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Class A.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

THE SLAVE TRADE

AND

OTHER MATTERS.

From January 1 to December 31, 1870.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1871.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Class A.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH BRITISH REPRESENTATIVES AND AGENTS ABROAD.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Bight of Biafra.*

No. 1.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 11, 1870.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, November 29, 1869.

THERE was fighting in Camaroons just before my arrival on the 4th. In a drunken row between Charley Dido's people and King Aqua's, Charley got hit while endeavouring to stop it. He and Aqua settled the palaver amid feasting and rum-drinking. But Charley's sons hearing that their father had been struck, returned from the oil-markets in anger, attacked one of Aqua's villages by night, cut down the plantains and killed a woman and a child. This, Charley settled by paying two slaves. Thereupon Aqua's slaves rose and insisted on fighting, unless Aqua put the two slaves to death. Meanwhile Charley's sons heard that but one person had been killed in their night attack, and demanded back one of the slaves their father had paid, but just then one of these slaves died; the other still lives. There were fears of more fighting, but both Charley and Aqua assured me that it was all over. It is difficult for these Chiefs to control their sons and slaves.

Charley Dido did not pay an ounce of the five-puncheon fine imposed by the Commodore; he said he never would. Four of the agents paid it, because they had a large amount of "trust" in Charley's town, and feared they should lose it if Charley was compelled to pay. Thus the good effect the Commodore meant the fine to produce on the natives is entirely destroyed by a new and shortsighted policy of the agents. The natives laugh at fines now, and boast that the white men will pay them all.

The Court of Equity, whose best members have withdrawn in disgust, has been childishly playing at fines. A native sold a hundred cocoa-nuts; received 4s. in goods, nearly 2s. sterling; asked for more, was told by the agent that the bargain was finished, and ordered out of the ship. Next time this agent went on shore the native carried off the two oars of his boat, and kept them a couple of hours, to get a little more for his hundred cocoa-nuts. For this offence the Court of Equity fined him a puncheon and a-half (25l. sterling). They all knew that the native was not worth 25s. I suggested that punishment should be proportioned to the crime, but in this case the punishment was out of all proportion to the offence. I cautioned the agents to be extremely careful in their dealings with the natives not to give offence, as it would be difficult now, if not impossible, to obtain redress for wrongs. I told the Chiefs and agents that I hoped to pay them frequent visits in my boat, and should any palaver come up, they were to let it sleep till my return, and I would settle it after hearing both sides. All agreed to this.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 2.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 11, 1870.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, November 30, 1869.

TWO black agents have charge of the Glasgow and Liverpool factories at Benito. The trade is chiefly india-rubber, with ebony, redwood, and palm-oil. African india-rubber is obtained from a creeper, and the native mode of extracting it kills the vine invariably. A few years ago it grew near the factories; now they have to go far into the bush for it. Bushmen collect it and sell it to the Benito men, who sell it to the agents. Ebony and redwood also recede from the coast year by year. An American Presbyterian mission is doing a good work at Benito. Happily there was no palaver to settle. I told King Bobinji and his Chiefs that I should return in six months, and they were to allow no one to wrong the traders or the missionaries.

Batta has two young white agents, and a trade similar to that of Benito, with the addition of a little ivory. The natives are quiet and friendly. A few black sub-agents are found at different points on this coast, most of whom have been educated by the American missionaries. They do not sell rum. Our white traders would have fewer palavers with natives, less trouble with drunken sailors and captains, and buy as much, if not more, were they to discontinue the sale of rum also. Many of the most experienced of the agents wish that not a drop of rum came to the coast.

A Liverpool house has a white agent at Batanga. Ivory is the sole article of trade. The myth of the happy valley, where the good elephants die and leave their tusks, is an article of faith in the Bulunjo mind. It is, however, many moons' distance in the interior King John, the rum-bibber, is dead, and his sober son Toko is King. A product called "odika," said to be the kernel of a nut, is used in cooking by the natives all along the coast from Gaboon to the Camaroons. Many of the traders use it for cooking, and find it nearly all oil. It is brought to the traders in a round shape, not unlike a cheese. I advised the trader who showed me a specimen to send it home to be analyzed. All the traders assured me that this visit would tend greatly to preserve peace, as the natives would see that Her Majesty's Government cared for the traders and watched over their interests.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 3.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 11, 1870.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, December 1, 1869.

REFERRING to your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Wilson of the 7th May last, requesting further information regarding four Articles of the Treaty of 1862, cancelled as obsolete by the new Agreement of the 3rd of February last, I have the honour to state that I brought the subject before the Calabar Court of Equity on the 10th ultimo, and learned that Article XV had been "broken constantly by every agent in the river. No one ever refused to give trust if there was a tolerable prospect of its being paid, and some went even beyond this, though aware that they did so at their own responsibility."

All agreed that it would be better for trade to retain Article XV in the Treaty, provided its observance could be enforced; and as there was no penalty for a breach of Treaty by a white man, they desired an additional Article like this: "For a breach of any Article of this Treaty by an Agent, Her Majesty's Consul shall impose a fine of not less five and not more than fifty puncheons saleable palm oil." But as I have no power to fine a white man this could be of no use. The merchants at home value Article XV, and insert its last clause in every Agent's Agreement. Its violation has caused such heavy losses of late that some of the merchants threaten to dismiss their agents if they find them giving trust.

No objection was made to Article XVI, except that from 40,000*l.* to 50,000*l.* worth of trust had been given out on the supposition that it was cancelled. This would indicate that it had not become obsolete, but has kept back a deluge of trust. The Agents were surprised to learn that these Articles remained in the Treaty until permission was obtained from Her Majesty's Government to cancel them.

Articles XX and XXI are obsolete "because there are no certificated pilots now." None but white pilots are employed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

AFRICA. (Consular)—*Bight of Biafra.*

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No. 4.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 11, 1870.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, December 3, 1869.

A CHANGE in the mode of reckoning comeys is a result of the use of steam in the oil trade. By Treaty the comey was 2s. 6d. for every ton of the trading ship's registered tonnage; but as trading ships have nearly ceased to come to Bonny and Old Calabar, the Kings demanded, and the agents agreed to pay, 2s. 6d. for every ton they shipped by steamer. In Old Calabar, where half the comeys on registered tonnage was paid, according to treaty, to Creek Town for the privilege of trading, some agents object to pay Creek Town on oil they ship by steamer, because they have no trade with Creek Town or its people. Creek Town, five miles above Duke Town, is in a state of decay. All the hulks are at Duke Town. These agents pay the 2s. 6d. on oil sent by steamer to Duke Town because their trade is with the people of Duke Town, and they wish to be on the best of terms with them. They are willing, however, to pay Creek Town comeys on registered tonnage, as required by treaty.

Others of the agents, with whom Creek Town people trade, are willing to pay both towns on oil shipped by steamer.

The missionaries in Creek Town aver that the spirit of the Treaty requires comeys to be paid to Creek Town on oil shipped by steamers, as well as on registered tonnage.

As the comey was paid to Creek Town "for the privilege of trading," when the trade was chiefly in the hands of Creek Town people, and as these agents trade only with Duke Town, and do not seek the privilege of trading with Creek Town, it is difficult to see that Creek Town has any just claims on this new comey.

I told the agents that I should submit the question to Her Majesty's Government, and let them know its decision when obtained.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 5.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 11, 1870.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, December 4, 1869.

IN an interview with King Archibong and his Chiefs on the 11th ultimo, I stated that the agents complained of numerous thefts from their cask-houses by Calabar thieves. "Let the agents catch the thieves and bring them to me, and I will punish them," replied the King. I suggested that the King employ policemen to catch the thieves. "No thieves would enter the cask-houses," he said, "if the agents kept Calabar watchmen instead of Kroomen;" but the agents held exactly the opposite opinion. The King maintained that the Kroomen were the thieves, and sold the stolen goods to the people of the town. It was at length agreed that the King should have every Krooman found in town without a peculiar silk umbrella supplied by the agent seized, punished, and sent back to his ship, and the King was to be responsible for the safety of the cask-houses.

In order to aid the growth of a correct public opinion which is struggling for existence, I told the King and his Chiefs that it would gratify Her Majesty's Government to hear of a change in two of the Calabar customs. Merchants come here to sell cloth and missionaries to preach to your people, and I regret to hear that some poor women who want to go to church are forbidden to wear decent clothing. Archibong replied that they would be allowed to wear a suitable dress to go to church, but slave women were not to dress like free women.

Then there is the law which imprisons widows after the death of the husband. "An ancient custom and perfectly proper," said the King; "and the imprisonment lasts only one month, or at most two months, until the devil-making is finished:" but the agents and missionaries reminded him of many instances where the imprisonment was for years, and that it was generally from one year to four. Archibong remarked that his mind was full of devil-making just then, but that on my next visit he would be free to talk on these matters.

When told that it had been decided to retain Article XV in Treaty, the King said with a sneer, "White men won't keep that Article: if I should go on board any of their ships to-morrow, I could get as much trust as I chose to ask for." Archibong wished

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Bight of Biafra.*

Accra men to get passports from the Chairman of the Court of Equity, for the steamer, as they carried off his slaves. I made no objection.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 6.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 11, 1870.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, December 4, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to report that I returned to Bonny on the 12th ultimo, and found the Bonny chiefs, Manilla Pepple, and Ada Allison in grave doubt as to whether they were the victors or the vanquished.

It seems that the apparently defeated Annie Pepple had only talked of peace in order to gain time. He has now established himself in the Andoney country, with the entire control of the Creeks, which lead to some of the best oil markets, and asks the agents to open up trade with him through the Andoney River. All his people are with him, not one has deserted. Oko Jumbo thought Annie Pepple would return to Bonny if the Consul and Court of Equity assured him that ships would not come to trade with him in the Andoney. I replied, that the majority of the agents wished Annie Pepple back in Bonny. His House owed them a thousand puncheons of "trust," nor did they care to be at the expense of new establishments in the Andoney. Some, however, might go to the Andoney. Two Brass agents intended to go; one had crossed the bar already in his long-boat, and even if English agents did not go to the Andoney, foreign agents would if there was oil to be bought. In the negotiations they were about to open with Annie Pepple, they must make him very liberal offers to induce him to return, otherwise Bonny would sink to the condition of a third or fourth-rate African Kingdom instead of being a first-rate, as they have regarded it. Had they known what they do now, they would never have fought with Annie Pepple.

I reminded the agents that I could not guarantee protection to any who chose to go to the Andoney; its bar was so shallow that a man-of-war could not cross it, and so bad that the lives of Her Majesty's naval officers and men would be endangered by attempting it in boats. If they went to trade there, it must be at their own risk.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

P.S.—No white man is to pass through the Bonny Creek to the Andoney.

No. 7.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 22, 1870.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 26th of November last, reporting what passed at your interviews with the Chiefs of New Calabar and Brass regarding the hostilities between the two tribes, and in approving your proceedings in this matter I have to instruct you always to use your influence to put a stop to these wars between the different Native Chiefs.

In cases where treaties exist which bind the Chiefs to submit their differences to Her Majesty's Government before having recourse to hostilities, you will insist upon the strict observance of these obligations. When such treaties do not exist, you will offer your good offices in settling the dispute, and you will be justified in stating that the party who first resorts to force will incur the serious displeasure of Her Majesty's Government.

These remarks also apply to the war in Bonny, which I regret to learn is not yet at an end, and which should be stopped as soon as possible.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 8.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 24, 1870.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 1st ultimo, explaining the reasons of the proposal to cancel Articles 15, 16, 20 and 21 of the Agreement of the 7th of May, 1862, between the supercargoes and native traders of Old Calabar.

These reasons, as given by the Court of Equity, are, that the first two Articles, which are directed against the system of "trust," are constantly violated by all the agents in the river, who are always prepared to give credit to the natives and to incur the responsibility and risk attaching to such proceedings.

I have to state to you in reply that these reasons are insufficient, and that Her Majesty's Government cannot lend any encouragement to a revival of the system of "trust;" but, on the contrary, hold the supercargoes and natives to the due fulfilment of the Articles of the Agreement upon this point.

If you are unable to enforce a compliance with these engagements by fining the traders who violate them, you can at all events make it generally known that if they persist in a system which Her Majesty's Government entirely disapprove, they do so at their own risk, and that they will receive no support or assistance in obtaining the repayment of such advances to the natives.

You will therefore inform the Court of Equity that I only sanction the new Agreement on the understanding that Articles 15 and 16 of the old Agreement are retained; but I have no objection to Articles 20 and 21 being cancelled, as I learn from your despatch that they are now obsolete.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 9.

Mr. Otway to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 24, 1870.

LORD CLARENDON regrets to learn from your despatch of the 29th of November, that the Court of Equity at the Cameroons is not working well, and that its decisions are not respected.

These Courts, as established by Treaty, are under the protection of Her Majesty's Consul, and their decisions are subject to his approval. They are the proper tribunals for the settlement of disputes between natives and traders, and it is very important that they should not be allowed to become useless from a want of proper organization, or that their decisions should be treated with contempt. You will, therefore, endeavour to have the Court in question placed on a proper footing.

Lord Clarendon also entirely approves your language and warning to the agents in the Cameroons regarding their dealings with the natives, as well as your remarks as to the impolicy of their paying a fine which had been levied by the orders of Her Majesty's Government upon the chief, Charley Dido; and I am to instruct you to state, that if British agents and traders thus thwart the views of Her Majesty's Government, or neglect to observe strictly the provisions of treaties, it will make the task of protecting them very difficult.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

No. 10.

Mr. Otway to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 24, 1870.

LORD CLARENDON has received your despatch of the 3rd ultimo, submitting to the decision of Her Majesty's Government a question regarding the payment of the comey tax, that has arisen in consequence of the employment of steamers in the oil trade, and the attraction of the greater portion of the trade from Creek Town to Duke

Town. You have already been desired by my despatch of the 1st instant to come to an understanding with the Chiefs regarding the payment of this tax, as Lord Clarendon thinks it can more easily be settled by an arrangement on the spot between the traders and the Chiefs, subject to your sanction; but his Lordship considers that the object of the Treaty clearly was to secure the payment of the comey tax to the King or Chiefs of the district traded with, as the price of the privilege of trading.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

No. 11.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Livingstone.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, April 8, 1870.

MY attention has been seriously called to the present state of affairs in the River Bonny, resulting from the quarrels of the rival Chiefs, and the interference of Her Majesty's Government has been urgently asked for to restore peace and to prevent the trade of the River from being destroyed.

I think the circumstances justify Her Majesty's Government in acceding to this request, and I have therefore arranged with the Admiralty for your conveyance in a gun-boat to Bonny for the purpose of mediating between the rival Chiefs.

On your arrival there you will forward the inclosed letters from me to Ja Ja and the other Chiefs, and invite them to meet you on board the vessel which conveys you to Bonny, or at any other neutral place that you may select, for the purpose of referring their quarrel to your arbitration, and you will endeavour to effect an arrangement which will be satisfactory to all parties, and secure the permanent peace of the district; you will also endeavour to conclude a written Agreement with all the Chiefs, binding them in future, under penalty, to submit their quarrels to the mediation of Her Majesty's Consul before proceeding to hostilities.

In the improbable event of either of the contending parties declining to attend your summons, or to abide by your arbitration, you will threaten the party whom you consider to be in the wrong with the serious displeasure of Her Majesty's Government, and you will inform them that, as Her Majesty's Government cannot permit the trade of the river to be continually obstructed, they will have to consider what further steps they should take to restore peace; but I trust that there will be no occasion for your having to resort to such a threat, as I wish your intervention to be confined to friendly mediation.

I inclose copies of the letters sent to me by the Chiefs, and copies of my replies, and I have only further to desire that you will furnish me with a full report of your proceedings in this matter, together with any suggestions which, in the event of the failure of your mission, you may have to offer as to future proceedings. I desire also to know whether there are many foreign traders in the river, and how far a blockade would affect their interests and those of British merchants.

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Jaja, late Chief of Bonny, now Chief of the Andony Country, to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

Opobo, January 31, 1870.

WE trust you will not deem our addressing you out of place. Your Lordship will please to remember that all our trade has for many years been carried on with your country, and that a Treaty has existed betwixt both countries in which the interest your country takes in our affairs is expressly implied, in particular the clause in the Treaty which imposes a heavy fine on the first Chief beginning a war in our country.

We beg, therefore, to inclose for your Lordship's consideration copies of correspondence previous to the war in our country (Bonny), which will, we hope, convince your Lordship that Manilla Pepple's people were the aggressors, and that we fought only when forced against our countrymen, compelled either to continue fighting or tamely submit to see the ruin of our house and people. We have, instead of either alternative, withdrawn ourselves from the Bonny territory, entered into and formed an alliance with the Andony country, of which country we now form a part.

White men, in all our former wars and quarrels, have been held neutral, and could always pass unmolested from one place to another, or wherever met with. Your Lordship,

we believe, will view with displeasure any permission granted for the destruction of your countrymen. Mr. Livingstone has, we learn from many people, given permission to Manilla Pepple's people to fire into and destroy any ships, boats, or white men visiting or residing here. This partiality has surprised us, at the same time we believe it to be a single man's act.

We beg to assure your Lordship, however, no injury is likely to occur from Mr. Livingstone's permission, as Manilla Pepple's people cannot enter the Andony.

We are, &c.

(Signed for and by permission of Jaja, or Annie Pepple),

(Signed)

JAJA,

Per A. MACEachEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

Mr. Valentine to Manilla Pepple and his House Chiefs, King Pepple, and other Chiefs in Bonny.

Gentlemen,

Bonny, September 9, 1869.

I AM instructed by this Court to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this date, requesting us to remove our ships down the river in three days' time.

In reply I have to inform you that we hold you responsible for all and every damage done to the property that may be left behind on the beach.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

T. V. VALENTINE,

Chairman of the Court of Equity.

Inclosure 3 in No. 11.

Mr. Moore to Annie Pepple.

Sir,

Bonny, September 7, 1869.

IN accordance with a promise contained in our letter of the 1st instant, I have to inform you that, owing to the information received, this Court has met to-day and protested to the King and Chiefs against all fighting or hostilities in any shape.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE M. MOORE,

Acting Chairman, Court of Equity.

Inclosure 4 in No. 11.

The Chief Jaja (Annie Pepple) to Mr. Valentine.

Sir,

Mininnah, September 9, 1869.

I RECEIVED your letter stating that all ships had to be removed in three days' time. I knew nothing about it until I received your letter; but, if the Manilla and King Pepple houses sent a letter to the Court to say the ships had to be removed (and if they should persist in fighting, which I do not wish myself), I will not be responsible for any property belonging to white men in the river.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

JAJA.

Inclosure 5 in No. 11.

Chief Jaja (Annie Pepple) to the Members of the Court of Equity.

Gentlemen,

Minnimae, August 31, 1869.

I BEG to inform you that during the last four days all the men trading, &c., in Eboe belonging to Manilla Pepple and Adda Allison houses have returned from there to Bonny. Those belonging to my house, on seeing them all leave Eboe, and not knowing the reason,

except being told by Eboe men that they were going to Bonny for the purpose of attacking my house, have followed and arrived here to-day. The King may inform you that the men belonging to my house had been called together first from Eboe, for the purpose of attacking the other house (Manilla Pepple). My reason for informing you of this is, that a clause in our last Treaty states that the first house that calls their men together to fight has to pay a heavy fine.

I herein certify that not one of my house men were called from Eboe for that purpose, but returned without my orders on seeing the other house men all leaving for Bonny.

I have no wish to commence fighting and break the Treaty, but if attacked by the other house will resist.

For some time past I have not stayed in Bonny town, but lived at Minnimae, so that I might be away from beside the other houses, and save any palaver that might spring up between us if together. But still they are taking the step I have above stated, although I have no palaver or dispute with any of the men belonging to either house.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAJA.

Inclosure 6 in No. 11.

King George Pepple to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

Bonny Town, February 17, 1870.

AS true and rightful representative of the Bonny nation, I beg leave most respectfully to address you on their behalf, regretting that my first few lines to you in this shape should be based on no better subject than that of bloodshed, namely, civil war. To enter into every detail would be a loss of time, pen, paper, and ink, moreover irksome, therefore I shall suffice it by merely naming the headings, and lay the cause of my complaint before your Lordship as briefly as possible.

Since my accession to the throne of my ancestors I have strictly kept to promoting peace and prosperity, unity and industry, adding to these Christianity and commerce, and in the delivery of my offices as a King in these countries I have been particularly circum-spect. During the three years past I have stopped and settled three several civil outbreaks in this country, the last of which was from the 30th of December, 1868, to the 20th of January, 1869, on which occasion Her Majesty's Acting Consul, Frank Wilson, Esq., rendered me his assistance and presence in bringing matters to an amicable termination. A few days after settlement of that dispute I was called upon by the Chiefs to draw out a new set of rules and regulations, which, having been drawn, was first signed by myself and Chiefs, and then ratified by Her Majesty's Consul, Frank Wilson, Esq., and Commander Parry, of Her Majesty's ship "Speedwell," and the Chairman of the Bonny Court of Equity. This having been done, Consul Wilson took his leave of us, promising to represent my exemplary conduct to the home authorities.

These laws and regulations have been violated and broken by the Chief of Annie Pepple's house, named Jaja, through which a civil fight has ensued between the Manilla Pepple's house and the Annie Pepple's house, wherein Jaja, or Annie Pepple, has been totally defeated.

Terms of arbitration had been offered Jaja, and he was on the point of coming to agreement, when two young men, Messrs. Macacaen and De Cardi, persuaded Jaja not to yield to arbitration, and incited him to run to Andony, where they would bring vessels round to him, and supply him with ammunition, provisions, goods, &c. Faithful to their word and promise, two small vessels, which they have taken, are now lying off the E-kom-torroo. These two parties thus prolong this dispute, to the great detriment of the benefits of this country, as well as incur immense injury to the interests of all the British merchants trading in this river.

