to an inferior class, and are not always pure Ashantees. "You talk of Ashantees," said an interpreter at an early period of the campaign, "but you have not seen any yet. The Ashantees are all noble men and gentlemen like the English, these people you have been fighting are like the Irish and the Scotch." When, in December, 1872, Amanquatia marched forth with an army of 40,000 men to win back Assin, Akim, Denkerá and Wassaw, to make Elmina an Ashantee port, and to bring the King, who wanted a new house, the stones of the Castle at Cape Coast, no one could

have foreseen the disasters which have since occurred. The auguries were favourable; two men were tied up in trees, and from the time which they took to die of starvation the priests deduced a happy issue to the undertaking. But afterwards ancient prophecies were remembered and other omens appeared. Before we had crossed the Prah certain omens had alarmed the people of Coomassie; stones fell from heaven; a child was born that spoke from its birth, but of a sudden it disappeared, and the room was instantly filled with bush. One evil omen did actually occur. Mr. Kuhno relates that just before he left Coomassie the old Fetish tree from which the town takes its name, fell down, and was shattered into splinters. No one dared to touch them; they were left lying in the street.

This raid into the African forest was an experiment; the Ashantees, in their style of fighting, differ entirely from those nations whom our armies have conquered in the jungles of Asia; they chose their positions shrewdly, defended them with courage, and at the same time besieged posts and attacked convoys along the whole line of march. It is no small thing to be able to say that not a single error of consequence was any time committed, that the ammunition arrangements were perfect, and that never were our troops forced to retire. The dash upon Coomassie was executed with vigour and judgment.

I reached Cape Coast Castle before day-break on the 12th, having made the journey from Coomassie in less than six days. I was only the second to arrive, the first being the General's aide-de-camp, Lieutenant the Hon. H. Wood, who travelled day and night, and was provided with relays of bearers at every station. A special steamer conveyed him to St. Vincent's with the General's despatches, a mail bag, and certain packages of plunder for Buckingham Palace. I have already described the road from Cape Coast Castle to the Prah; and from the Prah to Coomassie, it is always the same monotonous forest. The Adansi hills, it is true, present a beautiful prospect. One looks down on a sea of foliage with mist clouds rising from its surface, and sees an horizon far away, but always trees, trees, trees—never a barren rocky mountain or a green meadow plain.

REMITTANCES Received on Subscription to THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 11th Inst.

(Per Capt L. J. Bland.)

<i>Hatifax, N.S.</i> —Lt. Col. Bromner, to Aug. 1871	\$2.00
Lt. Col. Pallister, to Feb. "	2.00
Lieut. J. Herbin, to Sept. "	2.00
Major Ivoeves, to April "	2.00
Lieut. Humphries, to Sept. "	2.00
Capt. G. A. Black, to Oct. "	2.00
Lt. Col. Anderson, to Feb. "	2.00
Major Barron,	2.00
Major J. N. Ritchie, to Feb. "	2.00
Capt. McKerron, to March "	2.00
Lieut. T. J. Walsh, to Oct. "	2.00
Lieut. Mumford, to June "	2.00
Lieut. Ashmore, to Feb. "	2.00
Lt. Col. Mitchell, to May, "	2.00
Major J. E. Albro, to July "	2.00
Capt. A. G. Hesslin, to "	2.00
Lieut. Wilcox, to March "	2.00
Capt. J. Dence, to Sept. "	2.00
Major Macdonald, to Sept. "	2.00
Major Murray, to Aug. "	2.00
Capt. R. Hamilton, to Oct. "	2.00
Lieut. J. W. Goreham, " "	2.00
Major Coleman, to March "	2.00
Lt. Col. C. Sawyer, to July "	2.00
Ens. W. F. Rogers, " "	1.00
Capt. H. Henry, to Sept. 1873	2.00
<i>Amherst, N.S.</i> —Lt. Col. Stewart, to April 1874	2.00
(Per Lt. Col. Lovelace.)	
<i>Cayuga, Ont.</i> —Lt. Col. Farrell, to March 1874	2.00
<i>Montreal, Que.</i> —Prof. S. Hunt, to June 1871	4.00
Capt. Cinqman,	2.00
<i>Victoria, B.C.</i> —Lieut. J. R. Holt, to Jan. 1875	2.00