

The policy of the rulers of Ashanti has been long marked by oppression, violence, and blood! Their country may indeed be ranked among "*the dark places of the earth full of the habitations of cruelty.*" An executioner with his hatchet and block are parts of the royal procession when the monarch walks abroad among his people, whose lives are entirely at his disposal. A death-drum sounds when the king has beheaded an individual, for the purpose of perpetuating the reign of terror. Two young Princes, from Ashanti, have recently completed their education in England—and before their return home, they were introduced to the British Wesleyan Conference, and promised to afford their influence in aid of the Society's operations among their benighted countrymen. The Parent Committee embraced that opportunity to send a Missionary to reside in *Kamasi*, the capital. They also (as a means of conciliating the friendly feeling of the King) send him a present of a handsome state carriage, which was presented by the noble minded Missionary, Freeman, who had previously been introduced to his Ashanti Majesty on a former visit of enquiry, as to the probable opening for a Mission there.

The King had never seen a wheeled carriage before, and was obliged to have a road made of more than one hundred miles long for its conveyance into his dominions. He was evidently pleased to have such an opportunity of riding about in the same way as he understood the Queen of England did, and returned his best thanks to our Committee for so acceptable a token of their friendship and good wishes.

A Wesleyan friend in London had, at his own expense, sent him a beautiful complete set of harness, handsomely mounted. Another friend presented his Majesty with a splendid chandelier, to light up the royal palace; and various other presents were, at the same time, forwarded from other munificent friends of our Mission to that benighted land; all of which were most favourably received, and appear in the hands of God to have been considerably instrumental in softening the heart of the Ashanti monarch towards the introduction of the Gospel among his people.

He immediately gave our brethren land for the erection of a suitable Mission House, and ordered a large native house to be prepared for the temporary residence of the Missionaries and his two nephews, (the Ashanti Princes already mentioned as having been educated in England) in whom he appeared to be much interested. The Rev. Mr. Freeman appointed regular hours for Divine Service, which was well attended; many of the Ashantees were present on every occasion, and it was not unusual to witness some of the King's household paying serious attention to the word of life. Having made the necessary arrangements for the prosecution of the Mission, Mr. Freeman left the work in the charge of the Rev. J. Brooking, from whom he has since heard

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