Wherefore, and in consequence of which, I pray that your orders be given insisting upon these parties abandoning the E-kom-torroo and Andony rivers; in fact, to abandon all communication with Annie Pepple, and thereby cease to hinder the Bonny people and nation from settling their own country palavers.

Furthermore, through this civil war quarrels are speedily brooding in the interior between Manilla Pepple's adherents and Annie Pepple's adherents, and those above-named rivers not being under the Treaty stipulations.

I do hereby protest, to all intents and purposes, that I cannot be held responsible for any vessel or vessels going to the E-kom-torroo or Andony, or for any goods or cargo

AFRICA. (Consular)—*Bight of Biafra.*

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carried up there, nor for the life or lives of any British subject or subjects who venture themselves up to the place of Jaja's retreat.

We due respect, I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. PEPPLÉ, REX, *Bonny.*

We, the Undersigned, agree to the above.

(Signed)

MANILLA PEPPLÉ, his X mark.
 ADDA ALLISON, his X mark.
 SQUEEZE BANIGO, his X mark.
 LONG JOHN, his X mark.
 FINE COUNTRY, his X mark.
 DICK TULLEFARE, his X mark.
 WILL COX, his X mark.
 ANTONIO, his X mark.
 OKO JUMBO, his X mark.
 CAPTAIN HART, his X mark.
 JACK BROWN, his X mark.
 J. WILSON PEPPLÉ, his X mark.
 OKO EPELLEH, his X mark.
 DUBLIN GREEN, his X mark.
 GEORGE GOODHEAD, his X mark.
Chiefs of Bonny.

Inclosure 7 in No. 11.

The Earl of Clarendon to Jaja (Annie Pepple).

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 8, 1870.

THIS letter will be forwarded to you by Mr. Livingstone, Her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po, who has been specially deputed by Her Majesty's Government to proceed in one of Her Majesty's vessels to Bonny to proffer his peaceful mediation for the settlement of the civil war between your house and that of Manilla Pepple which has so long disturbed the peace of the River, inflicted serious injury upon its flourishing trade, and given Her Majesty's Government deep concern.

I have duly received the letter which you wrote to me on the 31st of January last, in explanation of the causes of this unfortunate quarrel, which, as you state, has led you to leave the Bonny territory and establish yourself in the Andony country, and protesting against the alleged partiality shown to Manilla Pepple's party, and, in reply, I have to inform you that I have received a similar complaint from Manilla Pepple's party of assistance rendered to you, and I would assure you, as I have assured them, that Her Majesty's Government do not countenance any interference by British subjects in the quarrels of the native Chiefs.

At the same time I would earnestly advise you and your party to listen to the friendly counsels of Her Majesty's Consul, which will be dictated by a sincere desire to effect such an equitable arrangement as will be satisfactory to all parties, and secure the permanent peace of the River. With this object, Her Majesty's Consul will invite you to meet the Chiefs of Manilla Pepple's party on board Her Majesty's vessel, or at any other convenient neutral place, and I trust that you will not fail to attend this meeting, and that a satisfactory arrangement may be arrived at.

I have only to add that, as Her Majesty's Government are convinced that a continuance of the present state of affairs in the Rivers will ruin the trade and destroy the peaceful industry of the natives, the party who wantonly prolongs it will incur their serious displeasure; but Her Majesty's Government confidently expect that you will lend your cordial co-operation towards an amicable settlement of the quarrel.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

Inclosure 8 in No. 11.

The Earl of Clarendon to King George Pepple.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 8, 1870.

THIS letter will be delivered to you by Mr. Livingstone, Her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po, who has been specially deputed by Her Majesty's Government to proceed in

CLASS A.

one of Her Majesty's vessels to Bonny to proffer his peaceful mediation for the settlement of the civil war between the houses of Manilla Pepple and Annie Pepple, which has so long disturbed the peace of the river, inflicted serious injury upon its flourishing trade, and given Her Majesty's Government deep concern.

I have duly received the letter which you and the other Chiefs of your party wrote to me on the 17th of February last, in explanation of the causes of this unfortunate quarrel, and protesting against your being held responsible for the safety or property of any British subject who may go to the Andony, where the Chief Jaja has taken up a position, assisted, as you state, by two Europeans, and, in reply, I would assure you that Her Majesty's Government do not countenance any interference by British subjects in the quarrels of the native Chiefs.

At the same time, I would earnestly advise you and your party to listen to the friendly counsels of Her Majesty's Consul, which will be dictated by a sincere desire to effect such an equitable arrangement as will be satisfactory to all parties, and secure the permanent peace of the River. With this object, Her Majesty's Consul will invite you to meet Jaja on board Her Majesty's ship, or at any other neutral place that may be convenient, and I trust that you will not fail to attend this meeting, and that a satisfactory arrangement may be arrived at.

I have only to add that, as Her Majesty's Government are convinced that a continuance of the present state of affairs in the River will ruin the trade, and destroy the peaceful industry of the natives, the party who wantonly prolongs it will incur their serious displeasure; but Her Majesty's Government confidently expect that you will lend your cordial co-operation towards an amicable settlement of the quarrel.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 12.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, March 16, 1870.

HAVING heard that a British brig had been fired at in the Andoney by canoes supposed to belong to Bonny, I visited Bonny, in returning from Whydah, to inquire into the matter.

The Chiefs had not heard of it; and as the supercargo of the brig was uncertain, and had declined to make a formal complaint, I simply warned the Chiefs that, as the Andoney was neutral, they must on no account fire on English vessels there, as punishment would surely follow.

At a meeting with Chiefs and Court of Equity next day, March 7th, inclosure No. 1 was read. I remarked that I was unlucky. They blamed me for being on Jaja's side, and Jaja accused me of being on their side. I wished the welfare of all, and would be heartily glad if I could get them reconciled and prosperous as before. Oko Jumbo, the real ruler of Bonny, thanked me. He did not mean to charge me with being partial.

As inclosure No. 1 was written by King George, who had not been present at our interviews since the fight, and was not a translation, as he pretended, of what his Masters, the Chiefs, had said, I paid no further attention to its inaccuracies.

With regard to the Andoney, the Chiefs claim that it belongs to them, as also the Compatarra, and their claim seems to be well founded. A paper dated December 22, 1846, was produced, in which the Andoney people cede their country to Bonny, and the Chiefs declare that they have exercised sovereignty over Andoney ever since. All the supercargoes in Bonny at that time were witnesses, as their signatures attest, to the fact of the transfer, and the genuineness of the deed. A copy was promised for Her Majesty's Government. I had never before heard that Andoney belonged to Bonny, and still cautioned them against firing on English vessels there.

These vessels, I said, go to the Andoney solely to buy oil. If your canoes can stop the oil on its way through the creeks, these vessels will soon leave the Andoney, and no offence will be given to Her Majesty's Government. "But we cannot seize the oil in the creeks; and if we allow ships to go to the Andoney Bonny is ruined, as Jaja has command of all the creeks leading to the oil markets. White traders must not enter the Andoney. We will do all in our power to drive them away. We cannot sit still and be ruined."

None of the Bonny traders go to the Andoney. Only two Brass traders, eager for present gain, and reckless of the injury they are inflicting on the merchants and trade of

Bonny. If they could be stopped Jaja's supplies would be completely cut off, and he would soon be compelled to come to an amicable arrangement.

It can be no advantage to trade to open the Andoney. It will be but another road to the oil markets, inferior to that of Bonny, to the same markets. Not a puncheon more oil will be obtained, as there are no new oil markets to visit. With the Andoney opened merchants will have to keep up two establishments to get the same amount of oil heretofore obtained by one establishment in Bonny.

If allowed to go to the Andoney, these two Brass traders are likely to prolong the war, and destroy the trade of Bonny for years. Fighting is now going on in the oil markets.

I found inclosure No. 2 on my return to Fernando Po, March 10, and have written inclosure No. 3 to the two Brass traders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

The Chiefs of the Manilla House to Consul Livingstone.

Dear Sir,

Bonny Town, March 7, 1870.

YESTERDAY, about a little after midday, a man-of-war arrived here about a couple of hours after yourself and captain landed on the beach at Oko Jumbo's house. After the usual courtesies being paid, you inquired into the state of the country, as well as the war between us and Jaja. You informed us that M. Charles de Cardi told you that he was nearly shot by our war canoes men in a boat while in the Andoney River, also that Jaja had invited you to come over and see him. At the same time you asked whether there was no other road to our fairs or oil markets, without having to pass where Jaja was stationed. To all of these queries we gave you the requisite answers as satisfactorily as we could. After a pause, you then forbade any white men, ships, boats, or specie to be fired at while in the Andoney and Ecom Rivers. We promised we would see you on board the following day, but being somewhat awkward with regard to speaking English, and not knowing how to convey our thoughts suitably, we beg leave most respectfully, and have endeavoured to set forth in this letter all our opinions and resolutions as regards this war in Bonny between us and Jaja and his party, which has greatly impeded the progress of the trade carried on between us natives and the Europeans in our river.

In the first place, we wish to inform you as regards the cause of this fight or war, and how matters stood from the 13th of September, 1869, up to this present date. You may recollect that a similar war like this threatened about January last year, and it was through the vigilance, untiring zeal, and efforts of King George that it was brought to a favourable decision. After this we lived peaceably for some time till the great fire that broke out in April 7th last, which destroyed about three quarters of the town, including many of our houses, effects, and property, as also those of Jaja and his party. We began building our houses, &c., when, one day, Oko Eppelleh informed us all (the Chiefs of both the Manilla and Annie Pepple's sides being present) that Jaja had taken sixty niggers from him, and refused to deliver them up. We accordingly inquired into the matter, and found the same to be true. Thereupon we demanded that Jaja should give up the men, as, by allowing that, it would be a violation of the treaty made in January 1869 between the two houses, which declared every Chief to be free and have his own head and niggers. Jaja refused. What with the twisting and turning here and there, the tricks he played us, as well as the Europeans, all which, if noted, would tire you to read, matters stood thus until the latter part of August last, when Jaja went and built, or rather fortified, a stronghold, with men, muskets, cannons, powder, and other stores, about 4 or 5 miles from Bonny town, just in the Thermopylæ, as we may so call it, of Bonny. We, foreseeing his intentions, fortified another opposite to his. So it was until the beginning of September. It was about a week after that we knew that Jaja intended to have it out with us. He fortified himself both by sea and land, about three days previous. We seeing that, began on our fortifications, as some of the Europeans in our river could testify to. On the 13th of September last, during the absence of King George to a small country, the fight commenced. We fought for the whole of the 13th and part of the 14th, when Jaja, in consequence of his being overpowered by our numbers, ran away with his men to Jya-Minima, Minima, Oloma, Eppelama, and Elawma, all small countries belonging to the Bonny territory.

We were just on the point of pursuing the fugitives, to try and hem in Jaja and his party, so that famine would ensue, and all of them be brought to bay and parley with us

(had it been so, the palaver would have been long settled, about a month or so after its commencement), when the Europeans told us to cease and leave off pursuing him. A little while after Jaja wrote a letter to the Court of Equity, informing them that he had been beaten, tired, and was now ready for a settlement of the palaver. The Europeans, on the strength of this, again forbade us to have anything more to do with him, but to try and see what way the matter would be settled. We accordingly began by sending messages to him and he to us, until, about ten days or so after the fight, he ran away to Andoney with half part of the inhabitants of Bonny, and with a debt of about two thousand (2,000) puncheons of palm oil to the supercargoes in our river. At the same time deceiving them that he would not run away to please anybody, and would act very honourably, as he was greatly indebted to them. He thus made a fool of the Europeans, and we are all left to see about ourselves, after he has blocked up all the roads for oil. It appears, from all we could gather, see, and hear of, that one or two of the Europeans trading in our river had made a bargain with Jaja, telling him if he went to Andoney he would get supplies of cargo from them, and they oil from him, for it was not scarcely a month or so after his absconding to Andoney that two trading vessels went to that river, and have been there up to this time. We beg leave to add that it was through the efforts of Messrs. Stelling, de Cardi, and McEachen that Jaja is still standing and able to keep with our arms. It went so far that Mr. Stelling himself confessed that had it not been for him the palaver would have been settled, and put his signature to an agreement that if we paid him 200 puncheons of palm oil he would bring Jaja back to Bonny. So far about this war and the incidents connected with it.

With regard to your queries and order in the former part of this letter, we beg leave most respectfully to say we have no quarrel, neither would wish any, with Europeans. It has ever been our praise not to touch or kill any white men. We have a fight with Jaja and his party, and if any white man assist or aid him, directly or indirectly, with ammunition or other stores, we shall not stand security for any such white man's safety. You, the Consul, command that we must not touch any white men in the Andoney or Ecom Rivers. Is it possible? One would think you would tell the traders to come from that river, as it is a battle-field so to speak, and any man who persists to stay there would only be making himself a target or shield to cannon balls, &c. If you tell us not to touch white men, nor molest any boats, canoes, specie, &c., you make Jaja by far superior to us. He, who had tricked all the white men, proved false to them, and who has been the great drawback to the settlement of this palaver, to be thus allowed quarter. We think such to be partial, and will on no account agree to the same. Had it not been that we honour Europeans, the Queen's flag, as well as Her Most Gracious Majesty, think you we would listen to anything the Europeans said? Had it not been for that, would Jaja run away and leave us thus? Impossible! We told them not to interfere, they would not, and this is the fruit of all. And in bare face of all this we are told to stand responsible for any white man's safety. How is this? We protest against any such. If any harm is expected, please tell the traders there to leave the two Rivers Andoney and Ecom, and we continue our fight with Jaja. If the crows don't go near the windmill the windmill would have no occasion to trouble or hurt them. Is this the return for our constance and all our attentions in listening to what the supercargoes said? While Jaja, who has made null and void his declaration of not running away, has gone to live in peace and quiet in Andoney, preventing us to go to our oil market. We will not have it. We will rather die than see such things done. If you, the Consul, are able to settle the fight between us and Jaja, try and do so with all God's speed, if not, leave us natives to ourselves, without aiding them.

To show another instance of the respect we have for the supercargos, after the fight we were the first to go to the Eboe markets to see about our boys, cargos, &c. After we came back, Jaja petitioned to send his people down. We refused until we were persuaded by the white men to let him go. Had we known that things would turn out thus we would not have agreed to Jaja's going down to the fair, and we would be in power of the position he now holds. Our boys, palm oil, canoes, &c., are all now in the Eboe, and the supercargos are troubling us for their debts, and where are we to get oil?

For this reason, we are the more urgent that Jaja should not be countenanced any longer, nor provided with further supplies.

Furthermore, when last in Bonny, we informed you all about the fight, and told you that Jaja had cut off all communications between us and the Eboe, as also that we would have to go to Andoney and fight him there, and if any white man or property was lost we would not be answerable. Same time you warned the members of the Equity Court of this. You were also informed that since then some white traders have gone to the Andoney and Ecom Rivers to trade with Jaja, more especially assisting him with powder and guns,

&c. As this entirely stops our trade in Bonny, for with such supplies Jaja could not be brought to terms, we therefore have respectfully to inform you, and request that you give notice afresh to white traders in the Andoney River, that we will from this date use every endeavour to stop all trade in Andoney and Ecomterro Rivers, and, however much we would regret any injury to white men or their property, we will not hold ourselves accountable for same, as by their assisting Jaja in the way they are doing now they are ruining us in Bonny.

With due respects, we have, &c.

The Chiefs of the Manilla House,

(Signed)

MANILLA PEPPLE, his X mark.
 OKO JUMBO, his X mark.
 CAPTAIN HART, his X mark.
 ADDA ALLISON, his X mark.
 OCCO EPELLEH, his X mark.
 SQUEEZE BANIGO, his X mark.
 FINE COUNTRY, his X mark.
 LONG JOHN, his X mark.
 JACK BROWNE, his X mark.
 J. W. PEPPLE, his X mark.
 DUBLIN GREEN, his X his mark.
 DICK TULLIFARE, his X mark.
 WILLCOX, his X mark.
 GEORGE GOODHEAD, his X mark.
 ANTONIO, his X mark.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12.

The King and Chiefs of Bonny to Consul Livingstone.

Dear Sir,

Bonny Town, February 19, 1870.

WHEN last in Bonny we informed you that Annie Pepple, *alias* Jaja, had ran away to Andoney and had stopped all communication between Bonny and Ebo, and we told you that we would have to go to Andoney and fight him, and if any white men or property was lost we would not be answerable (at the same time you warned the members of the Court of Equity of this); since then two white traders from Brass have gone to Andoney by way of the "E-kom-torra," and are now trading with Annie Pepple and assisting him with cannon, powder, &c.; as this entirely stops our trade in Bonny, we have respectfully to inform you and request you to give Messrs. De Cardi and McEachen notice that we will from this date use every endeavour to stop all trade in "Andoney and E-kom-torra" Rivers; and however much we would regret any injury to white men or their property, we will not hold ourselves accountable for same, as by their assisting Jaja in the way they are doing they are ruining us in Bonny. Craving you to favour us with an early reply,

We are, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. PEPPLE, REX., *Bonny.*
 OKO JUMBO, his X mark.
 CAPTAIN HART, his X mark.
 MANILLA PEPPLE, his X mark.
 ADDA ALLISON, his X mark.
 JACK BROWN, his X mark.
 J. WILSON PEPPLE, his X mark.
 LONG JOHN, his X mark.
 FINE COUNTRY, his X mark.
 DUBLIN GREEN, his X mark.
 WILL COX, his X mark.
 OKO EPELLEH, his X mark.
 DICK TULLIFARE, his X mark.

Inclosure 3 in No. 12.

Consul Livingstone to Messrs. De Cardi and McEachen.

Sirs,

Fernando Po, March 16, 1870.

IN my recent official visit to Bonny, March 7, in Her Majesty's ship "Pandora," the Chiefs claimed that the Andoney and Compatarra belonged to Bonny, having been ceded by the people of Andoney in 1846, as witnessed by all the supercargoes then in Bonny.

The Chiefs added, that they would not allow vessels to trade in these rivers, and would do all in their power to drive them away. I have therefore to warn you of this, and request that you will avoid the risk of entering these rivers until the views of Her Majesty's Government can be ascertained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 13.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, March 17, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Jaja, late Bonny Chief. It was written for him by Mr. McEachen, Brass agent. The charges of cruelty against the Bonny Chiefs were scouted by them with indignant contempt. On my first visit to Bonny, after the fight, I wished an interview with Jaja, then four or five hours distant, but the Chiefs objected—they were afraid that some of their outlying people might fire on the boat when I came back; they would have the path safe for me; but when I returned Jaja had made his masterly movement, and was elated by the prospect of having a trade opened up through the Andoney. The Chiefs and traders, as well as myself, felt convinced that it would be labour lost to visit Jaja at that time. At present both parties are bent on continuing the fight, and the prospects of peace are not bright. Jaja is a long day from Bonny, through numerous creeks. If his supplies could be cut off from Andoney, an amicable settlement would be comparatively easy. A steamer of shallow draught is much wanted for the duties of this Consulate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Jaja, Bonny Chief, to Consul Livingstone.

Dear Sir,

Opobo, February 15, 1870.

I SEND you greeting. I know you come for Bonny for man-of-war two times, but you never come for see me, nor send any book for me, and that both time you come you talk for Manilla side, you no send me any news. That time you come for "Roquelle" I send you book telling you that since all my houses in Bonny were burnt down, I would not attend any more of their meetings there, at the same time I would attend any meeting you might call time you live, and them book tell you I put all my property into your Queen charge. When Manilla side want war white man bring me book for show me. I tell all these white men then. Well, its your palaver now, me I do want to fight. I stand for my country and tell all my people not to fight; not six man kill altogether for them Bonny war.

Now Manilla's side carry them war for Jo Jo town kill all the little pickaninies they can find that never yet get their teeth. Catch women that have belly, rip them up, and take the unborn child and cut its head off, and do plenty all them worse fashion, plenty white men for Bonny see them thing for him eye suppose he will talk true.

Plenty time that time I see your face I tell you I no fit for stand for Bonny. Now all the same Manilla people want to kill all my people. and make palaver all time for me I dont remember, better I clear away for Bonny country altogether. I very thankful now I clear away altogether. Long time treaty live first man begin fight for Bonny must pay plenty fine and expense. Now I don't know what all these white men living in Bonny jam head for tell you. You cannot know suppose they tell you true or not. Suppose you hear news Oko Jombo done clear me away and that trade must soon be all right for Bonny

again, no believe all these mouths. Now all must be sorry for them palaver. I done left Bonny for myself no man make me go. That time you come for Bonny Manilla people tell you you no have any business for this palaver, we fit for settle it meself. I am thankful he tell you so. So now you no have anything for do for this palaver. But which way you give Manilla people mouth any white man coming to see me you let him shoot him. I am very sorry for hear that. Which way you do so. I remember you be my good friend, and throw myself for you all same you be my father.

I live very proper for this country, fine ground, fine chop, fine trade. We no remember no hand for war any more, no more for keep people away from we country. We have plenty play every day. I hope you are very well, and that you will write me a letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAJA.

No. 14.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, March 19, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith letter from Benin agents, with copy of reply.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 14.

Messrs. Minns, Ackers, and others to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Benin River, February 18, 1870.

We, the Undersigned, being merchants and agents in the above river, beg to inform you of the death of Governor Jerry, which took place on the 8th instant, and we respectfully request that you will visit this river at your earliest convenience to appoint a new Governor, as that is essentially necessary, not only for the protection of our merchants' and own interests, but also for the welfare of the natives generally.

(Signed)

ALFRED MINNS, *Agent for Messrs. Chas. Horsfall and Sons.*

HARRY A. ACKERS, *Agent for Joseph Thompson, in absence of Mr. H. Moore.*

T. J. MANTON, *for J. H. Souche and Co.*

WM. H. DAVIES, *for Jones Brothers and Murphy, in absence of T. J. Murphy.*

HUGH C. CLARKE, *Agent for Stuart and Douglas.*

AARON ELLIS, *Agent for Thomas Harrison and Cc.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

Consul Livingstone to Messrs. Minns, Ackers, and others.

Gentlemen,

Fernando Po, March 19, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of February 18, informing me of the death of the Chief Jerry, and requesting me to visit the Benin, "to appoint a new Governor," or Chief; and in reply I beg to state that I hope to be able to visit the Benin in June, but fear that the work you have laid out for me is beyond my power.

Absence on duty has prevented an earlier reply.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, March 24, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the Treaty which ceded the Andony to Bonny, referred to in my despatch of the 16th instant, also a letter from King George Pepple, who has recently sailed for England. He claims to be the "rightful representative of the people of Bonny," and "acknowledged and present King of Bonny and its Dependencies," but the Chiefs do not appear to regard him as King. During my three recent visits, Oko Jumbo was real ruler. King George was not even present at the first two, and at the last took no kingly part in what was said. So far as regards Europeans, King George is merely a "comey collector," and none of the agents have the slightest respect for him. He visits them for the "comey," and to beg a piece of salt beef, or pork, or a little biscuit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Treaty between King Pepple of Bonny and the Chiefs of Andony.

ARTICLE I.

FROM the date of this document the natives of Andony shall be considered as subjects of King Pepple, and shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges as the Bonny men.

ARTICLE II.

The Andony men bind themselves not to have any communication whatever with Young Calabar or Creeka country; if, on the contrary, such communication is held, the person or persons so offending shall be subject to such punishment as King Pepple shall choose to inflict. But should Young Calabar or Creeka men bring provisions to Andony for sale, the Andony men shall be allowed to buy the same; but, under no circumstances or pretence whatever, shall Young Calabar or Creeka countrymen retail in the Andony.

ARTICLE III.

No marriages between Andony, Young Calabar, and Creeka country will be allowed.

ARTICLE IV.

When the Andony men make their great ju-ju, the natives of Bonny promise to give them arse-cloths, caps, rum, &c.; and when the Andony men come to receive the above, they promise to present the Bonny men with some dried fish.

ARTICLE V.

The Andony men further promise that when desired by the King of Bonny to catch fish for public feasts they will do so.

ARTICLE VI.

They, the Andony men, also promise not to destroy the guano, but to allow the animal liberty the same as in Bonny.

ARTICLE VII.

Should there be war between Bonny or any other power, the Andony men promise to supply war canoes, well-fitted out and ready manned, in order to assist the Bonny men. If the Andony men should be short of canoes, guns, or ammunition, the Bonny men will supply them with the same. Further, if any other country should in any wise molest the Andony men, the Bonny men bind themselves to interfere and act in the same manner as they would were it their own country.

ARTICLE VIII.

Each party (namely) the Andony and Bonny men, mutually agree and bind themselves that for the future they will not eat human flesh.

ARTICLE IX.

The Andony men also promise to supply Bonny canoes with men to assist in pulling to the fair.

ARTICLE X.

That in case of any dispute arising between any two parties, natives of Andony, King Pepple is to be informed of the same, and that he (the King) will send a competent person (without charge) to settle the matter.

ARTICLE XI.

The Andony men bind themselves to pay Jeujeu Guano 800 manillas.

ARTICLE XII.

Should the Andony men kill any elephants, they are to present the teeth thereof to King Pepple, and should the Andony men at any time be short of muskets or powder, King Pepple will supply them.

ARTICLE XIII.

In case of any shipwreck, and should any white man, under whatever circumstances, get into the power of the Andony men, they (the Andony men) are immediately to transfer them to King Pepple without injury.

Andony signatures :—

Chiefs' Names.	Country.
OTO OBOLCOOCANA } ..	Ayanda.
BREYA ..	
ABEREDAM ..	Ungo.
EBORILLA ..	
ABALACOO ..	Asserama.
SOOCOO ..	Ereyama.
AMABARRAA ..	
OTRONGBALLA } ..	Corro.
EPARACONG ..	Ayangala.
OBROONEE ..	
INKA ..	Egoolé.
AYAGA ..	
ACACCA ..	Allabea.
ENUTTOO ..	
ABOLUM ..	Elletoombe.
ECREEGUEBO ..	Okendo.

The forenamed Chiefs have sent representatives, whose marks are affixed below, to ratify the above-named Treaty.

Representatives' names :

OTEBONG, his X mark.
 SANGA, his X mark.
 AMABARRAY, his X mark.
 EGOO, his X mark.
 OBGOLOTOO, his X mark.

Bonny signatures :

PEPPLE, REX.
 ANNIE PEPPLE, his X mark.
 MANILLA PEPPLE, his X mark.
 JACK BROWN, his X mark.
 AMATTA DAPPA, his X mark.
 ALLISON, his X mark.
 CAPTAIN HART, his X mark.
 BLACK FOOBRA, his X mark.
 JEUJEU TIGER, his X mark.
 JOHN AFRICA, his X mark.
 WILL PEPPLE, his X mark.
 JEUJEU TEBFAR, his X mark.
 INDIAN QUEEN, his X mark.
 TOM TOM, his X mark.

Witnesses :

(Signed) JOHN ANGUS WARD, "*Princess Royal.*"
 CHARLES CALVERT, "*Wm. Batiford.*"
 WILLIAM KELLY, "*Huskisson.*"
 G. H. S. WITT, "*Swiftsure.*"
 GEO. W. BOND, "*Fanny.*"
 WILLIAM OWEN, "*B. Packet.*"
 ARTHUR T. P. CUTTING.
 PETER JACOBSON, "*Warwick.*"

Dated this 22nd December, 1846, in the Ju-ju House, or Parliament House, Grand Bonny.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

King Pepple to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Bonny Town, March 7, 1870.

AS promoter of all British interests, as head of this community, as true, hereditary, and rightful representative of the people of Bonny, and as acknowledged and present King of Bonny and its dependencies,—

I beg most respectfully to forward you herewith copy of Treaty made between my late father King People and the Andony nation, in which they the King and Chiefs of that country submit themselves to be Bonny subjects, and acknowledge all their country Bonny territory.

Now, as Jaja has refused to come to any reasonable terms, but has gone up the river, and has stopped and intercepted the resources of Bonny river, I have to request that you give notice to Messrs. Charles de Cardi, McEachen, and all other European traders, to remove their ships from the Ecomtarra and Andony Rivers, and cease holding any communications, supplying, or rendering Jaja any more assistance for the future; and however so much I would regret the loss or injury to British subjects or property, yet I cannot hold myself responsible for any such as hazard themselves up to the seat of Jaja's retreat.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. PEPPLÉ, REX.

No. 16.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, March 31, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a second note I have written to the two Brass agents who are trading in the Andoney and Compatarra or Opobo, and supplying the Chief Jaja with guns and ammunition.

The mail steamers now call at these rivers with goods, and receive oil on freight. The large steamers lie outside the bar. A small steamer, the "*African,*" belonging to Messrs. Taylor and Laughland, of Glasgow, went to these rivers recently, and towed a brig over the bar.

Two other firms intend to go into these rivers. As the merchants seem determined on this, the war between the Bonny Chiefs and Jaja is likely to continue.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Consul Livingstone to Messrs. de Cardi and McEachen.

Sirs,

Fernando Po, March 31, 1870.

TO my note of March 16th, informing you of the determination of the Bonny Chiefs to drive trade and traders from the Andoney and Compatarra, I have to add, that if you enter these rivers, and fire on the Bonny people, you will be guilty of piracy; and if you kill any of them, you will be guilty of murder, crimes Her Majesty's Government will certainly not overlook.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Bight of Biafra.*

19

No. 17.

*Mr. Otway to Consul Livingstone.**Foreign Office, May 12, 1870.*

Sir,
 WITH reference to your despatch of the 19th of March respecting the appointment of a successor to the Chief Jerry, of Benin, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to state that he leaves the matter in your hands, and that he is prepared to concur in the selection of any proper person of whom you may approve.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 18.

*The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Livingstone.**Foreign Office, May 13, 1870.*

Sir,
 I HAVE received your despatches of the 16th, 17th, 24th, and 31st ultimo, reporting the state of affairs at Bonny and the Andoney, where, it appears, that Jaja, assisted by his two agents from Brass, maintains his strong position, and continues to intercept the oil trade with Bonny.

I trust that the instructions sent to you in my despatch of the 8th instant may lead to a satisfactory settlement of the quarrel between the Chiefs, but I wish you to make it publicly known that Her Majesty's Government entirely disapprove of any interference on the part of British subjects in the quarrel, or of any action which may tend to prolong the present state of affairs.

They consider that the best way of bringing the rival Chiefs to their senses is to cease trading with either party until peace is concluded between them, and you will use your best endeavours to effect an arrangement of their dispute as soon as possible.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) CLARENDON.

P.S.—Since this despatch was written I have seen King George Pepple, who has come to England to endeavour to settle these questions, and I have informed him of the nature of the instructions I have sent you. I have also received a copy of a letter from Commodore Dunlop, dated the 1st ultimo, stating that he had offered to mediate between the contending parties, and I trust shortly to hear that matters have been satisfactorily settled at Bonny.

No. 19.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 16.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, April 4, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith reply from two Brass agents in the Opobo (Compatarra); also copy of Circular to the traders in this Consular district.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Messrs. de Cardi and McEachen to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Opobo River, April 3, 1870.

YOURS 16th and 29th ultimo to hand together, per steam-ship "Biafra," 30th ultimo. We are quite astounded at the tenor of your favours, more especially the 29th ultimo.

We will fully consider the contents. In the meantime we beg to state that we have been trading here now since 21st December, 1869; that sailing-vessels, also a steamer, has been inside here delivering and receiving cargo, and that a regular communication is now opened betwixt this port and England. The steamers and mails calling off this port delivering and receiving cargo.

Also we have thousands of pounds in property here and ashore, factories established, &c., and that during the whole time we have been here we have never either heard nor seen any of the Bonny people other than Annie Pepple's house.

Regarding the Andoney there is some gross imposition, and we are sorry you did not further enquire before believing the Bonny that Andoney and Compatarra belonged to them. We know that the Andoney are and always have been strictly allied to New Calabar, and never would at any time hold any communications but the very scantiest with the Bonny.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES DE CARDI.
A. McEACHEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

Circular addressed to the English Traders in the Oil Rivers, &c., of Biafra and Benin.

Gentlemen,

Fernando Po, April 4, 1870.

AS the Bonny Chiefs have made known their determination to drive all traders from Andoney and Compatarra (Opobo) Rivers, claimed by them as belonging to Bonny; and as they are now waging war with Jaja near or upon these rivers, I hereby warn you against entering these rivers. If you go into these rivers it must be entirely at your own risk, as, under present circumstances, Her Majesty's Government can give you no protection.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Note addressed by Commodore Dowell to Consul Livingstone.

"Rattlesnake," off Bonny, April 3, 1870.

WHEN I first went into Bonny several of the agents came to me with Mr. Cotterel, the Chairman of the Court of Equity, and told me that they felt sure that Oko Jumbo and the other Chiefs here would be glad to offer Jaja reasonable terms to make peace, but that there was no person who could open negotiation with him, and they begged me to do so for them, as from my perfectly neutral position Jaja would believe that I did so in good faith. I therefore consented to attend a meeting on board the "Equity Hulk" yesterday to hear what terms Oko was prepared to offer before I decided what I would do. When I went to this meeting I found that they had not the slightest intention of settling the matter in any other way but by fighting; but Oko was very anxious that I should prohibit the merchants from entering the Opobo, which, of course, is not my business in any way, but I believe that that river is in the Andoney country, as I think it will be found that many of the Chiefs who signed the Andoney Treaty belong to that district. Oko also wanted me to say that he should not be blamed if any harm came to the English in the river, which, of course, I would not do, but I did tell the merchants that under the present circumstances they must fully understand that they have entered the river at their own risk, and if they suffer either in life or property they must not expect to obtain redress from our Government or protection from us. I think that I should advise you to send a circular letter round to all the rivers to let the merchants know that there is fighting going on in the Opobo, and if they go in and come to any harm, they must do so at their own risk, that we are not prepared to protect them.

I do not know what your instructions may be in dealing with a matter of this sort, but it appears to me that if we are to remain neutral the traders ought to be told so, and whether the Opobo belongs to the Bonny people or no, we cannot prevent their fighting there, and harm might come to the English ships if they are in the way. I believe that not only are there a number more of the agents gone or going into the Opobo, but they are selling arms, &c., to Jaja.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) W. M. DOWELL.

No. 20.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Livingstone.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 23, 1870.*
 SINCE my despatch of the 13th instant was written I have received through the Admiralty a copy of a despatch from Commodore Dowell, dated the 3rd ultimo, reporting the failure of his attempt to mediate between the contending Chiefs of Bonny, and I have also received a letter, of which copy is inclosed, from King George Pepple, deprecating any attempt at interference as useless until Jaja has been driven away from the Andoney.

I presume that the failure of the Commodore will have prevented you from acting upon the instructions contained in my despatches of the 8th ultimo and 13th instant; and under present circumstances I wish you to refrain from interfering in the matter unless a more favourable opportunity presents itself, and you think your intervention would be successful.

I regret to learn that British subjects have been taking part in this quarrel, by furnishing Jaja with arms and ammunition, and I wish you to make it publicly known that Her Majesty's Government entirely discountenances and disapproves of the interference of British subjects between the rival factions.

I approve the Circular which you addressed to the traders of Biafra and Benin, warning them not to enter the Andoney and Opobo Rivers while the war lasts, but you will endeavour to prevent the Bonny Chiefs from injuring British property in those rivers.

I inclose a copy of my reply to King George Pepple's letter.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

King Pepple to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord, *Lingfield, Surrey, May 16, 1870.*

YOUR letter dated May 13th reached me this morning. I beg to thank you for copy of letter addressed by yourself of April 8th to me at Bonny, as also the two inclosures Nos. 3 and 4, that Mr. Thwaites sent you on the 10th instant, and will thank you at your convenience to order return of Nos. 1, 2, and 5 documents.

I fear from the tenour of your letter of April the 8th, and the one received this morning, that you do not quite understand the true position of my visit to England. I am not seeking any help or assistance, or even advice how to govern my country, by armed power or otherwise, but to ask the British Government to stay the English traders from supplying the rebel Jaja with ammunition to murder Bonny subjects when on their way to carry on their legitimate trade.

I have no doubt, and feel that we shall have no difficulty, in settling Jaja if British interference is put a stop to, as I am quite sure that the English traders have only one object in view, that is, to put money into their pockets. As a confirmation of this I must refer you to inclosure No. 5 in Mr. Thwaites' letter, Mr. Stelling Horsfall's agent showing that he would have sold Jaja for the small sum of (200) two hundred casks of palm oil.

With respect to Jaja's being placed on board a British vessel with the object of an interview with myself and Chiefs for a settlement of the disturbance that he, Jaja, has been the cause of, under the protection of the British flag, Jaja being to all intents and purposes a rebel to his country, and can only be treated as such, it will be on part of Her Majesty's Government a recognition of he and his party having a right to further dictate, having, as he may suppose, the English protection, which I must protest against.

You express regret at my absence from Bonny when your letter of the 8th April might arrive in my country. I cannot join you in that, as I feel that I could only meet the traitor Jaja down on his knees before my Chiefs and myself to settle matters in our own way. Any good offices or advice that could be tendered to Jaja I can only hope may be received in the right spirit.

In referring you to my letter of the 17th February you will there see that in the retreat of Jaja he was assisted by a few of the English traders, and had assistance from them, or it would have been impossible for him to stand out, as in himself and his supporters he was thoroughly beaten.

I must make your Lordship thoroughly to understand that my people, the coloured,

being of a peculiar character, are difficult to understand; and their affairs can only be settled by themselves and in their own way; therefore must assure your Lordship that for Her Majesty's Consul to interfere in the way in which you suggest would only prolong the difficulties now pending, as the rebellion that has been existing for so long can only be permanently settled by myself and nation; and if, as I said before, that Her Majesty's Government will do its duty by calling upon all British subjects for non-interference in the support of rebels and rebellion, I have no fear of a speedy settlement of all matters in dispute.

I claim the same laws of nations as all Europeans. Though an African by birth I have been educated in this country, and am therefore acquainted with civilization, manners, and customs, and have sought, both before and since my accession to the throne of my ancestors, to inculcate good moral laws amongst my people, though, as your Lordship must be aware, these matters are not brought about in a little time. Any help that Her Majesty's Government are able to give me in the way of vessel or vessels to intercept the nefarious trading of English merchants, &c., I shall be obliged for.

Your Lordship, in answer to my letter of the 17th of February, expresses deep concern to the great injury done to trade and commerce of Bonny, and you assure me that Her Majesty's Government do not in any way countenance any interference by British subjects in the quarrels of the Government of Bonny. If this be truly the case the matter is very simple, and you can (though not undo the great injustice done to myself and people) reverse the acts committed by the English traders. Give letters of instruction that any one found to assist Jaja or any other rebel or rebels may be seized and brought to justice by the laws of Bonny, or handed over to be punished according to English law, and that no British subject henceforth hold any communication with Jaja or his party. A written document to this effect signed by your Lordship, instructing Her Majesty's Consul or any one acting for or on behalf of the British Government in the affairs of the Bight of Biafra, and copy of the same signed by your Lordship and addressed to myself or my agent, Mr. Thwaites, as soon as convenient, will place this matter in the right position.

I trust that this communication will be sufficiently plain that your Lordship may fully understand my business with your office.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. PEPPLÉ, REX.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20.

The Earl of Clarendon to King Pepple.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 23, 1870.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that the interference which Her Majesty's Government contemplated in the affairs of Bonny was limited to the friendly mediation of Her Majesty's Consul to put an end to a war which is ruining the trade and prosperity of the place. They wished to offer no further advice, and certainly no assistance to either party.

It appears, however, from your letter, and from a report lately received from the Commanders on the West African Station, that the Chiefs of Bonny refuse to listen to any offer of mediation between them and Jaja, and Her Majesty's Government will therefore refrain, at all events for the present, from any further interference in that matter.

I had already desired Mr. Livingstone to make it publicly known that Her Majesty's Government entirely discountenance and disapprove of British subjects taking any part in this unfortunate quarrel; and Her Majesty's Consul has addressed a Circular to the British traders of Benin and Biafra warning them not to enter the Andoney and Opobo rivers during the continuance of the war.

Her Majesty's Government have thus done all in their power to insure a strict neutrality on the part of British subjects in this war; they trust it may be put an end to as quickly as you expect, but they fear that in any case it will materially injure the trade and prosperity of Bonny, in which they take the greatest interest. I beg leave to return the inclosures in your letter of the 10th instant for which you have asked.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 21.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 3, 1870.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 23rd ultimo, I inclose a correspondence with certain British merchants in this country, upon the subject of the present state of affairs in the Rivers Andoney and Opobo, from which you will learn that they are apprehensive of danger to British life and property in those rivers from the attacks of the Bonny Chiefs.

I have already instructed you to endeavour to prevent the Chiefs from molesting the property of British subjects established in those rivers, and you will, of course, protect them from personal injury or violence; and, if necessary, you are authorized to ask for the assistance and support of a ship of war for this purpose.

Her Majesty's Government desire to remain perfectly neutral in this quarrel, but they cannot permit British lives to be endangered or British property to be needlessly destroyed by either of the contending parties.

I also inclose copies of a further correspondence with King George Pepple upon this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 21.
Messrs Miller and Co. to the Earl of Clarendon.

May it please your Lordship,

Glasgow, May 24, 1870.

WE, Alexander Miller, Brothers, and Company, merchants, of 56, Brunswick Street, Glasgow, and trading in the Compatarra or Opobo River, in the Bight of Benin, Western Africa, have learned with regret that Her Majesty's Consul for Fernando Po and the Bight of Biafra has issued a Circular, dated 4th April, 1870, addressed "to the English traders in the Oil Rivers, &c., of Biafra and Benin," intimating that Her Majesty's Government cannot give protection to traders entering the Andoney or Opobo Rivers, because of the Bonny Chiefs having made known to Her Majesty's Consul their determination to drive all traders from these rivers, on the plea that they belong to the Bonny nation.

May it therefore please your Lordship to take into consideration the following statements:—

In or about September 1869, the Bonny nation divided into two separate parties, the first and most powerful remaining in Bonny under their Chief, Okoe Jumbo, the second and weaker party withdrew from Bonny and established in the Andony country, bounded on the east by the Opobo River, under their Chief Ja Ja.

On or about the 20th November, 1869, we, along with another English firm, entered the Opobo River for the purpose of trade, and were welcomed by the natives, who were anxious to open trade with Europeans.

From that time until the date of our last advices, 16th April, 1870, we have continued to trade in the Opobo River with the Andony people on the west, and the Qua people on the east, and have always found the natives friendly and anxious to continue trade with us.

The Opobo River is the most direct approach from the sea to the Great Eboe fairs and palm-oil markets, and is navigable for vessels of moderate burden. The river flows along the western boundary of the Qua country so far as the Andony country extends inland, after which its course inland is entirely through the Qua territory.

Our factories are established on Qua territory.

The Qua nation have granted Europeans the full liberty to trade or reside on this river.

The Bonny people threaten to molest us and to drive all Europeans out of the Opobo River.

We therefore respectfully request your Lordship to grant to our factories and people numbering 180 British subjects, Her Majesty's permanent protection against the Bonny nation so long as the Qua and Andony people are willing to trade with us and the other English firms in the Opobo River; or, at any rate, to grant us Her Majesty's protection against the Bonny nation until the statements we herein submit for your Lordship's consideration are fairly examined.

We inclose with this a document given by Egoo, King of Egwanga and Qua country,

granting to Europeans the right of trade upon the Opobo River, and also a letter addressed to your Lordship, from the British residents in the Opobo River, and signed by Archibald MacEachen for himself and the others.

We also hand, for your Lordship's perusal, a copy of Consul Livingstone's Circular, referred to by us.

Archibald MacEachen, who attests the signature or mark of Uko, is our agent at Opobo, and D. C. Williams, who attests the signature or mark of Ecquoroquo, is master of the brig "Adelaide," of Liverpool, both being, to our knowledge, persons of good character, and their statements reliable.

May it therefore please your Lordship to consider the danger with which Her Majesty's subjects at Opobo are at present threatened, in consequence of the withdrawal of the protection of Her Majesty's Government, and to grant them temporary protection until the facts of the case have been ascertained.

We remain, &c.
(Signed) ALEX. MILLER, BROTHER, AND Co.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Grant of Right to Trade by King Egoo.

WE, Egoo, King of Egwanga and the Qua country, bordering on the River Compotora, or Opobo, herein grant to Europeans the full right to come into this our country, to remain or to leave, to trade, or for any other peaceful purpose; and we herein pledge ourselves to protect the Europeans now here, or any others, against any parties or people attempting to molest them.

Witness our hand this 10th day of April, 1870.

Signed by Uko, for his father Egoo,
UKO, his ✕ mark.

Signed by Ecquoroquo, for his King,
ECQUOROQUO, his ✕ mark, Acpquau.

Witness for Ecquoroquo, Acpquau,
(Signed) ARCHIBALD MAC EACHEN.

Witness for Uko, for his father Egoo,
D. C. WILLIAMS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 21.

Circular addressed by Consul Livingstone to the English Traders in Oil Rivers, &c., of Biafra and Benin.

Gentlemen,

Fernando Po, April 4, 1870.

AS the Bonny Chiefs have made known their determination to drive all traders from the Andoney and Compotora (Opobo) Rivers, claimed by them as belonging to Bonny, and as they are now waging war with Jaja, near or upon these rivers, I hereby warn you against entering these rivers. If you go into these rivers it must be entirely at your own risk, as, under present circumstances, Her Majesty's Government can give you no protection.

Inclosure 4 in No. 21.

Mr. Philpotts to the Earl of Clarendon.

May it please your Lordship,

Liverpool, May 26, 1870.

I, RICHARD PHILPOTT, of 2, Alexandra Buildings, Liverpool, and trading on the West Coast of Africa, more particularly on the Compotora or Opobo River, Bight of Benin, have been shown copy of a Circular issued at Fernando Po, April 4th, 1870, and signed by Her Most Gracious Majesty's Consul, Charles Livingston, and addressed to the various traders in the Bights of Biapor and Benin. As follows:—

"Gentlemen,

"British Consulate, Fernando Po, April 4, 1870.

"As the Bonny Chiefs have made known their determination to drive all traders from the Andoney and Compotora or Opobo Rivers, claimed by them as belonging to Bonny, and

as they are now waging war with Jaja, near or upon these rivers, I hereby warn you against entering these rivers. If you go into these rivers it must be entirely at your own risk, as, under present circumstances, Her Majesty's Government can give you no protection."

"I am, &c.

(Signed)

"CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

"To the English Traders in the Oil Rivers, &c.,
of Biafra and Benin."

Now, may it please your Lordship, I beg to state that, to date of my last letters dated 17th April, 1870, and received per "Athenian" 21st May, 1870, to my knowledge no such announcement had been made to my trader, or any one working in conjunction with him in said River Compotora; and further, that to best of my information said traders were not, nor have they at any time since opening of trade on the Compotora, been in territory belonging to the Bonny people. And I submit for your Lordship's consideration the following agreement, signed by native King, on whose territory I believe our factories to be:—

"We, Ego, King of Egwanga and the Qua country, bordering on the River Compotora, or Opobo, herein grant to Europeans the full right to come into this our country, to remain or to leave, to trade, or for any other peaceful purpose; and we herein pledge ourselves to protect the Europeans now here, or any other, against any parties or people attempting to molest them.

"Witness our hand this 10th day of April, 1870."

"Signed by Uko, for his father Ego,

"Uko, his ✕ mark.

"Signed by Ecquorogus for his King,

"ECQUOROQUO, his ✕ mark, Acpquau.

"Witness for Ecquoroquo, Acpquau,

(Signed)

"ARCHIBALD MAC EACHEN.

"Witness for Uko, for his father,

"D. C. WILLIAMS."

Thus your Lordship will see that I have had the right of trade allowed me, and to my knowledge one other European house, Messrs. Alex. Miller Bros. and Co., of Glasgow, as we were the two first to enter the Compotora in November 1869, when we received great welcome from the natives, with whom we have, and continue to do, a large trade.

Under these circumstances, considering the facts to be as I and Messrs. Alex. Miller Bros. and Co. have them, I humbly submit to your Lordship that the issue of such a Circular amongst semi-savages will give them the idea that they may do and act as they like to any one so trading in or upon the Compotora; and as the number of Europeans amounts to about 180, and the amount of our goods and produce is very large, I most humbly request your Lordship to give instructions that may enable those subjects and their property (of Her Majesty) to receive such protection as becomes the Government of Great Britain, for at least such time as may be required for your Lordship to be more fully posted as to the facts.

May it please your Lordship to give due consideration to the danger to which our traders and those under them are now exposed, in consequence of the withdrawal of the protection of Her Majesty's Government.

I remain, &c.

(Signed)

RICHARD PHILPOTT.

Inclosure 5 in No. 21.

The Earl of Clarendon to King George Pepple.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 3, 1870.

IN reply to your letter of the 24th ultimo, I have to express my regret that I cannot furnish you with a copy of Consul Livingstone's Circular to the British traders to which you refer, but I have to inform you that it contains a warning to the traders not to enter the Andony and Opobo Rivers during the continuance of the present war between the Chiefs of Bonny and Jaja.

In approving this Circular, I have at the same time instructed Consul Livingstone to protect British subjects, and to use his utmost endeavours to prevent the Bonny Chiefs from molesting their property.

CLASS A.

I think it right at the same time to observe, with reference to that part of your letter which professes to quote the substance of my communication to you of the 23rd ultimo, that you have entirely misquoted me when you make me state that "Her Majesty's Government would put a stop to British subjects giving support to Jaja or any of his party, and that no British vessels would be permitted, under any circumstances, to enter the Andony, E-kom-torra, or Opobo, or any of the rivers that can communicate with the rebels."

There is no part of my letter which would justify the above quotation, and I must request that, in any communication which you may make to the Chiefs in Bonny, you will take care that my correspondence with you is correctly quoted.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 22.

Mr. Otway to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 8, 1870.

WITH reference to the despatch from this Department of the 3rd instant, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you copies of a further correspondence with certain British merchants in this country upon the subject of the present state of affairs in the Rivers Andoney and Opobo.

I am also to inclose copies of a further correspondence with King George Pepple upon this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 22.

Mr. Otway to the Secretary to the African Association.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 7, 1870.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, containing a Resolution passed at a meeting of the African Association, proposing, with reference to the present state of affairs in Bonny, that a survey be made of the rivers between Bonny and Old Calabar, and that the same protection be extended to British subjects engaged in trade at Opobo or Compatarra as is now afforded to them at Bonny. You also call attention to a Circular recently issued by Her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po, warning traders not to enter the Andoney or Opobo Rivers during the continuance of the war between the Chiefs of Bonny, and to the mischievous results which are likely to arise from it.

I am to inform you, in reply, that on hearing of this unfortunate quarrel between the Chiefs of Bonny, and foreseeing its disastrous results to trade, Lord Clarendon endeavoured to put a stop to it by the friendly mediation of Her Majesty's Consul; but as this offer has been rejected, Her Majesty's Government cannot interfere any further, at all events for the present.

His Lordship has therefore instructed Her Majesty's Consul to warn British subjects against interfering or assisting either of the contending parties in this quarrel; and the warning is the more necessary because Lord Clarendon has received reports from various quarters that Jaja has been assisted by certain British subjects, and, if these reports are true, Lord Clarendon cannot but disapprove such proceedings.

Lord Clarendon has approved Consul Livingstone's Circular to the traders, to which you refer, warning them not to enter the Andoney or Opobo Rivers during the continuance of the war, but he has at the same time been instructed to use his utmost endeavours to protect the lives of British subjects, and to prevent the Bonny Chiefs from molesting British property established in those rivers.

Beyond this, I regret to say, Her Majesty's Government cannot interfere, more especially as the Andoney country appears to have been formally ceded to the Chiefs of Bonny, and Lord Clarendon trusts that you will use your influence to dissuade British subjects from interfering in any way in the quarrel, or from persisting in trading in the rivers during the continuance of the war.

I am to add that the question of the proposed survey of the rivers must at all events be postponed until after the cessation of hostilities.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Bight of Biafra.*

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Inclosure 2 in No. 22.

King Pepple to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

Lingfield, Surrey, June 4, 1870.

IN reply to your letter of the 3rd instant I have to express my regret that you cannot furnish me with a copy of Consul Livingstone's Circular, but I am obliged to you for the information it contained in warning the traders not to enter the Andoney and Opobo Rivers during the continuance of the present war between the Chiefs of Bonny and Jaja.

I am glad you approve of this course, and that nothing may occur to prevent its being carried out, trusting that your instructions may further be based upon this to the Consul and the Commodore, that there may be no failure in the way of interference by vessels belonging to the British entering those rivers during the continuance (as you state) of the war, and shall be glad to hear from you to that effect.

No fear need be entertained of any harm occurring to the English if this is done.

In quoting the substance of your communication of the 23rd ultimo I regret that you should have misunderstood me, as my only desire was to give expression to what I consider the spirit of your letter, viz., that it is the desire of Her Majesty's Government—non-interference on the part of the Queen's subjects.

In referring to my communications with my own people I have taken, and shall do so, great care where I have to speak of any correspondence with yourself not to mis-quote anything that you may have said; and in sending out instructions to my people, a copy only was to be forwarded to the British Consul and the Commodore of your Lordship's letter of the 23rd ultimo.

I will thank your Lordship for an immediate reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE, REX, *Bonny.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 22.

The Earl of Clarendon to King Pepple.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 7, 1870.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, and to state in reply that I am unable to give you any further information than has already been communicated to you regarding the instructions issued by Her Majesty's Government for the guidance of their authorities in the neighbourhood of Bonny with reference to the present state of affairs there.

The substance of these instructions is, as you have already been informed, that British subjects have been warned not to interfere between the contending parties, and not to enter the Andoney or Opobo rivers until matters are settled, and that Her Majesty's Consul is to protect the lives of British subjects and their property from wanton injury.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 23.

Mr. Otway to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 23, 1870.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 3rd instant, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you herewith copies of a further correspondence with Messrs. Miller and Co. and Mr. Philpotts, respecting the position of affairs in the River Opobo, and the assistance alleged to have been given by certain British subjects to both parties.

It appears that the war is as much promoted by rival British agents as by the African Chiefs, and I wish you therefore to inquire into and furnish me with a report upon the proceedings of English traders and their agents in the rivers and at Bonny, and you should also warn them that if they supply arms and ammunition in any shape to the contending native Chiefs, it will be impossible for Her Majesty's Government to afford them that protection to which they otherwise would be entitled.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 23.

Messrs. Miller and Co. to the Earl of Clarendon.

May it please your Lordship,

Glasgow, June 14, 1870.

WE duly received your Lordship's despatch of 3rd June in reply to our letter of 24th ultimo, wherein we claimed the permanent protection of Her Majesty's Government for British property, life, and trade established in the Opobo River, and temporary protection against the threatened attack of the Chiefs of Bonny.

We exceedingly regret that reports prejudicial to our agent, Mr. McEachen, should have reached your Lordship, especially as the reports referred to are not correct.

Mr. McEachen entered the Opobo River only for the purposes of trade, with the remains of a Brass River trading cargo, consisting of salt, tobacco, rum, cloth, earthenware, glassware, shooks, iron, &c., and 140 or 160 common fuzee and long dane trade guns, valued about 2,000*l*. He had neither gunpowder, cannon, nor shot. Since that time till date of last advices he had received only ordinary trading supplies, including about 400 fuzee and long dane guns, and an ordinary supply of gunpowder, but no cannon or cannon shot. He had also received 20 rifles and 5,000 cartridges, not for trade, but protection of ships and property. Your Lordship can readily, from the above facts, ascertain to what extent Mr. McEachen has assisted Jaja.

On the other hand, it is a matter of deep regret to us that the English traders at Bonny have been rendering Oko Jumbo every possible assistance and encouragement in his attacks upon Jaja, and the proposed blockade of the Opobo River.

It is a fact well known to African merchants that the English traders at Bonny had taken steps to buy a steamer which lay for sale at Lagos, so that therewith Oko Jumbo could blockade the Opobo River and molest the traders there. Fortunately the steamer was sold a day or two before the arrival of their agent, so that in the meantime that danger is averted.

In compliance, however, with your Lordship's recommendation, we have sent Mr. McEachen instructions by the "Lagos" steam-ship to retire from the Opobo River to a river four miles eastward until he knows the result of the intended visit of Her Majesty's Consul Livingstone to Jaja at Opobo.

Meantime we pray your Lordship to continue your protection of British interests at Opobo, as we cannot help being alarmed at the threats of Oko Jumbo, backed up as they are by energetic assistance of the English traders at Bonny.

We remain, &c.

(Signed) ALEX. MILLER, BROTHERS, AND Co.

Inclosure 2 in No. 23.

Mr. Philpotts to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

June 18, 1870.

IN having the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd of June, 1870, in reply to my letter of the 26th ultimo, I beg to observe it was received during my absence from Liverpool, having been on the Continent on business.

Your Lordship is aware that the opening of the Opobo River has been very detrimental to the old-established firms in the Bonny River. That having been the case, they have naturally been led to circulate such reports as they thought would impede its continuance, and to endeavour, if possible, to mislead Her Majesty's Government on the subject.

On the commencement of the war between the Bonny Chiefs my agent went from Brass with a general African cargo, and which has been replenished by only such cargoes as are customary for trade on the coast. Very lately only, at the special request of my agent, I shipped a few cannon, round and canister shots; whether for his protection, or for the assistance of Jaja, I cannot say. But should it even have been for the latter purpose, it is a fact well known that all the Bonny traders have been assisting Oko Jumbo in every way. They sent to Lagos to purchase a steamer to enable him to blockade Opobo and destroy the trade of that river. Fortunately the steamer was sold a few hours before their order reached its destination, and thus, for a time at least, their intentions were frustrated.

Therefore, assuming that my agent should have furnished the Chief Jaja with munitions of war, he would have done so with no other view, of course, than that of protecting his own interests against the initiative taken by his competitors in the Bonny River.

Under the above-mentioned circumstances, I beg your Lordship to allow me to hope that the British mercantile interest in the Opobo River will be considered by Her Majesty's Government as entitled to every protection and solicitude.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD PHILPOTTS.

No. 24.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 28.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, May 23, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a note received from Chairman of the New Calabar Court of Equity, with copy of reply, and of note of supercargo of steam-ship "Myrtle."

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 24.

Mr. Hopkins to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Court of Equity, New Calabar, May 20, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to bring to your notice that a Court of Equity has been re-established in this river, and to request you will have the goodness to recognize and establish it officially, in order to protect the interests of British subjects.

The steam-ship "Myrtle" belonging to Messrs. Holland, Jaques, and Co., of Lagos, is at present anchored near the east bank of this river, a few furlongs below Calabar Town, and three or four miles above the shipping. It has been pointed out to the King that this is a direct breach of the Treaty made with the natives by the late Consul Beecroft, which ordered that, for the safety of the lives of Europeans, no ship should be permitted to anchor near these deadly swamps. The King seems inclined to break this Treaty, and as it is of vital importance that it should not be broken by this ship being allowed to remain there, I have to suggest that your presence with a ship-of-war, as soon as possible, is necessary; if one ship is permitted to anchor near the town for trade purposes others must follow, and we shall have a repetition of the horrors of some few years ago, when the properties of British merchants in this river were left to the safe keeping of natives,—all, or nearly all, the Europeans having been carried off by an epidemic caused by the deadly malaria arising from these very swamps.

I have further to request that you will have the goodness to forward me a copy of the Treaty alluded to, as it is necessary for me to guard it with the other books and papers connected with this Court.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DAVID HOPKINS,
Chairman of the Court of Equity.

Inclosure 2 in No. 24.

Consul Livingstone to Mr. Hopkins.

Sir,

Fernando Po, May 23, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of 20th instant, and to state that I hope to visit New Calabar shortly in a gun-vessel, when the Court of Equity can be officially recognized, and copies of all existing Treaties supplied.

Please forward the inclosed note to the supercargo of steam-ship "Myrtle."

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 24.

Consul Livingstone to Mr. Hemmingway.

Sir,

Fernando Po, May 23, 1870.

ARTICLE XIII of the Treaty with the King and Chiefs of New Calabar, April 9, 1837, is as follows:—"In consequence of the great mortality of British subjects occasioned by lying so far up the river and out of the range of the sea breeze, it is deemed expedient to drop the vessels down to an anchorage off Fooche Beach; and any vessel or boat arriving here and proceeding higher up the river for the purpose of trade will incur a penalty of 50 puncheons of oil."

I regret to hear that you have violated this important Article of the Treaty.

I shall visit the river in a man-of-war, in a few days, and it will be my duty to compel compliance with the Treaty; and in the event of the death of any of your crew from the malaria of that fatal spot, to send you to the nearest Court of British Justice, to be tried for manslaughter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 25.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 20.)

My Lord,

Bonny, June 4, 1870.

ON arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Pert," Commander Jones, May 27, I proceeded to Bonny, as directed by your Lordship's despatch of April 8.

The only inhabitants of the town since the war are the people of Manilla Pepple's house,—Annie Pepple having settled on the River Opobo, thirty-five miles east of Bonny.

King George Pepple being in England, I had the honour to hand your Lordship's letter to Oko Jumbo and Manilla Pepple, the real and nominal Rulers, and found them anxious, apparently, to have the war ended and Annie Pepple restored to Bonny.

I told them that I was about to visit the Opobo, and asked what they were willing to concede to Jaja, now evidently master of the situation, to induce him to cease fighting and return in peace to Bonny.

They agreed—

1. To yield the point which had caused the war; all the independent houses that had joined Annie Pepple's house might remain connected with it;

2. They would not ask from Jaja their thousand puncheons of oil, which, at the beginning of the war, he had seized in the oil markets; and,

3. They were willing to conclude a written Agreement, binding themselves in future, under penalty, to submit their quarrels to the arbitration of Her Majesty's Consul.

The Bonny agents, whose trade has been ruined by the war, say that Jaja's trade must be stopped by Her Majesty's Government before he will yield to any reasonable terms of peace.

There are no foreign traders in Bonny. For a number of years past the trade has been entirely in the hands of English traders. This is true also of New Calabar. No foreign traders are in the Opobo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 26.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 20.)

My Lord,

Bonny, June 6, 1870.

WE entered the Opobo River, thirty-five miles east of the Bonny, on the 31st ultimo, and steamed up six miles to the shipping at Jaja's new town of Opobo.

Just before our arrival Jaja had hurried off to repel a rumoured attack on his fort in the Andoney. A canoe was despatched for him, and he returned the following day, but refused to come on board, alleging that he had sworn juju to the King of Ingavé not to enter a ship until he had performed certain rites which required much time: he soon

came to the conclusion that his juju did not extend to a man-of-war, but demanded a guarantee that we would not kidnap him. He came on board next morning without a guarantee. After your Lordship's letter was read he gave a rambling account of the war, adding nothing of interest except the statement that he had only lost six men during the whole of the war. I then referred to the friendly way in which Oko Jumbo and Waribo had spoken of him on my visits to Bonny, "Jaja is part of ourselves, we want him back again in Bonny;" and they had listened cheerfully to the humane advice of the Court of Equity not to attack him after he had left Bonny. The peace terms Oko had proposed were next stated, and instantly rejected with scorn and derision. He would never return to Bonny: they had robbed the grave of his father of its treasures; they had foully murdered his women and children, who had taken refuge in the sacred Juju Town; he would live in the bush, he would die, but never more return to Bonny. With intense savage bitterness he spoke of Oko, and with contempt of "the boy George." He remarked that he had a fine rich country here, surpassing Bonny; could buy plenty of oil, and fourteen of the native Chiefs had joined his house, while only four adhered to that of Manilla Pepple. Bonny agents might come and trade in the Opobo; he would never allow the house of Manilla Pepple to enter the oil markets.

He was told that Her Majesty's Government saw with much concern the injury this war was inflicting on British interests, and had determined that it must stop. As he and the Bonny Chiefs could no longer live together in peace perhaps it was better to live apart, and for him to be Chief in Opobo; but he must no longer close the oil markets to the house of Manilla Pepple.

Her Majesty's Government would insist on his opening these oil markets to the Bonny people, who had the same right to trade there as his own people. This arrangement would be fair to all parties, to the Chiefs and agents of Bonny and to the Chief and agents of Opobo. He objected that the men of both houses would fight when they met in the markets, and therefore it was better for him to shut the Bonny people out of them, and was informed that a heavy fine would be imposed on those who broke the peace. It was evident that he would never give up his monopoly of the markets until compelled to do so. After leaving the ship he sent his Secretary to say that he was willing to stop fighting. "But will he open the oil markets?" "Jaja," he replied, "will send his answer to Lord Clarendon." This, he saw, would give him another three months' monopoly of the markets. Shortly after, Inclosure No. 1 was received, and No. 2 is the reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

Chief Jaja to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Opobo River, June 2, 1870.

I BEG respectfully to acknowledge the receipt of Lord Clarendon's letter handed to me by you, and at the same time beg respectfully to inform you that I cannot answer it until I have consulted with my Chiefs, but will forward an answer through you to Lord Clarendon per first steamer to Fernando Po.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAJA, his \times mark.

Inclosure 2 in No. 26.

Consul Livingstone to Chief Jaja.

Jaja,

Opobo River, June 2, 1870.

YOU will find on reading Lord Clarendon's letter carefully, that the only answer his Lordship expects from you is "to listen to the friendly counsels of Her Majesty's Consul, which are dictated by a sincere desire to effect such an equitable arrangement as will be satisfactory to all parties, and secure permanent peace."

On your rejecting Oko Jumbo's proposition this morning, I remarked that it would secure the interests of all parties, the rival Chiefs, the white traders in the Opobo, and the white traders in the Bonny, if you stopped fighting, and let Oko's people trade in the old oil markets with your own people, as formerly. After leaving, your Secretary returned

answer that you were willing to stop fighting, which I was glad to hear, but as you shut out the Bonny people from their oil markets, and thus inflict great injury on British interests, his Lordship must have a direct answer to the question, Will you at once allow Bonny men to frequent their old oil markets for peaceable trade?

As all your Chiefs are with you now, and heard all that was said this morning, I request an answer before we leave.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 27.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 20.)

My Lord,

Old Calabar River, June 7, 1870.

BONNY has obtained nearly the whole of its oil hitherto from the markets of Qua and Eboe. The Qua country is next the sea, and appears to lie between the Andoney and Old Calabar. Eboe is further inland.

A single creek leads to the oil markets of both countries, and on a narrow part of this creek, in Andoney, Jaja has constructed a fort, which effectually shuts out the Bonny canoes from all the oil markets.

When hostilities broke out, many of Manilla Pepple's canoes were up at the Eboe markets, and Jaja's blockade of the creek has compelled them to stop there. To prevent their falling into Jaja's hands, Oko Jumbo sent overland to Eboe armed men, who keep Jaja's people out of the Eboe markets, so that neither party can get a single puncheon out of these Eboe markets.

Jaja gets all his oil from the Qua markets, but he has not yet been able to buy the whole of the oil these Qua markets offer, a considerable amount, according to rumour, finding its way to Old Calabar. Up to the end of May only 12,000 puncheons had been exported from the Opobo, owing, say the Opobo agents, to their not having goods at first to purchase the oil.

A very large trade, however, is now looked for.

The Bonny agents assert that Jaja's blockade has kept back 6,000 puncheons from coming to Bonny. As Oko Jumbo cannot raise this blockade, which has closed the great Eboe oil markets to both parties and to England, Jaja will certainly maintain it, unless Her Majesty's Government compel him to raise it, and allow free trade in these oil markets as before the war.

The stoppage of Jaja's trade in the Opobo would soon bring him to reason, but nothing short of this will have the least effect.

A single gun-boat stationed in the fine bay inside the bar, and open to the sea breeze, would be an effective blockade of the Opobo, and the crew would enjoy as good health as at sea.

There are no foreign traders in the Opobo. A Glasgow and a Liverpool house now trade there, and several other English houses are ready to go in. Agents of Horsfall and Stuart and Douglas were in the Opobo collecting "trust," and will probably trade there.

Jaja can never be brought back to Bonny, as Oko Jumbo so earnestly desires. When he is obliged to open the markets, and agrees to have future disputes settled by Her Majesty's Consul, he might be recognized as Chief of the Opobo, and independent of Bonny. It does not seem possible that the country ceded by the Andoney Chiefs to Bonny can extend to Opobo. It is said that Opobo is much nearer the Eboe markets than Bonny.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 28.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 20.)

My Lord,

"Pert," Old Calabar, June 10, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to report a visit to Old Calabar, and meeting with King Archibong and the Court of Equity, to arrange the comex tax on oil shipped by steamers, as instructed by your Lordship's despatch of January 24.

After careful consideration, it was resolved unanimously that the Treaty of 1862,

which gives half the comey on sailing vessels to the King of Duke Town, and half to the King of Creek Town, remain as it is, and that the following article, with reference to oil shipped by steamers, be added, viz., "That from this date, June 9, 1870, the King of Creek Town shall receive a comey of 10 coppers a ton on all Creek Town oil shipped by steamers, and the King of Duke Town a comey of 10 coppers a ton on all Duke Town oil shipped by steamers."

Old Calabar has an extra good oil season this year, and King Archibong has honourably insisted on his people paying the "trust" of last year.

Among the agents there is a slight difference of opinion as to whether all the oil is drawn from the usual Calabar market, or whether a small portion of it comes from the Bonny markets, near those of Calabar.

The agents, who cannot believe that any of the oil is from the Bonny markets, say that the Bonny markets require a totally different class of goods, and none of their Calabar traders have asked for these goods, but only for the kind always supplied to the Calabar markets.

As good oil seasons have been known before, when the trade of Bonny was flourishing.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 29.

Earl Granville to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 27, 1870.

I APPROVE the arrangement made by you during your late visit to Old Calabar touching the levy of the comey tax on oil shipped by steamers, as set forth in your despatch of the 10th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 30.

Earl Granville to Consul Livingstone.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 3, 1870.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 4th, 6th, and 7th June last, reporting the result of your visit to Bonny and to the Opobo for the purpose of mediating between Ja Ja and the Chiefs of Bonny, and while I regret to learn the failure of your attempt to settle this dispute, I consider that the proposal you made to Ja Ja, as a condition of his remaining at the Opobo, is probably the best solution of the difficulty, and such as he ought to have accepted.

The merchants in this country have complained to me of your alleged threat to blockade the Opobo and to drive Ja Ja from his position.

It is difficult at this distance, and with my imperfect knowledge of facts and of the manner in which British interests generally will be affected, to give you definite instructions as to the course to be pursued; but it appears to me, as it did to Lord Clarendon, that the continuance of the present state of affairs is as much owing to the rivalry of British traders as to the quarrels of the natives, and that if it were not for the interference of Europeans the dispute might easily be settled.

Her Majesty's Government are, as you have already been informed, averse from interfering in this quarrel except by offering their friendly mediation to bring about its settlement; but they cannot view with indifference the sacrifice of general trade and the prosperity of the district to the desire of Ja Ja and his party to retain the monopoly of the oil markets, and if the present state of affairs continues, they must consider what steps can be taken to put an end to it.

In the meantime, you will confine your action to the protection of British life and property, unless you see a favourable opportunity of again offering your mediation; but you will use your utmost endeavours to prevent British subjects from interfering in any way in the quarrel, and you will inform Ja Ja, who has also complained to me of your threat to blockade the river, of the view I take of his proceedings and of their effect upon the trade and prosperity of the district.

CLASS A.

I should add that if you succeed in bringing about an arrangement of the dispute, you should stipulate for the future reference of all quarrels to the arbitration of Her Majesty's Consul, under a heavy penalty, for the non-observance of this engagement.

No. 31.

Mr. Otway to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1870.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you a correspondence respecting a question that has been raised as to the legal competency of the Courts of Equity on the West Coast of Africa, in consequence of a decision given by the Chief Magistrate of the British Colonial Court at Cape Coast, in a case which had previously been settled by the Court of Equity at Brass.

You will observe that Lord Granville is advised by the Law Officers of the Crown that the Judgments of these Courts are not entitled to the same respect in law as the Judgments of regularly constituted tribunals of recognized and civilized communities; and that it is suggested that steps might be taken to encourage and improve them, and possibly even to place them by legislation on some more recognized footing.

It appears to Lord Granville that this might be effected by investing you, as Her Majesty's Consul superintending these Courts, with magisterial powers and jurisdiction over British subjects within your Consular district; but this can only be done by the exercise by Her Majesty of such power and jurisdiction as she may be said to possess under the terms of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act over British subjects in the territories or waters of the native African Chiefs, in the same manner as Her Majesty now exercises power in the Ottoman dominions, in China, and other places.

Lord Granville does not anticipate that any difficulty will be raised by the native Chiefs to the exercise of such jurisdiction over British subjects; but he would be glad to receive any observations that you may wish to offer upon this point, and any suggestions that you may have to make as to the best means of reorganizing these Courts of Equity with a view to their constitution on a more legal footing, and in the meantime a Draft Agreement will be framed for the concession of such jurisdiction by the native Chiefs.

You will not, however, raise any question unnecessarily regarding the powers of these Courts as at present constituted, and, pending the receipt of further instructions, they should continue to work as they have hitherto done.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

No. 32.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 19.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, June 28, 1870.

IN my recent official visit to Benito, in Her Majesty's ship "Pert," I found the natives on friendly terms with the traders, and the trade in rubber, ebony, bar-wood, and palm-oil as good as it generally is at this season of the year.

A heavy surf rendered it imprudent to land at Batta and Batanga, where there are no disturbances.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 33.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 19.)

My Lord,

Brass, July 9, 1870.

ON the 2nd instant I read to the Bonny Chiefs King George Pepple's letter of 16th May to your Lordship, and said I was sorry to find that King George understood neither the state of Bonny affairs nor the wishes of the Bonny Chiefs. All you Chiefs were glad to hear that Her Majesty's Government had undertaken to mediate, and assured me that you were willing to meet Jaja on board this ship or anywhere I chose; but here is King George protesting against the friendly mediation of Her Majesty's Government, and against your meeting Jaja:—

"Them no be our words George write to Government. George has not obeyed the instructions we gave him. We want Government to settle this palaver for us. When we

could have crushed Jaja at Minima we listened to the advice of the Court of Equity, because we thought it represented the Government."

I next referred to my visit to the Opobo, and asked if they would accept of this settlement, viz., that Jaja remain in the Opobo provided he allowed them free access to their oil markets, and agreed, like themselves, to refer all future differences to the arbitration of Her Majesty's Consul.

They rejected these terms at first; but, after hearing and answering their objections, and remarking that no other settlement seemed possible, and that I had just received instructions from Her Majesty's Government to protect British life and property in the Opobo, as in the Bonny, they asked for a short delay, in order that all the Chiefs might be consulted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

P.S.—The two inclosures herewith transmitted were received when the Chiefs came on board.

Inclosure 1 in No. 33.

Agreement.

WE, Annie Pepple, part Chiefs, &c., do hereby and for the future agree to give up the following parties, viz., Tillibor, *alias* Gogoe Fowbra, Fine Bone, Songo, Black Foubra, Strong Face, Oko Eppelleh, Antonio, Tom Brown, Tobin, John Africa, Jack Tellifare, Warrisso, Semah Sunju, Young Trader, and Tarribor, to be masters of their own houses, and to have no interference with their house and trade businesses and managements; and they, the above-named parties, also promised not to give or sell themselves or house to Annie Pepple, Manilla Pepple, or to any person or persons whatever; but in the event of any disputes arising between any two houses, they are to endeavour with the Juju men to settle any such disputes amicably.

Done at Bonny Town this 7th day of January, in the year of Our Lord, 1865.

We do hereby agree and give our signatures to abide by all the statements of the said Agreement.

Done at Bonny Town this 7th day of January, 1865.

(Signed) ANNIE PEPPLÉ, his ✕ mark.
ANNIE STUART, his ✕ mark.
WOGO DAPPA, his ✕ mark.
TOBY STUART, his ✕ mark.
MRANTA, his ✕ mark.

Inclosure 2 in No. 33.

The Chiefs of Bonny to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Bonny Town, June 8, 1870.

WE, the undersigned Chiefs of Bonny beg most respectfully to inform you once more the cause of the fight between us and Jaja. That he Jaja, *alias* Annie Pepple, broke the Treaty made by His late Majesty King William Pepple, of Bonny—that every Chief was to be master of his own house, and not to interfere with each other's private matters—a copy of which you will find inclosed.

Another, made also—occasioned by the last threatened civil fight—by our present King George Pepple, and witnessed by Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul Frank Wilson, Commander Parry, of Her Majesty's ship "Speedwell," also by the Chairman and Members of the Court of Equity, which our King George Pepple took with him to England.

We also do hereby declare that Jaja's statements against us are false. He stated first that after he was driven, the captives that we took, amongst which were some women in state of pregnancy, that we killed them, which statement we firmly deny. When we fought in September last Warrisso, who was one of Annie Pepple's head Chiefs in the fight against us, and George Goodhead, with Cookey, connected in the same; but we gave strict orders to our men not to hurt any of them, and thus you see that Jaja's statement is untrue, for they, the captured gentlemen, are living now in Bonny—Warrisso excepted, who made his elopement to Jaja. The two others are in Juju Town unmolested, and have the same privileges as ourselves to move about the country.

We only fought in Bonny Town; and strict orders were given to all our men not to fire a single shot in the small villages around, and not to attack any of Jaja's people first, and if they remain quiet they must not molest them. But, notwithstanding our restrictions to keep away from them, they first opened fire in the small villages, and of course our men were not silent to the attack, but answered them again. From this you will see that Jaja's statement for killing his people in Juju Town is false. His people killed a great number of our people too in fight; but we immediately put a stop to it, and prevented any more fighting in the small villages, but it was too late; many had died through the struggle. We asked our men the reason why our orders were not obeyed, they said Jaja's people first began firing, and, of course, they replied. When we were about to fight on the 13th of September last, we told all European traders in the river to remove their ships, hulks, &c., in a more convenient place down the river; and after the fight, when Jaja had absconded, we never asked any of the Europeans to assist us in settling the matter. The next day the Chairman of the Court of Equity, Mr. Valentine, with the rest of the Court Members, came to us and informed us that Jaja had asked them to interfere for him and his party, and that he is in the hands of the Court; they, the Court, told us that as Jaja is in their hands they will try and see the matter settled, and that we must not attack him again. We did not give our consent, as we knew full well what Jaja was about, and that we, Africans, know ourselves, and that we could say one thing and mean another. Therefore, we had wanted to go and attack him at once, but the Chairman and Members of the Equity Court did not agree; they said that if we were to go and attack him that will be cowardice in us, and to attack Jaja at present, who is now famished, as it were, with shots and powder, and was quite unable to stand with us, and to fight with him, now is, as it were, to fight with a disabled woman. We took the Court's advice, and remained quiet. The next thing the Court informed us was that Jaja agrees to send one of his Chiefs down in the river on board the Chairman's vessel, to settle the matter with us, which we also consented to. But the next day we were informed by Messrs. P. C. Sword, of the "Arabian," agent for the Company of African Merchants, and Thomas Draper, of the "Star of the Seas" agents for Mr. Harrison and Co., that Jaja, *alias* Annie Pepple, had absconded. From this also you will see how he deceived us and the Court of Equity. More also, the late William Stelling, late agent for Charles Horsfall and Sons, of Liverpool, was one of the instigators of Jaja's unwillingness to settle the matter with us. He, Mr. Stelling, took one De Cardi, a trader from Brass River, by night to Jaja, when he was at Minima, and bargained with him to run away to the Andony and Komtoro Rivers, and they, Messrs. De Cardi and Stelling, will take their ships to the above-named rivers to trade with him, Jaja. After Jaja absconded he was not satisfied, but went up to our markets and seized all our properties, viz., oil, canoes, &c., and also killed all our men that were there. The amount of property he captured we have estimated to the amount of 30,000*l.* sterling; we have only calculated what is lost in our markets, but the losses sustained in the town through the war has not yet been ascertained. We have told all the traders in the river not to meddle with our affairs, not to go to either the Andony or Korm Rivers to trade; but, notwithstanding all our entreaties, they have taken ships there, supplied him with amunitions of war, thus strengthening him with provision and cargoes to any amount. We have also told you, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, and we will once more make you aware again, as well as European traders going to Andony Rivers, &c. and for the purpose of trading with Jaja and his party, that we shall not be answerable for such an one's property, or life even, as those places are seats of war.

Canoes, &c., captured from Jaja during the fight were ordered by the Court to be returned to him, which we did. We regarded the Court of Equity as the Representatives of Her Majesty; and whatever orders we received from them was adhered to, thinking that as the matter was left in their hands they would make a speedy settlement of the same; but we found out the Court of Equity's utter inability to settle the matter at last, and Jaja was thus allowed, as it were, to deceive both us and them. We, therefore, do hereby solemnly declare, that we will on no account whatever, give up the Andony and Komtoro Rivers to Jaja, nor will we countenance any British trader going into those places for the purpose of trading with Jaja, for it will be ruining our King and us the Chiefs, the rightful owners of Bonny and those rivers, its dependencies.

We beg, &c.

(Signed) MANILLA PEPPLÉ,
CAPTAIN HART,
OKO JUMBO,
ADDA ALLISON,

And all other Chiefs of the Manilla House.

Inclosure 3 in No. 33.

Chief Jaja to Consul Livingstone.

Sir, *River Opobo, May 26, 1870.*
I AGAIN beg of you that you will, at the earliest opportunity, visit this river in a small man-of-war.

I wish very much to have a personal interview with you, and trust to prove to you that this river does not belong to Bonny, as the present King of that river wish to maintain. This is a separate river entirely from the Andoney.

All I wish is to carry on my trade in peace.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAJA, Opobo.

No. 34.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 19.)

My Lord,

"Pert," Brass, July 9, 1870.
INCLOSURE herewith transmitted was received on 3rd instant, and very early next morning the Chiefs, Waribo, Captain Hart, and Oko Jumbo came on board and begged me to write to Her Majesty's Government that all the Bonny Chiefs entirely disowned and repudiated "George's big mouth letter" to your Lordship. Their instructions to King George were (1) to ask Her Majesty's Government to please come and settle this palaver, and, if Government refused, to ask (2) if Government would allow them to blockade the Opobo with a small steamer they intended to purchase in England. "I would have gone myself and not sent George at all," said Oko Jumbo, "but I no sabe book or English tongue properly to talk to Government." "All the Chiefs were ashamed to hear that George had talked big mouth to Government," and had just written to George ordering him to return to Bonny at once. Again and again they repeated that I was to tell Government that "George's big mouth" was not their mouth.

They added that the Bonny Chiefs were willing to settle on the terms proposed—viz., that Jaja remain in Opobo, and that Her Majesty's Government bind both parties to submit future differences to the arbitration of Her Majesty's Consul.

I replied that I was glad that they had agreed to what seemed the only possible settlement; and although I could not promise that Her Majesty's Government would insist on Jaja's throwing open the oil markets to them, yet from the deep interest Her Majesty's Government took in the prosperity of Bonny, I thought it would be disposed to help them to get this palaver settled. Meanwhile, they ought to cease fighting. "Too much rain to fight now," said Oko Jumbo. It is now my duty, I repeated, to protect English life and property in Opobo, as in the Bonny.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure in No. 34.

The Chiefs of Bonny to Consul Livingstone.

Sir, *Bonny Town, July 3, 1870.*
WE, the undersigned Chiefs of Bonny, beg most respectfully to inquire of you at what time it will be requisite and convenient to meet you on board of Her Majesty's vessel, for special business of importance.

We have, &c.
(Signed) MANILLA PEPPLÉ.
OKO JUMBO.
And all other Chiefs of Bonny

Consul Livingstone to the Earl Granville.—(Received August 19.)

My Lord,

“Pert,” Brass, July 11, 1870.

FRIENDLY mediation between the hostile Chiefs of Bonny and Opobo seems to require but a single step further to end the war and secure a permanent settlement. It is necessary now for Her Majesty's Government to insist that Jaja grant the Bonny Chiefs access to their oil markets.

Jaja will not yield this until he is convinced that Her Majesty's Government is determined that he shall; but directly this conviction enters his mind he will consider it no hardship to submit to the Queen's demands, which he knows are most reasonable.

As soon as Jaja hears that the Consul has entered the Opobo in a man-of-war, with power to order the three or four English traders to the mouth of the river, and to stop his trade until he opens the oil markets, I think he will not hesitate long. But should he be obstinate, a blockade of the Opobo by a gun-vessel, without risking a single life, would soon bring him to his senses.

As Jaja is compelled to keep a large force constantly on hand to repel any sudden attack, he is so crippled in his trading that most of the oil remains unsold in the native markets, only 1,200 puncheons having been bought by him up to the end of May.

Peace can never be secured whilst the markets are shut to Bonny Chiefs. Bonny must fight till they obtain access to their oil markets, or sink to a mere fishing village; and should hostilities be prolonged, there is reason to fear that the Bonny people will combine with the Okrikas to wage a war of revolting butcheries for years, and of course destroy trade in the Opobo as well as in the Bonny. Jaja's blockade of the oil markets entirely cuts off the trade of seven English firms, which can never go to the Opobo.

The markets open to Manilla Pepple's house would benefit Jaja himself, as then all his people could engage in trade instead of idly guarding their fortifications on the Creeks, as they are obliged to do now.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Mr. Otway to Consul Livingstone.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 25, 1870.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 4th instant respecting the question that has arisen regarding the Courts of Equity within your Consular district, I am directed by Earl Granville to state that instructions have been sent to the Governor-in-chief of the West African settlements to avoid any further discussion of the competency of the decisions of these Courts pending the completion of any measures that it may be possible to take for placing them on some more recognized footing.

Consul Livingstone to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 28.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, August 23, 1870.

WITH reference to instructions in despatch of the 3rd June, “To endeavour to prevent the Bonny Chiefs from molesting the property of British subjects established in the Opobo;” “to protect them from personal injury or violence; and, if necessary, to ask for the assistance and support of a man-of-war for this purpose,” I have the honour to state that I called at Bonny and Opobo on my return from the other Oil Rivers.

The traders could not account for the movements of the Bonny fleet of war canoes. The impression was, that directly the rains were over in September, there would be a combined attack by Bonny and Orika to drive Jaja from the Opobo, and that the war would never end until the oil-markets were opened.

As this was likely to become a war of extermination, ruinous to both rivers, another effort for peace seemed desirable. Jaja was ill when we entered the Opobo, but came on board next day “to show his respect.”

I said he would be recognized as Chief of Opobo, if he let Bonny traders into their oil-markets; he had now to keep half his men in war canoes, which greatly crippled his trade. Her Majesty's Government would prevent Bonny from attacking him in future; and it was better to yield than prolong the war, as he might be beaten some day when off his guard, and obliged to flee into the bush.

After consulting his Chiefs he agreed to open the markets, if his people were returned. He did not ask for those who had been killed in the war, nor for such as preferred to remain in Bonny.

As the Bonny Chiefs had always denied killing any one in cold blood after the fight, it seemed that Jaja's people could easily be produced, and the war ended.

I asked Jaja to send two of his Chiefs with us to see his people in Bonny, and conduct them through the creeks to Opobo; but he wished the Bonny Chiefs to come to him, as he was lame. On our return, the Bonny Parliament, after a debate of three days and two nights, and trying to have Fernando Po as the place of meeting, appointed four Chiefs to accompany us to Opobo and settle all the details of a Treaty with Jaja. Nothing was accomplished by their stiff interview, and, for the first time, the Bonny Chiefs admitted that the war had broken out in all the small towns, and there had been a general massacre, in which they lost as heavily as Jaja.

I told Jaja that all his people who survived would be returned, but as the Bonny Chiefs could not raise the dead, it was idle to talk about them. I then laid the Treaty before him—Inclosure No. 1—as the basis of a fair settlement.

The Bonny Chiefs agreed to sign it, but Jaja refused. I reminded him that he had stopped the trade of ten English firms in the Bonny for a year, and this could no longer be tolerated. He replied that he would never open the oil-markets; he would keep the Bonny traders out of them for a thousand years.

Having reason to believe that the surrounding tribes had allowed Jaja to settle in the Opobo, because he promised to bring trade there, I was satisfied that a stoppage of trade would immediately cause these tribes to bring pressure on Jaja, and compel him to open the markets.

I informed Jaja that as he declined any reasonable settlement, I should now stop his trade, and place the matter in the hands of the captain of this man-of-war.

Inclosure No. 2 states my reasons for this step.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 37.

Proposed Treaty of Peace between Chief Manilla Pepple and Chief Annie Pepple.

ARTICLE I.

ALL fighting between the two houses and their allies shall cease from this date.

ARTICLE II.

Proclamation shall be made in Bonny and its small towns, that Annie Pepple's people may return to him, if they wish; and proclamation shall be made in Opobo and its small towns that Manilla Pepple's people may return to him if they wish.

ARTICLE III.

The oil-markets shall be open to both houses, as before the war.

ARTICLE IV.

All future differences between the two houses which cannot be settled peaceably by the Chiefs must be referred to the friendly arbitration of Her Majesty's Consul.

ARTICLE V.

For a breach of any of the above Articles, Her Majesty's Consul, or any other officer sent by Her Majesty's Government, may inflict a fine not to exceed 200 puncheons of palm oil, to be disposed of as Her Majesty's Government may determine; or should Her Majesty's Government prefer it, the Chief guilty of breach of this Treaty may be banished from the country.

Opobo, August 18, 1870.

Inclosure 2 in No. 37.

Consul Livingstone to Commander Jones.

Sir,

"Pert," Opobo, August 18, 1870.

DANGER to British life and property in the Opobo being apprehended from the attacks of the Bonny Chiefs, Her Majesty's Government has instructed me to endeavour to prevent the loss of life and property.

In carrying out the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, one of two courses may be adopted: 1. Station a man-of-war off Opobo; or, 2. Remove the cause which endangers life and property.

There are insuperable objections to the first course. In the probable event of the Bonny Chiefs and their cannibal allies attacking Opobo, a man-of-war could not avoid hostilities, and Her Majesty's Government desires to be strictly neutral in this miserable war. But, worse yet, the ship's company, in less than a month, would be decimated by fever off that fatal swamp-surrounded spot which the traders have so recklessly chosen, and more lives be lost than there are traders to protect. Your inspection of the few merchant ships there has revealed the fearful ravages of fever, even in this healthy season. More fatal to whites will be the fever in a few weeks, when the rains cease, and the attacks are expected. Now, as the life and property of these traders must be protected, and this cannot be done by the above mode, the only course left is to remove, if possible, that which endangers life and property, viz., Jaja's blockade of the oil-markets.

The Bonny Chiefs continue the war because Jaja shuts them out of their oil-markets. They are ready to end the war and acknowledge Jaja as Chief of Opobo, if access is granted to their oil-markets.

I have tried in vain to induce Jaja to let the Bonny traders have access to, at least, some of their oil-markets. You have rendered me every assistance, and at great inconvenience to yourself, conveyed four Bonny Chiefs to this river, on Jaja's expressing a desire to meet them for a friendly settlement.

Jaja broke off negotiations to-day by declaring that he will shut the Bonny traders out of their markets for a thousand years; and I replied that as he had stopped the trade of eleven English merchants in Bonny for a year, I should now stop his trade till he opened theirs. Jaja is so critically situated in this new country that he will certainly yield in a short time, when convinced that we are determined he shall. I have therefore to request that you will be pleased to order the merchant ships to drop down the river; and that you take any other peaceable step you may deem necessary for a complete stoppage of trade.

In placing this matter in your hands, I am confident that you will scrupulously avoid hostilities, and that the stoppage of trade will be, to the traders, but a temporary inconvenience, which sensible men must surely prefer to constant danger from attacks of enraged cannibals.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 38,

Consul Livingstone to Earl Granville.—(Received September 28.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, August 24, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to report that Commander Jones, of Her Majesty's ship "Pert," stopped the Opobo trade so skilfully and thoroughly that Jaja yielded within forty-eight hours, and agreed to abide by the decision of two arbitrators, Amacree, King of New Calabar, and Fibia, King of Okrika.

The four Bonny Chiefs strongly favoured arbitration as the only possible mode of settling a palaver which none but black men could understand; and when we returned, all the Bonny Chiefs heartily assented to this arbitration.

I have written to King Amacree of New Calabar. The Bonny Chiefs have sent a messenger to King Fibia, of Okrika. The arbitrators are to meet at Bonny as soon as they can.

Annie Pepple sends a Chief to state his side, and Manilla Pepple one to state his; and after hearing both sides the arbitrators are to decide. If they happen to disagree on any point, that is to be decided by Her Majesty's Consul. Meanwhile hostilities are entirely suspended, and the war-canoes recalled.

I should be glad to acknowledge valuable assistance from white traders in both rivers, had I received it. Selfish interests oppose any settlement which does not restrict the trade to their own river.

Inclosed is the correspondence produced by the temporary stoppage of trade. The ships were twenty-four hours a fourth of a mile below the town. No one was fired at; no woman was drowned, and there was no danger to life or property in Opobo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 38.

Chief Jaja to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Opobo, August 20, 1870.

I AM sorry to see the way you going on with me. Since yesterday afternoon there is one of my house woman drown in the water; she did not know what was coming on here; she only coming down with a small canoe to see his people. Now I see that is very bad. If you were to come alone with your man-of-war to do we all this thing, we would think it is you. But now Oko Jumbo and others of there party on board you doing this. How do you think about this yourself? Yesterday I offer to send four of my people round to Bonny to prove if my people were all there, you refused.

There is 31 Tom Brown people in Juju Town, 32 of John Africa, 20 of Black Fobra, 35 of Uranta at Argarzan, and lots of people in Koakar. All this people were not killed in the war. There is plenty of this people sold to Okrikar man, that I redeem back since I have been here, and this is the fact.

All this people were not living in the town we fighting, and these were the people I require before you left this place the last time, and you promis me to go and enquire after them. Now you return back with Oko Jumbo instead of my people. And you wish me to sign with any satisfactory answer of my people and that I objected to. Now you know very well that I am sick; you send to call me to come, after which I come you refuse me to go back to Jukoror, and no doctor to look me in this place. You wish me to die, I suppose; when I come on board the other day you never told me not to go to Jukoror. If you had told me that I would not attempt to go, but when I was going away you fire shot after me; and what do you wish me to do? I only could think that you believe Oko Jumbo to do harm. Lots of different country people coming down here, such as Andoney, Agoni, Nibore, and Okorortor people since the day you blockading the place. This people trying to go and come in this place, you fire after them. If there is any of this country people kill, there is a great deal of trouble more than what is expected.

If you like you can enquire from the people you got on board, they will tell you, only I am sorry.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAJA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 38.

Consul Livingstone to Chief Jaja.

Jaja,

"Pert," Opobo, August 20, 1870.

YOU say there are 31 Tom Brown people, 32 of John Africa, 20 of Black Fobra, 35 of Uranta, and others who were not killed in the war. I can assure you that if you sign the Treaty of Peace all your people will have permission to return next week, and should Bonny Chiefs detain a single person who wishes to come I shall fine the Bonny Chiefs.

If any of your people have been sold to Okrika the Bonny Chiefs must redeem and restore them to you. We brought Oko Jumbo here to have a friendly talk with you, and sign the Treaty, and would have acted precisely as we have had Oko been all the time in Bonny. We stop all your trade until you open the oil-markets. If you do not settle to-day the white traders will have orders to embark all their property, and drop down to the mouth of the river, and no one will be allowed to trade with you till you come to reasonable terms. If you desire a friendly settlement I can meet you on board this ship or in Mr. Bell's hulk.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 38.

Chief Jaja to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Opobo, August 20, 1870.

I WILL be glad to meet you at Mr. Bell's hulk to try to effect a friendly settlement, —say at twelve o'clock to-day.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAJA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 38.

Chief Jaja to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Opobo, August 20, 1870.

PROVIDING the following people are returned to me alive,—people that had nothing to do with the fighting whatever,—and that a clause to that effect is inserted in your Treaty, then we will, so far as is in our power, allow the Bonny people to trade to the Eboe, and will set apart certain fairs for them; further, a clause must be inserted that no war canoes of the Bonny people be allowed to pass through to the fairs.

The following is the number of people we require to be delivered up:—Thirty-one of Tom Brown's, thirty-two of John Africa's, and twenty of Black Fobra's, all in Juju Town; thirty-five of Uriantas, all in Aganya; also the whole people of Okokar, excepting seven people who have already reached us; also the following people from Olewama—Twenty-eight people belonging to Duke Norfolk, four people to Anne Steward, also Wogo Dappa; four from Aganya, three from Ewama, and two from Juju Town, all Geo. Goodhead and Cookeys house, now in Juju Town.

We are, &c.
(Signed) JAJA.

P.S.—No canoes carrying any war material to be allowed to go to the fairs or pass through this country.

J.

Inclosure 5 in No. 38.

Chief Jaja to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Opobo, August 20, 1870.

IN reference to my letter this morning, I am willing to give the Bonny people four fairs to trade in, the Acquitta, Obonce, Orancho, Orafong.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAJA

P.S.—Two fairs is all I promise, but I give them four now, that you may see I want to please you.

J.

Inclosure 6 in No. 38.

Chief Jaja to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Opobo, September 19, 1870.

ARE you willing to take four of my people round to Bonny, and when there that they may make full inquiry into what has become of my people? I cannot make any promise, however, meanwhile, until we hear the true facts from my own people.

We are, &c.
(Signed) JAJA.

Inclosure 7 in No. 38.

Chief Jaja to Consul Livingstone.

Sir, *Opobo, August 19, 1870.*
 YOU wish me to sign a declaration admitting the Bonny people to trade along with us at the fairs.

Putting aside my own views on the matter, the Kings and Chiefs of the Andony, Qua, Egou, and Eboe countries must also grant permission before any settlement can be arrived at.

One time before I stated my willingness to have the matter arbitrated, provided the Kings of Ecreeka, Calabar, Andony, and Qua were present.

I wish to state the impossibility of reconciling the Bonny and our people at present, as it would be quite impossible for me to keep down the bad feeling existing between my people and the Bonny.

If these people of mine living in the small countries, Jojo Town and others, have not been killed in cold blood, as we have been led to suppose, then we (our people) will be only too glad to allow Oko Jumbo to trade along with us at the fairs.

Also I beg to give you notice that I cannot be responsible for anything the Qua or Andoney men may do to the white people here, should anything occur to them.

The Manilla people have killed our women and children. I am very sorry to see you trying to kill my people as well.

I beg you will not fire any more guns, as we no kill any of your people, nor have we given you any sauce-mouth, nor are we your Queen's enemies.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) JAJA.

Inclosure 8 in No. 38.

Consul Livingstone to Chief Jaja.

Jaja, *"Pert," Opobo, August 19, 1870.*
 WE offered to carry some of your Chiefs to Bonny last week, but you refused.

You are now doing great injury to British merchants in Bonny by closing the oil markets to the Bonny traders, and we stop your trade until you consent to open these markets. As soon as you consent to this your trade will be opened, and we can carry your people to Bonny, and guarantee that they shall be permitted to return through the creeks with all your people who may choose to accompany them.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 9 in No. 38.

Consul Livingstone to Chief Jaja.

Jaja, AS the Bonny Chiefs have no palaver with Okrika, Calabar, Andoney, Qua, and Eboe, these people are not wanted here.

I simply wish a friendly settlement between your house and that of Manilla Pepple, and you can settle now. You will be responsible only for your own people if you sign the Treaty.

I hear that about 150 of your people are in Juju Town and other small towns. Better sign the Treaty than lose all your trade. I shall be glad to see you as soon as you are ready for a friendly settlement with Manilla Pepple.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 10 in No. 38.

Opobo Traders to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Opobo, August 19, 1870.

WE, the undersigned agents resident in this river, view with deep concern the hostile measures you are now taking against the natives of this country, who, in common with us, cannot account for what reason these present measures are adopted, living together, as we have been, in peace and amity with one another.

We are aware that there are now on board Her Majesty's ship "Pert" Oko Jumbo and other Chiefs, the enemies of this country, and should these present measures have been adopted for the purpose of coercing the natives of this country to make peace with Oko Jumbo and his people, we beg respectfully to state our firm conviction that, instead of tending towards any settlement of the present war, it will, if possible, make the breach wider still.

Further, your present measures appear to the natives of this country that you are determined to enforce the wishes of Oko Jumbo and his party, without any regard to the feeling of this country whatever.

Believing as we do how inadequate your present measures are to settle these affairs, and we living with the natives here in friendship, beg most respectfully to protest against these measures stopping our trade, thereby entailing loss to us, and, through these hostile measures, placing our lives and property in jeopardy.

Her Majesty's ship "Pert" has already fired upon Qua canoes; also we believe that the King of Encoso was in the canoe turned back this morning. Should any of these people unfortunately be killed, the consequence of such will be very serious.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

ARCHD. McEACHEN.
C. N. DE CARDI.
JOHN B. BOWERBANK.
JAS. BELL.
JAS. ROBINSON.

Inclosure 11 in No. 38.

Consul Livingstone to Opobo Traders.

Sirs,

"Pert," Opobo, August 19, 1870.

IN reply to your note of this date, I have the honour to state that, after careful consideration, it has become evident that the only way to protect British interests in the Opobo and the Bonny is to put an end to the war, and open the oil markets to the traders of both rivers.

Jaja agreed to these on our last visit, provided the Bonny Chiefs gave up his people. The Bonny Chiefs were willing to do so, and we brought them here to have an amicable settlement, but Jaja has not kept his promise.

Stoppage of all trade has hitherto proved eminently successful with stubborn African Chiefs, and I doubt not will in the present case.

Should it become necessary, all white men must be removed to the mouth of the river.

Inclosed herewith is rough draft of Treaty submitted to both houses.

As we brought Oko Jumbo, Warribo, and the others solely to facilitate a friendly settlement, they can be sent out of the river, should Jaja prefer to come to reasonable terms without them; but, previous to leaving the river for this purpose, we must have a distinct understanding that the terms of this Treaty will be acceded to by Jaja on our return.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 12 in No. 38.

Mr. Bowerbank to Consul Livingstone.

Opobo, August 19, 1870.

Dear Sir,
THE rough copy of Treaty I beg to return, as you request. It has been sent round to the traders here.

Mr. Bell is very unwell at present on board the hulk.
In the name of all I beg to thank you for your reply to our letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. B. BOWERBANK.

Inclosure 13 in No. 38.

Consul Livingstone to King Amacree.

King Amacree,

"Pert," Bonny, August 22, 1870.

ANNIE PEPPLE and Manilla Pepple having agreed to submit their bad palaver to the friendly mediation of King Amacree and King Fibia, Her Majesty's Government will be glad if King Amacree will send one of his wise men to Bonny to hear both sides talk, and then to say what he deems to be a fit and proper settlement.

After this palaver is settled, I shall insist on the Chiefs of Bonny using their good offices to prevent the Okrikas from attacking New Calabar trading canoes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 39.

Consul Livingstone to Earl Granville.—(Received September 28.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, August 25, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt on my return, 23rd instant, of despatches of June 8 and June 23 respectively, with copies of correspondence.

English traders in Bonny and Opobo have furnished the rival Chiefs with guns, shot, and powder, as required, until war materials are a drug in the Opobo market, and doubtless also in the Bonny.

Bonny agents have wished Jaja smashed, and all the trade brought back to Bonny. Opobo agents have favoured Jaja's blockade of the Bonny oil markets, because it brought oil to them, and white traders in both rivers have sought only their own selfish interests, reckless of all others. Mr. Chetham, of Bonny, told me on the 22nd instant that he tried to purchase the steamer "Tornado," of Lagos, to enable Bonny to blockade the Opobo, and actually bought the "Steady," in England, but ordered her to be sold on hearing that in protecting Opobo traders I could only regard her English crew as pirates, should they fire at their own countrymen.

He had obtained the opinion of eminent legal counsel in England. The "Steady" was to come unarmed, the King of Bonny was to buy her, ship her armament, and her English crew were to take service under the King of Bonny. Chetham and others could not conceal their annoyance on hearing that both sides had heartily agreed to arbitration, and suspended hostilities. They started all kinds of objections to arbitration and even to a truce. "The Bonny Chiefs ought to have had the markets opened before they consented to a truce. It was a one-sided arrangement," and "what guarantee had Jaja given that he would abide by the decision of the arbitrators?" In reply, I said that the Bonny Chiefs ought surely to understand their own interests best; and as they have joyfully assented to arbitration and a truce, why do members of the Court of Equity object? and what guarantee could Jaja possibly give?

"Her Majesty's Government," they continued, "ought to settle this palaver." But how is Her Majesty's Government to do it? I know nothing of the geography or size of the oil markets; you know as little; and the Bonny Chiefs and Jaja assure me that white men can't settle this for them, it can only be done by arbitration of black men.

As I can no longer detain this man-of-war, am I to understand that the Court of Equity will render me no assistance in forwarding my letter to the King of Calabar, in notifying Jaja of the time of meeting? "Oh! we will forward your letter," they replied.

Fortunately there are some reasonable traders who promise to receive the arbitrators, and do all in their power to facilitate their meetings, and who admit that this is the only feasible mode of terminating a war which threatened to drag on for years.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 40.

Consul Livingstone to Earl Granville.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord,

“Pert,” Benin, July 14, 1870.

AT Brass the agents complained of an outrage on the English burying-ground; and in an interview with the Kings and Chiefs, I inquired if they had done anything to discover and punish the villains who had desecrated the graves of our English dead.

King Okiya replied, that they were all up in the town at the time burying King Arishma, and inaugurating his successor; that directly he heard of this shocking outrage he came down and tried to find out the guilty ones, but failed; that Brassmen condemned this deed as much as Englishmen, and would have severely punished the perpetrators; and that he would now repair the place, at his own expense, in whatever way the agents might direct, and also make a new law for its better protection in future. The agents were satisfied with this.

Next, was a complaint that the Kings had charged double comeey. A ship arrived; paid the comeey according to Treaty, and was consequently entitled to take away a full cargo without any additional payment. But, instead of leaving with her cargo, she was converted into a hulk to remain in the river, and her cargo was shipped by steamers, and on this cargo, sent off by steamers, the Kings demanded comeey. When the matter was fully explained, the Kings agreed to return the overcharge. They remarked, however, that the Treaty was made in the time of their fathers, was very old, and they wished a new Treaty which would give them double comeey, settle the question of hulks, and oil shipped by steamers.

It was replied, that if a new Treaty were to be made the agents would wish the comeey stricken out altogether, so it was best to abide by the old Treaty; but as for hulks and steamers which had “come up” since the Treaty was made, an article like this might be added, viz.:—“That no comeey be paid on ships which come here to be made into hulks, but there shall be a comeey of five bars on every puncheon shipped by steamer.” This was merely adapting the old Treaty to the new order of things. The Kings would prefer an annual sum, and the agents present favoured the Royal proposal, provided the Kings accepted 3,000 puncheons as the average for the past three years. Each of the ten firms in the river would then pay the comeey on 300 puncheons. As four agents were absent a settlement was postponed till their return, and in the meantime there was to be no double comeey.

An Accra carpenter complained that King Okiya had fined and banished him from the town. The King stated that he hired this man to repair his house; that he offered him a wife to prevent his stealing other men’s wives, but, notwithstanding, the carpenter was detected in an intrigue with one of the King’s wives.

The law of the land starves to death both guilty ones; but King Okiya was merciful. I said that I had no palaver with the King; he had done right; and when the Accra complained that his tools were detained, I remarked that he might be glad his head was not kept with them.

King Ebifa accused an agent of firing at his canoe, but the agent denied all knowledge of this. I told Ebifa that agents came here to buy oil and not to shoot Kings, and if a ball came near his canoe it must have been by accident. I cautioned the agents about using firearms when canoes were near their vessels.

After our interviews, the Kings sent a present of yams and a bullock on board, and the agents did the same.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 41.

Consul Livingstone to Earl Granville.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, August 30, 1870.

IN April last the Benin agents stopped trade to lower the price of oil. At the end of their three months' strike, and just as the native traders were on the point of yielding, one of the Agents saved the blacks from this humiliation by opening trade at the old high prices, which, of course, compelled the other agents to do the same.

Native traders are united and almost always win. The whites cannot trust one another, and lose; and some begin to doubt whether these whites are the superior race.

The duty of appointing a Chief to succeed the late Chief Jerry as Governor of the river was not a difficult one. All the agents were in favour of the Chief Chanomi, son of Queen Dolo, and so were all the "Chiefs and gentlemen" of the river. Chanomi was accordingly declared Governor of the river. The "Chiefs and gentlemen" promised to aid him in maintaining the peace of the river, and the agents agreed to pay him the comey according to treaty. On leaving Her Majesty's ship "Pert" Chanomi received a salute of seven guns, which pleased him so much that next day he sent us a present of a fine bullock, which afforded three days' fresh meat for all hands.

The late Chief Jerry, when appointed Governor, received from Her Majesty's Government an official stick, something like a walking cane, 4 or 4½ feet in length, with a silver head—royal arms and a crown. This stick was almost sacred, and was sent round to summon the Chiefs in affairs of importance. Jerry's friends, always proud of the stick, wish to retain it in the family, and trouble might be expected if they had to give it up.

I beg to recommend that one be sent out to Governor Chanomi. The agents would cheerfully give him one, but its value in native minds is that it comes from the Queen. As the stick will give Chanomi authority in settling the palavers, which cause much trouble and loss, the small sum it may cost will prove a wise investment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 42.

Mr. Otway to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 3, 1870.

WITH reference to that portion of your despatch of the 30th of August last, in which you suggest the expediency of furnishing a "stick of office" to the Chief Chanomi, I am directed by Earl Granville to forward to you a stick of the nature described by you, which I am to instruct you to present to Chanomi in the name of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

No. 43.

Mr. Otway to Consul Livingstone.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1870.

IN reply to your despatch of the 15th ultimo, applying for leave of absence from your post on account of your health, I am directed by Earl Granville to inform you that he accedes to your request, but he considers the present state of affairs in the Oil Rivers requires the selection of a trustworthy and experienced Agent to take charge of the affairs of the Consulate during your absence.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

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No. 44.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 13, 1870.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 13th of August last, and to former correspondence, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a further letter from the Colonial Office, inclosing a despatch from the Governor of the West Coast of Africa Settlements, with affidavits sworn to by the several British subjects who claim indemnity for losses alleged to have been sustained by them in the Nunez River.

Your Excellency will observe that the affidavits in question distinctly contradict the explanatory statement of Lieutenant Cauvin, and that the officer administering the Government of the West African Settlements states that he is disposed to give credit to the facts set forth in the affidavits,

Your Excellency will explain the state of the case to the French Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 44.

Sir F. Sandford to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Downing Street, January 1, 1870.

WITH reference to the letter from this Department of the 30th October last, and to previous correspondence regarding the claims of certain British subjects for losses alleged to have been sustained by them in the Nunez River territory, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of a further despatch from the officer administering the Government-in-chief of the West Africa Settlements, forwarding copies of affidavits sworn to by the several claimants before the Acting Police Magistrate at Sierra Leone.

I am, &c.

(Signed) F. R. SANDFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 44.

Administrator Kendall to Earl Granville.

My Lord,

Government House, Sierra Leone, November 26, 1869.

IN continuation of the correspondence noted in the margin,* respecting the claims of certain British subjects, for losses sustained by them in the Nunez River Territory, and in further reply to your Lordship's despatch of 18th August last, transmitting a copy of a despatch, and its inclosures, received from the Foreign Office, from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, containing the reply of the French Government to the above-mentioned claims, I have the honour to forward for your Lordship's information, copies of affidavits sworn to by the different claimants before the Acting Police Magistrate at Sierra Leone, by which your Lordship will perceive that the explanatory statement of the French Lieutenant Cauvin is distinctly contradicted.

* Governor-in-chief, June 27, 1868; Secretary of State, July 13 and August 18, 1869; Administrator-in-chief, October 7, 1869.

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I have instituted every inquiry into the matter that was possible without personally visiting the spot, and I must say that from the very clear statement, tallying in every respect given by these persons, I am inclined to credit their version of the story.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. J. KENDALL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 44.

Affidavits sworn before the Acting Police Magistrate at Sierra Leone.

WE, Walter Benjamin Williams, of Freetown, in the said Settlement; Ebenezer Moses, of Freetown, aforesaid; Felix Atkins, of Freetown, aforesaid; William Campbell, of Freetown, aforesaid; George Thomas, of Freetown, aforesaid; Charles Benjamin Aitkin, of Aberdeen, in the said Settlement; Philip Briscoe, of Aberdeen, aforesaid; Thomas Newgent, of Aberdeen, aforesaid; John William Cole, of Aberdeen, aforesaid; Daniel Davis, of Aberdeen, aforesaid; Harry Thorpe, of Aberdeen, aforesaid; and William Thomas Cole, of Aberdeen, aforesaid, severally make oath and say as follows:—

And I, Walter Benjamin Williams, for myself say, that I was in the town of Bokeh, in the Rio Nunez River, from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin, the French Commandant, opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say that the said Lieutenant Cauvin did not give any notice of his intention to open fire upon the said town, neither did he give any notice to remove into his fort, nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

And I, Ebenezer Moses, for myself say, that I was in the town of Bokeh, in the Rio Nunez River, from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin, the French Commandant, opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say, that the said Lieutenant Cauvin did not give any notice of his intention to open fire upon the said town, neither did he give any notice to remove into his port, nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

And I, Felix Atkin, for myself say, that I was in the town of Bokeh, in the Rio Nunez River, from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin, the French Commandant, opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I, William Campbell, for myself say, that I was in the town of Bokeh, in the Rio Nunez River, from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin, the French Commandant, opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say, that the said Lieutenant Cauvin did not give any notice of his intention to open fire upon the said town, neither did he give any notice to remove into his fort, nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

And I, George Thomas, for myself say, that I was in the town of Bokeh, in the Rio Nunez River, from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin, the French Commandant, opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say, that the said Lieutenant Cauvin did not give any notice of his intention to open fire upon the said town, neither did he give any notice to remove into his port, nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

And I, Charles Benjamin Aitken, for myself say, that I was in the town of Bokeh, in the Rio Nunez River, from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin, the French Commandant, opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say, that the said Lieutenant Cauvin did not give any notice to remove into his fort nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

And I, Philip Briscoe, for myself say, that I was in the town of Bokeh, in the Rio Nunez River, from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin, the French Commandant, opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say that the said Lieutenant Cauvin did not give any notice of his intention to open fire upon the said town, neither did he give any notice to remove into his fort, nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

And I, Thomas Newgent, for myself say that I was in the town of Bokeh in the Rio Nunez River from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin, the French Commandant, opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say that the said Lieutenant Cauvin did not give any notice of his intention to open fire upon the said town, neither did he give any notice to remove into his fort, nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

And I, John William Cole, for myself say that I was in the town of Bokeh in the

Rio Nunez River from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin, the French Commandant, opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say that the said Lieutenant Cauvin did not give any notice of his intention to open fire upon the said town, neither did he give any notice to remove into his fort, nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

And I, Daniel Davis, for myself say that I was in the town of Bokeh in the Rio Nunez River from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say that the said Lieutenant Cauvin did not give any notice of his intention to open fire upon the said town, neither did he give any notice to remove into his fort, nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

And I, Harry Thorpe, for my part say that I was in the town of Bokeh in the Rio Nunez River from the 1st of May, 1867, to the 16th of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say that the said Lieutenant Cauvin did not give any notice to open fire upon the town of Bokeh, neither did he give any notice to remove into his fort, nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

And I, William Thomas Cole, for myself say that I was in the town of Bokeh in the Rio Nunez River from the 1st day of May, 1867, to the 16th day of May, 1867, when Lieutenant Cauvin, the French Commandant, opened fire upon the said town of Bokeh.

And I further say that the said Lieutenant Cawvene did not give any notice of his intention to open fire upon the said town, neither did he give any notice to remove into his fort, nor to quit the said town of Bokeh.

(Signed)

WALTER B. WILLIAMS.

EBENEZER MOSES.

FELIX ATKINS.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL, his X mark.

CHARLES BENJAMIN AITKEN, his X mark.

THOMAS NEWGENT, his X mark.

JOHN WM. COLE, his X mark.

PHILIP BRISCOE, his X mark.

DANIEL DAVIS his X mark.

HARRY THORPE.

WM. THOMAS COLE, his X mark.

GEORGE THOMAS, his X mark.

The above was severally sworn to before me at Freetown this 22nd day of November, 1869.

(Signed)

HENRY ANTON, *Acting Police Magistrate.*

No. 45.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 19.)

My Lord,

Paris, January 17, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a note, in which, in execution of the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 13th instant, I have transmitted to the French Government copies of the depositions made by the British traders in the Rio Nunez, who claim compensation for losses alleged to have been sustained by them in consequence of the bombardment by the French of the Bokeh Factory.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 45.

Lord Lyons to Count Daru.

M. le Ministre,

Paris, January 17, 1870.

WITH a note which he did me the honour to write to me on the 7th August last, your Excellency's predecessor sent me a copy of a letter from Lieutenant Bascans, Commandant of the Circle of Rio Nunez, to the Governor of Senegal. This letter contains a summary of evidence taken by Lieutenant Bascans respecting the events at the Bokeh

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Factory in May 1867, which have given rise to a claim on the part of certain British traders. Among the statements made to M. Bascans appears an affirmation that, before opening fire on the occasion in question, M. Cauvin, who was in command at Bokeh, gave notice to the English and French traders, and offered them an asylum in the fort for themselves and their goods.

This affirmation is contradicted by affidavits sworn to by the several claimants, copies of which have been forwarded to Her Majesty's Government by the officer administering the Government-in-chief of the British Settlements in West Africa, and this officer reports that, having instituted every inquiry into the matter that was possible, without personally visiting the spot, he is disposed to give credence to the statements thus made by the claimants.

Being instructed by Her Majesty's Government to explain the state of the case to the Government of the Emperor, I do myself the honour to transmit herewith to your Excellency copies of the affidavits.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 46.

Lord Lyons to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

Paris, le 29 Mars, 1870.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 17th January last, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of a note from Count Daru, and its inclosures, relative to the claim preferred by certain British subjects for compensation for losses which they state to have been incurred by them in consequence of the bombardment by the French of the Bokeh Factory.

The French Government continues to reject the claim.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 46.

Count Daru to Lord Lyons.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Paris, le 29 Mars, 1870.

VOUS m'avez fait l'honneur de me communiquer, le 17 Janvier dernier, différentes pièces relatives à la réclamation dont vous aviez précédemment entretenu mon Département et qui est formulée par des négociants Anglais établis à Boké dans le Rio Nunez. M. le Ministre de la Marine, à qui j'avais en conséquence écrit, de nouveau, à ce sujet, vient de me transmettre les explications supplémentaires qu'il s'est procurées. Elles sont consignées dans des lettres dont je joins ici les copies, et qui émanent d'officiers de la Marine Impériale qui se sont rendus à Boké, peu de temps après le conflit survenu sur ce point entre les autorités Françaises et indigènes. Ces explications confirment celles qui ont été déjà portées à la connaissance de votre Excellence et ne permettent pas au Gouvernement de l'Empereur de considérer comme fondées les réclamations des négociants Anglais. Il en résulte en effet que les actes d'hostilités, qui sont du reste bornés à quelques coups de canon dirigés sur un point où s'étaient concentrés des indigènes et non sur les factoreries, ont été précédés d'un avertissement à la suite duquel un certain nombre de négociants se sont mis à leurs marchandises à l'abri dans l'enceinte du fort et dont tous auraient pu également profiter. En outre, et bien que la responsabilité du Gouvernement de l'Empereur se trouve ainsi dégagée, il est à remarquer qu'aucune réclamation n'a été présentée au Gouverneur de Gorée, qui s'est trouvé à Boké quinze jours après les événements et qui se réservait, s'il y avait eu lieu, d'exiger des Chefs indigènes réparation du dommage causé au commerce placé sous notre protection.

Agréé, &c.
(Signé) DARU.

Inclosure 2 in No. 46.

M. Flize to the Minister of Marine.

M. le Ministre,

Toulon, le 11 Février, 1870.

PAR lettre en date du 3 de ce mois, votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de me demander des renseignements au sujet des mesures prises par M. le Commandant du poste de Boké dans le Rio Nunez lors des hostilités qui se sont produites entre le poste et les Foulahs au mois de Mai 1867.

Cette demande a pour but d'éclairer votre Excellence sur la valeur d'une demande d'indemnité qu'ont adressée au Gouvernement de l'Empereur, par l'intermédiaire de leur Gouvernement, quelques négociants ou traitants Anglais établis dans le Rio Nunez et qui prétendent avoir été victimes de pillages provoqués par les mesures de rigueur qu'a cru devoir prendre M. Cauvin, alors Commandant du poste.

J'étais alors Commandant de Gorée, dans les Dépendances duquel se trouve le Rio Nunez, et je crois savoir mieux que personne comment les faits se sont produits. Or, une pareille réclamation a lieu de m'étonner profondément, car je puis affirmer tout d'abord à votre Excellence, en consultant mes souvenirs et les rapports que j'ai sous les yeux, qu'aucun pillage n'a été commis dans le Rio Nunez contre les traitants à l'occasion de la suite des coups de canon tirés par M. Cauvin à l'époque dont il s'agit.

Dès que les faits en question me furent connus je demandai à M. le Gouverneur du Sénégal et j'obtins l'autorisation de me rendre sur les lieux pour tâcher de rétablir la paix. J'emmenai avec moi les deux Chefs du pays que M. Cauvin avait fait prisonniers et envoyés à St. Louis, étant bien décidé à ne les rendre à la liberté que dans le cas où justice me serait faite pour tous les dommages dont le commerce placé sous notre protection aurait eu à se plaindre depuis leur arrestation. Or, à mon arrivée à Boké je trouvai le pillage presque entièrement abandonné par les indigènes ; les traitants étaient maîtres du terrain, et loin d'avoir été pillés ils avaient tous, ou presque tous, en leur possession les produits apportés par les caravanes et déposés dans leurs maisons—produits que les propriétaires, dans la précipitation de leur fuite au moment des coups de canon, n'avaient songé ni à emporter ni à se faire payer. Les indigènes étaient donc bien loin de penser à connaître des pillages dans cette circonstance, et j'affirme de plus que pendant les quelques jours que je passai au poste pour régler toutes les affaires produites par cet événement aucune réclamation ne fut portée.

Je ne comprends donc pas, je le répète, la demande d'indemnité produite par les négociants ou traitants Anglais établis à Boké. Il ne m'est pas possible de préciser la date de l'avis qui a dû leur être donné par le Commandant du poste pour qu'ils eussent à mettre leurs marchandises à l'abri, et votre Excellence comprendra que ce détail ne m'ait pas préoccupé alors qu'aucun dommage n'était résulté pour les traitants des hostilités engagées et qu'aucune réclamation n'était produite.

Je puis certifier cependant qu'à mon arrivée à Boké, quinze jours après l'évènement, je trouvais encore un assez grand nombre de traitants établis avec leurs marchandises dans l'enceinte du poste, où le Commandant les avait lui-même, me disent-ils, engagées à se réfugier.

J'ai en conséquence l'honneur de renouveler à votre Excellence, en terminant cette réponse, l'affirmation—

1. Que les traitants établis à Boké ont été avertis à temps par le Commandant du Poste de la nécessité dans laquelle il croyait se trouver de commencer les hostilités, qui du reste n'eurent aucune suite.

2. Qu'aucun vol, aucun pillage, n'ont été commis contre les traitants susdits à la suite des hostilités.

Inclosure 3 in No. 46.

Captain Vallon to the Minister of Marine.

(Extrait.)

Paris, le 6 Février, 1870.

VOTRE Excellence me fait l'honneur de me demander s'il est à ma connaissance que M. Cauvin, Lieutenant d'Infanterie, commandant Boké, ait prévenu, en Mai 1867, les négociants de ce comptoir, avant d'ouvrir le feu sur les bandes qui menaçaient le poste.

Au commencement de 1868 j'ai accompagné le Gouverneur dans le Rio Nunez ; nous avons passé vingt-quatre heures dans le haut du fleuve, très près de Boké, que la baisse de l'eau nous empêcha d'atteindre. Je puis affirmer à votre Excellence qu'aucune plainte, de

l'espèce de celle que présentent les négociants Anglais établis dans le Rio Nunez, n'a été alors portée au Gouverneur de Sénégal ; c'était, cependant, le moment le plus favorable pour ces messieurs, car le Gouverneur n'avait d'autre but, dans la tournée, que de recevoir les réclamations qui lui seraient présentées, et de régler lui-même, en connaissance de cause, les petites affaires toujours pendantes dans ces comptoirs éloignés de sa résidence habituelle.

J'ajoute que le Gouverneur n'a jamais reproché à M. Cauvin de n'avoir par pris toutes les dispositions ordinaires avant d'ouvrir le feu sur un village habité par nos propres traitants. Certainement, alors que plusieurs d'entre eux se sont réfugiés dans le poste, les plaignants d'aujourd'hui pouvaient le faire également ; je ne doute pas qu'ils aient été prévenus en temps utile, et s'ils sont restés dans leurs cases c'est que assurément ils craignaient beaucoup plus le pillage des indigènes que les coups du fort dirigés d'ailleurs sur le camp des caravanes et non sur les factoreries.

SWITZERLAND.

No. 47.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Bonar.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 18, 1870.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 6th October last respecting the two missionaries belonging to the Evangelical Missionary Society of Basle, captured by the Ashantees at Anum, I have to instruct you to inform the Swiss Government that a despatch dated the 17th of November last has been received from the British Administrator at Cape Coast, from which it appears that he was in communication with the King of Ashantee regarding the captives who were then supposed to be in Kumassia, and that the King had assured him that they would be well treated.

The Administrator also expresses a hope that he will be able to effect an exchange of the captives for some Ashantees whom he had detained.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON

No. 48.

Earl Granville to Mr. Bonar.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 26, 1870.

WITH reference to the correspondence which took place last year respecting the capture by the Ashantees at Anum of two missionaries belonging to the Evangelical Mission Society of Basle, I have to request that you will inform the Swiss Government and the Society that information dated the 4th of July has been received from the British authorities on the Gold Coast to the effect that, by the latest accounts from Akim, the captured missionaries were alive and safe in a village near Kumassia, and hopes were entertained of their being delivered from captivity.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

REPORTS FROM NAVAL OFFICERS.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

No. 49.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 10.)

Sir, *Admiralty, February 9, 1870.*
 I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, that Commodore Dowell, in his letter dated Ascension, 17th January, reports that the senior naval officer on the West Coast of Africa, Captain Miller, of the "Sirius," had returned to Jellah Coffee from a cruize, during which he had visited Fernando Po, Anna Bon, the River Congo, and St. Paulo de Loanda, and that everything was quiet on the South Coast, and no attempt had been made to revive the Slave Trade.

The "Growler" had been employed in conveying Her Majesty's Consul for the Bights of Biafra and Benin on his periodical visit to the Oil Rivers.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) VERNON LUSHINGTON.

No. 50.

Commodore Dowell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *"Rattlesnake," Ascension, January 16, 1870.*
 BY your letter of the 1st November last, I perceived that their Lordships had received Commander East's Report and Journal of the proceedings of the Niger Expedition under his command, copy of which has just reached me, and that their Lordships have been pleased to express their satisfaction at the conduct of the officers and men of the "Lynx" and "Pioneer," the two vessels employed in the Expedition.

2. The proceedings of Commander East have met with my full approval, and I consider that he displayed ability and judgment throughout.

3. It only remains for me to forward, for their Lordship's information, the suggestions with reference to future Niger Expeditions to which Consul East refers in his letter to you of the 15th of September. Copy of these suggestions is attached hereto; and with regard to his remark that the "Lynx" class of vessel is well adapted for the service, excepting for two reasons, one of which is the comparatively large number of white men comprising the crew, I would observe that, having regard to the possibility of hostile collision with the natives, it would not be prudent to make any considerable reduction in the number of white men on board the vessels sent up the Niger, as Kroomen, however valuable for heavy manual labour under a tropical sun, cannot be relied upon in action. All boys were removed from the "Lynx" prior to her entering the river, and Kroomen substituted, and in future I would reduce the white portion of the crew as far as practicable, consistently with the safety of Her Majesty's ships, and increase the proportion of Kroomen, with a view of sparing the whites as much as possible.

5. I am strongly of opinion that the annual presents should be continued to King Massaba and the Niger Chiefs.

6. I forward herewith charts of the Niger, which have been corrected as far as

possible, together with some useful remarks on the navigation of the river, and I request that the Hydrographer may be instructed to cause the necessary alterations to be made in the charts of the river, and to forward to the senior officer on the West Coast of Africa three sets of the amended charts as soon as possible.

7. It will be seen from the accompanying letter from Commander East that no deaths have occurred amongst his ship's company since leaving the river. Both officers and men have, however, with few exceptions, been prostrated by sickness, and several have been invalided, but the remainder are now convalescent. I purpose sending the "Lynx" to the Cape in a few days, and I trust that her stay in a healthy climate will speedily re-establish the health of the crew.

8. In conclusion I would beg leave to bring to their Lordships' notice the meritorious conduct of the officers and men mentioned by Commander East in his letters of the 17th November, 1869, and 10th January, 1870, especially of Lieutenant William E. Darwall, of the "Lynx," to whose exertions may be attributed the very clean and creditable condition in which I found the "Lynx."

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. DOWELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 50.

Appendix to Journal of Niger Expedition.

SHOULD vessels of the "Lynx" class be employed in the future navigation of the Niger, I think the 1st of August should be the earliest date for their entry in the river, the water not having sufficiently made over the shoals that are met with in the upper part of the Delta.

This class of vessels is well adapted for the service, except for two reasons. Firstly, the number of men comprising the crew: Secondly, the difficulty of stopping when descending the river—their efficiency for river service may also be increased by moving the false wooden keel of 16 inches.

The advantages possessed by the twin screw over the paddle are two; great facility in turning, and screws less liable to injury from suags. The paddle-engines, on the other hand, require less draught of water, and the vessel is stopped in less than her own length.

As a rule, I believe the inhabitants on the banks of the Niger are peaceably inclined: there is one tribe at Amblama which requires to be sharply dealt with, for they are pirates of the river, and if a vessel were to get ashore and be unable to get off, the crew would undoubtedly be murdered. These people should have fair warning, and if caught at any of their tricks, their place should be destroyed every year, and their canoes taken away.

It is also reported that the tide of the River Tchadda is interfered with by a tribe living some 40 miles up it, had I had time I intended to have gone up and ascertained the truth of this. Large quantities of ivory should come down this river to the confluence, but now it has to be sent overland to Egga.

The great kindness shown by King Massaba to the various Expeditions that have gone up the river, his anxiety to remain on terms of friendly intercourse with the English, and his desire to encourage trade, make it a matter of regret that the British Consulate should have been withdrawn, the presence of our white men having a most wonderful effect in that part of the country; at all events, I think it most desirable that even if no Expedition is sent up in future, some officer may be sent from year to year with the usual presents to the Court of the King. He could proceed and return by the merchant steamers, with whom a contract for his passage might easily be made.

Until the river is further surveyed, I would recommend that vessels of the "Lynx" class should not go above the confluence without obtaining canoe-men as pilots. These men having gone up and down the river during the dry season are well acquainted with the shoals that have formed during the previous year, and so know the deepest passages for a vessel to pass through.

The hostile place referred to might easily be visited by cruisers on the coast in 48 hours, including going and returning.

(Signed) J. W. EAST, *Commander.*

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Inclosure 2 in No. 50.

Commander East to Commander Dowell.

(Extract.)

Ascension, January 10, 1870.

I DO not think there was any apparent necessity for my leaving the river before I proceeded to do so. I now very much fear that the extreme point, where I left the "Lynx" to proceed to Biddah, was not a healthy one, though it had every appearance of being so, but I believe that the last two days, during which we were descending the river, wrought all the mischief—it rained heavily, almost incessantly, with a dense fog, and although with the exception of myself, the navigating officer and the men in the chains, no one got wet through, yet this fog penetrated every where, and we were in the worst part of the river amongst the mangroves. Though I ran 150 miles in one day, I was obliged to anchor for a night in this atmosphere, and we were consequently for twelve hours exposed to the full influence of the miasma arising from the mangroves.

No. 51.

Commander Cochrane to Commodore Dowell

Sir,

"Peterel," Bathurst, River Gambia, February 22, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that in obedience to your orders I left Sierra Leone at 8.30 P.M., on the 8th instant.

2. We arrived at the Gambia and anchored off the town of Bathurst on Sunday, the 13th instant, where I delivered your letter to the Governor.

3. The Governor not being well at the time, deputed the Collector of Customs to act in his place, and requested me to take him up to McCarthy's Island with Captain Niven, the Inspector of Police.

4. Having tried to get some coal which had been twice on fire from spontaneous combustion during the time it has been remaining here, the means of getting it off being so difficult I had to give it up; the boats could not approach the beach within thirty yards, and the men had to carry the coal on their heads and wade up to their breasts to get it into the boats.

5. Having embarked Mr. Fowler, the Collector of Customs, and Captain Niven, the Police Magistrate, at 4 P.M., on the 4th instant, I proceeded, under charge of Richard Lusock, a pilot who proved to have a thorough knowledge of his duties as pilot and the navigation of the river. I beg strongly to recommend him to any vessel about to perform the same journey.

6. We left our anchorage close to the coalshed at 5 P.M., and passed Elephant Island at 4 A.M.; we reached the highest point we were able at 2 P.M., on the 16th instant, a distance of about 136 miles, opposite a small town called Cassang, not marked on the chart, but 1,500 yards above the hill of Casem.

7. Mr. Fowler, Captain Niven, and myself proceeded up the river in a steam launch hired by the Colonial Government, early on Wednesday morning, to visit McCarthy's Island, a distance of twenty-five miles, which we reached in the afternoon.

8. The Manager of the island was received, at the request of Mr. Fowler, for passage to Yannamaroo, to communicate with the Native Chiefs and endeavour to settle the quarrels which are stopping the trade in the Upper River. A great council was held at Cassang, the King of Catebar being present, but the war being of a religious tendency, little or no good could be done. The Chiefs were invited on board, and some shell fired in accordance with a request of the Governor, which seemed to startle them, but there seems small chance of reconciliation.

9. On our passage down the river we stopped at Domosansang Creek, and we proceeded up in the launch to visit the town of Sookutoh, where we found trade going on undisturbed, and having brought the King on board he desired us to fire a shell, as he had heard our previous firing, and would not be otherwise satisfied. We then proceeded to Bathurst, where we arrived at 7 A.M. yesterday.

We are now coaling ships, and are going to lay down a buoy as we go out this afternoon.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ERNEST G. COCHRANE.

No. 52.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 30.)

Sir,

Admiralty, March 29, 1870.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, that Commodore Dowell, in his letters dated 20th February, reports that he had given a passage to St. George d'Elmina, in the "Rattlesnake," to his Excellency the Governor-in-chief of the West African Settlements; that the "Peterel" would, on her way to England, ascend the River Gambia as far as Elephant Island, to give the traders the sense of support and protection arising from the visit of a man-of-war; and that the "Pandora" or "Rocket" would convey Mr. Consul Livingstone to Whydah, to inquire into the complaints made against the authorities by the agents of the Company of African merchants.

The Commodore also reports that "affairs on the Gold Coast are in an unsettled state, there being a body of 300 Ashantees at Elmina, who, with the Elminos, are continually having petty fights with the Fantees; that the Dutch are in a more unsettled position than ever with the Commendaes and other tribes to the westward, ceded to them by the Convention of March 1865; that everything is quiet in Cape Coast and the other English forts, and that no disturbances are anticipated."

I am, &c.

(Signed) VERNON LUSHINGTON.

No. 53.

Commodore Dowell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Rattlesnake," at Cape Palmas, February 18, 1870.

WITH reference to your letter of the 15th November, 1869, transmitting to me copy of a letter addressed by the Admiralty to the Colonial Office, detailing the result of the Conference held at Whitehall on the 3rd November, relative to the Naval Force to be maintained on the West Coast of Africa, and its distribution, and proposing certain arrangements for carrying out the troops and Consular services on that station, I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that as their Lordships have authorized me to discontinue the slave blockade, the squadron now stationed on the coast is fully able to perform the duties required of it, viz., the protection of legitimate trade and the maintenance of a certain supervision on the coast to prevent the revival of the Slave Trade, and also to afford support and assistance to our Settlements.

No. 54.

*Commodore Dowell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.**"Rattlesnake," at Sea, Lat. 6° 10' N., Long. 10° 49' W.,
February 15, 1870.*

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 14th August, 1869, addressed to the Senior Officer at Jellah Coffee, forwarding for his information copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana to the Earl of Clarendon, stating that reports had been circulated of the alleged landing in the early part of June last of two cargoes of slaves in Cuba from the Coast of Africa, and directing him to endeavour to ascertain whether there is any foundation for this rumour, I request you will inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the Senior Officer of the West Coast Division, Captain Miller of the "Sirius," has reported to me, as the result of his inquiries, that the supposed shipment of slaves must have been made to the northward of Sierra Leone, if made at all, and I concur in the opinion expressed by him of the impossibility of shipments having occurred to the southward of Sierra Leone.

2. On the coast between Sierra Leone and the Gambia there are several places, and amongst them may be named Isle de Los, the Ponga River, and the Bijoujas, where there may still be Portuguese who would be willing to run a cargo of slaves if an opportunity offered; but I have made particular inquiries, and I am perfectly satisfied that no slaves have been shipped from any of those places or their neighbourhood. His Excellency the

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Governor-in-chief of the West African Settlements informs me that that part of the country is quiet and free from internal wars; and it is well known that the native Chiefs will sell no slaves for exportation excepting such as have been captured in war, and they would naturally be the more adverse to part with their domestic slaves at a time when, from the rapidity with which legal trade is increasing, they can be profitably employed in their own country.

3. The Resident or Civil Commandant of Bulama was at Sierra Leone recently, and, in reply to queries from the Governor-in-chief, assured him that he was acquainted with all the Chiefs on that part of the coast; that no slaves had been embarked; and that he was quite sure no shipment could have been made without his hearing of it.

4. I think, therefore, I am fully justified in concluding that the rumours mentioned by Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana of the landing in Cuba of two cargoes of slaves from the coast of Africa is entirely without foundation, unless the slaves were shipped on the East Coast; and I may here state my conviction that, during the last two years, no slaves have been exported from the West Coast of Africa.

5. It is my intention, however, to send a cruiser to visit the whole of the coast between Sierra Leone and the Gambia before the month of May, to ascertain if there is any indication of a revival of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. M. DOWELL.

No. 55.

Commodore Dowell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *"Rattlesnake," at Cape Palmas, February 16, 1870.*
ADVERTING to your letter of the 4th December last, forwarding for my information and for any remarks I may wish to offer, copy of a letter from the Foreign Office dated the 1st December, with their Lordships' reply of the 4th December, relative to the fever contracted by the crew of the "Lynx" during the Niger Expedition of 1869, and the proposed employment in future of a small vessel to be especially fitted and adapted for navigating African rivers, I have the honour to report that the following precautions were taken to preserve the health of the crew of the "Lynx" whilst in the River Niger:—

(1.) The "Lynx" was detached from her duties in the Bights and sent to Ascension on the 17th April to be prepared for the peculiar service upon which she was about to be employed, and she remained at Ascension until the 21st June. During this time her awnings were enlarged and carefully fitted with curtains, &c., to protect the men from the sun during the day time, and to admit of their sleeping on deck at night without exposing themselves to the dew; a broad wooden awning was fitted over the bridge to protect the officers on duty, and extended beyond the bridge to afford protection to the leadsmen; her 64-pounder gun was landed in order that the galley might be shifted to the upper deck, and a scuttle was cut on either side of the forecabin for the better ventilation of the lower deck.

(2.) Previous to ascending the river the ships' companies of both "Lynx" and "Pioneer" were carefully inspected by medical officers, and any men whose constitutions appeared unequal to stand the service, together with the whole of the boys, were removed, and their vacancies filled by healthy men from the Senior Officer's ship and kroomen.

(3.) The attention of the officers in command was especially called to the precautions recommended by the Medical Director-General of the Navy to be adopted for the preservation of the health of their ships' companies, and I have every reason to believe that these directions, copy of which is forwarded herewith, were strictly complied with.

2. I have no doubt that the serious sickness from which the crew of the "Lynx" suffered was mainly due to the grounding of the ship when descending the river, and the consequent fatigue of the men in their endeavours to get her off, extending over five days, as, although some cases of fever had occurred previously, and the sick list was large, it does not appear that any of the men were dangerously ill at the time she grounded.

3. I am quite of opinion that with proper precautions the Niger, as also other African rivers, may at certain seasons be navigated without danger to the men employed, but unfortunately the season when the Niger is navigable (for vessels of the "Pioneer" class even) occurs immediately after the rains, when the climate is certainly not a healthy one for Europeans; but even at that time of the year, with due care the risk of life is not great under ordinary circumstances; but, should the ship take the ground, and the men be

called upon for any extraordinary exertions in getting her off, we have invariably found that the white men suffer. The chance of grounding is, in fact, the main risk, and it must always be great, even in a vessel of light draught, especially when coming down the river, as the shoals are continually shifting, owing to the rapidity of the current; and a vessel in coming down may ground on a bank over which she had passed but a short time previous with ample water.

4. If it is decided that the annual Niger Expeditions shall be continued, I would strongly recommend that a vessel should be built specially for the service. Her dimensions should be similar to those suggested by Commander East in his remarks, forwarded to you in my letter of the 16th ultimo. She should be a paddle-wheel vessel of very light draught, fitted with a rudder at each end, which would enable her to navigate the intricate and narrow parts of the river without turning. She should be built of teak (which wood, I believe, to be impervious to the ravages of the worm), and possess roomy well-ventilated accommodation for both officers and men, and a good deck cabin for the sick. Light wooden awnings should be fitted, under which the crew might live without exposure to sun or rain, and the galley and cooking arrangements should be on the upper deck.

Especial care should be taken in ventilating the stoke-hole and engine-room, and the furnaces should be fitted in such a manner that they could readily be adapted for burning wood.

She should be armed with two rocket tubes, and two 24-pounder howitzers, fitted at the bow and stern, in the same manner as the 20-pounder Armstrong guns are fitted in the "Lynx" class of gun-vessel. Commander East suggests that her armament should consist of two 40-pounder Armstrong guns; but I am of opinion that the heavy recoil of those guns would shake the ship too much, as was the case in the "Investigator."

I would suggest that she should be commanded by a Commander, with a Lieutenant, and a Navigating Lieutenant, or Navigating Sub-Lieutenant, as the executive officers; and a crew composed principally of kroomen, but with not less than twenty-five or thirty white men, including the officers. Both officers and men to be selected, as far as possible, from persons of good health, strong constitutions, and temperate habits.

5. The vessel should be under the orders of the Senior Officer of Her Majesty's ships on the West Coast, and, when not engaged in Niger Expeditions, she could be employed in conveying the Consul to the Oil Rivers in surveying operations, and the general duties of the station, advantage being taken of any spare time to send her to St. Helena or Ascension to recruit. The white portion of her crew should be relieved and sent home after eighteen months or two years' service, taking care that all three executive officers should not be relieved at one time, in order that the vessel might not be sent up the Niger without having at least one officer who had visited it previously in her.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. M. DOWELL.

Inclosure in No. 55.

Extract from the West Coast of Africa Station Order Book, paragraph 30.

THE following directions for the preservation of the health of the crews employed in the Expeditions up the River Niger, which embody the suggestions of the Medical Director-General, and the measures adopted with the most satisfactory results in the Expeditions of 1864, 1865, and 1866, are published here for general information:—

1. It is of the greatest importance that the strongest, most healthy, and by all means the most temperate men should be selected, and that boys should not be taken, as they invariably suffer from the after effects.

2. Each white man to have four grains of quinine in one ounce of sherry every morning and evening after work is over. To commence taking quinine twice a-day for six, seven, or even ten days before entering the river, to establish a certain degree of cinchonism, and to continue it for ten days after leaving the river.

3. To have a cup of good hot coffee or cocoa every morning before going on deck.

4. To have a pint of porter at dinner in addition to the daily half gill of spirits. No extra spirits to be issued, but cocoa, coffee, or tea, when necessary,

5. Condensed water to be always used for drinking.

6. Lime juice to be issued daily, and fresh meat and vegetables, if practicable. Fruit at the discretion of the medical officer.

7. Exposure to the sun and rain to be most carefully avoided, stout awnings to be spread over ship and men in the chains. The men must be watched, as they recklessly expose themselves.

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8. If men get wet they must be seen to shift into dry clothing as soon as possible. They are always to shift into night-clothing at sunset.

9. Bilges to be thoroughly cleaned and dried daily. Carbolic acid to be applied freely.

10. The lower deck should only be wet once a-week, and always well dried up.

11. Each man to have a mosquito curtain.

12. Awnings to be at least nine feet from the deck, in dry weather to be furled daily at 5 P.M., and re-spread at 7 P.M. With curtains to windward it will be as safe for the men to sleep under the awnings as on the lower deck, and more comfortable.

13. No white man to sleep on shore.

14. Harmless recreation, such as music and singing, to be in every way encouraged, and smoking permitted as the men please.

15. The vessel employed should, when possible, leave the river before the water has fallen to any considerable extent.

16. The vessel should pass the swampy flats in the lower parts of the Delta as rapidly as possible, to get clear of the mangrove thickets and into the more healthy region near the confluence of the Niger and Tchadda.

17. When in the river the vessel is to anchor in mid-stream, or as far as possible from the flats and swampy parts.

No. 56.

Commodore Dowell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

March 6, 1870.

THE "Pandora" returned to Jellah Coffee on the 24th February with Mr. Consul Livingstone, having visited Whydah, to enquire into the complaints made by the Company of African Merchants against the King of Dahomey. It would appear that the facts of the case have been grossly misrepresented by the agent of the company, and that it is not a case requiring our interference. Mr. Livingstone has proceeded to Lagos in the "Pandora," to make further inquiries of the company's agent stationed there, and I hope by the next mail to be able to transmit full particulars for their Lordship's information.

No. 57.

Commodore Dowell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Rattlesnake," at Lagos, March 19, 1870.

THE mail-steamer which arrived here this morning, on her passage to England, has on board an agent (a Mr. Roy), belonging to the house of Taylor, Loughlin, and Co., of Glasgow, who has lately arrived from the Congo, and who brings the following information with reference to an act of piracy alleged to have been committed in that river.

2. It appears, that early in February, information was conveyed to Commander Seymour, of the "Growler," by a native, that a cargo of slaves was being shipped outside the Congo, which induced him to proceed to the spot in the "Growler;" but finding, on his arrival at the place indicated, that the vessel was a legitimate trader, loading with produce, he suspected that something was wrong, and returned immediately to the Congo, and proceeded up the river direct towards Punta da Lenha. About half-way between that place and Banana Creek, he discovered a schooner, the "Loango," belonging to the firm of Taylor, Loughlin, and Co., which had been attacked by natives, who had pillaged her, and were then in the act of stripping off her copper, &c. As soon as the "Growler" came in sight, they all left the schooner, and hurried on shore.

Commander Seymour appears to have followed them, and to have destroyed three of their villages, killing several of the natives, who are reported to have made some resistance; and I regret to hear that Commander Seymour and another were wounded, although not seriously.

3. It is reported that this act of piracy was committed by Manuel Vacca's people; but the villages stated to have been destroyed are situated near Scotchman's Head, and certainly on the opposite side of the river to his; and on the day the attack was made on the schooner it is said that he (Vacca) was seen in Punta da Lenha, so that I doubt the correctness of the report. It is asserted, however, that two prisoners were taken, one of whom is Manuel Vacca's son, and the other, one of his Chiefs; but I cannot ascertain that any grounds exist for this assertion.

4. The pilot of the schooner, named Tom Brown, who was also the washerman, seems to have been at the bottom of this affair; but whether he is, or not, connected with Vecca. I am not aware.

5. I purpose leaving the Bights for the South Coast immediately after the arrival of the next mail; and I shall take the "Pioneer" with me, and station her in the vicinity of the Congo for the next few months; and I anticipate that her occasional presence in the upper part of the river will effectually prevent a recurrence of similar outrages.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. M. DOWELL.

No. 58.

Commodore Dowell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Rattlesnake," off the Bonny River, April 1, 1870.

I HAVE the honor to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords' Commissioners of the Admiralty, that I yesterday visited the Bonny, and it is with much regret I have to report that I found affairs in that river in the same hopeless state they have been in for some months past, trade being at a stand-still.

2. The position of affairs seem to be this:—The Chief, Jaja, having been defeated in the engagement which took place in September last between his followers and those of the Chiefs, Manilla Pepple and Oko Jumbo, retreated with his people to the upper waters of the river and is now in possession of the creeks leading to the oil markets, thus effectually stopping the trade of the Bonny men. He has also obtained the command of the P'Commetail or Opobo River, about forty miles to the eastward of the Bonny, and has opened a market there, whence he is shipping oil in large quantities. The Bonny Government claims the sovereignty of this river, in common with that of the Andoney or St. Antonio (a river about midway between the Bonny and the Opobo), which certainly does belong to the Bonny people, having been ceded to them by treaty in 1846, and would endeavour to prevent Europeans trading in it, but as yet I have not been able to find any proof that the Opobo was included in the treaty, or that the Bonny men have any right to exercise jurisdiction to the eastward of the Andoney.

3. At the earnest request of the English firms having establishments in the Bonny, and whose interests are so injuriously affected by these internecine wars, I have consented to attend a palaver at the Court of Equity to-morrow, at which the Chiefs, Oko Jumbo, Wambou, and Manilla Pepple are to be present—these Chiefs represent the Bonny Government, King George, the nominal head of the Bonnymen, being at present absent in England. The merchants entertain hopes that these Chiefs will be glad to make considerable concessions to Jaja to induce him to make peace, and if the terms they are prepared to offer shall appear to be reasonable and such as Jaja would be likely to accept, I have undertaken to see him myself and propose them to him, and, if possible, to mediate between the rival Chiefs.

4. I am induced to undertake this having satisfied myself that the natives themselves will not open negotiations, and that they would not accept the mediation of any trader or merchant, whose interference would at once be attributed by the contending parties to interested motives.

5. Jaja, at present, undoubtedly occupies a strong and commanding position at the entrance of the creeks leading to the oil markets, from which it appears very certain the Bonnymen cannot dislodge him, and that their efforts to do so will only result in prolonging indefinitely the present unsatisfactory state of affairs, consequently a settlement can only be arrived at by negotiation; and as the Bonny Chiefs are in the worst position, being completely cut off from the trade, they must make considerable concessions.

6. Their Lordships will, I trust, understand, that in endeavouring to settle this unhappy business I shall act with perfect neutrality, and that any influence attaching to my position will be exerted simply in explaining to both parties the advantage to be gained by themselves and to the cause of humanity by a cessation of hostilities.

7. I do not think anybody can state the actual cause of the war, but I believe it to be the result of a long-standing jealousy between Oko Jumbo and Jaja about trade, and I am quite sure that no one can say which of the combatants has right on his side.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. M. DOWELL.

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No. 59.

Commodore Dowell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "Rattlesnake," off the Bonny River, April 3, 1870.
IN accordance with the intention expressed in my letter of the 1st instant I proceeded yesterday into the Bonny River to meet the Chiefs as arranged, and to ascertain what terms they were prepared to offer Jaja.

2. The meeting was held in the Equity Court, and was attended by the Chiefs Oko Jumbo and Manilla Pepple (Warriboo) and the Representatives of the English firms in the River.

3. I found that the agents were altogether wrong in informing me that the Bonny Chiefs were anxious to come to amicable terms with Jaja; but, on the contrary, both Oko Jambo and Manilla Pepple declared their determination to fight the matter out, and appeared confident that they would be able to drive Jaja from his position.

4. The Chiefs expressed their intention of blockading the River I'Commetain, or Opobo, and thus cutting off Jaja's communication with Europeans, and were very anxious that I should prohibit English traders from entering the river, which, of course, I could not do. I believe, however, that the claim of the Bonny people to exercise jurisdiction over the Opobo is well founded, as it would appear that the Treaty of 1846, ceding Andoney to the Bonny, was signed by the headmen of the Opobo also.

5. I considered it my duty to point out to the merchants that if they persist in entering the Opobo, notwithstanding the warnings they have received from the Bonny Chiefs, that they will do so at their own risk, and that if they suffer either in life or property from the hostilities which are being carried on there between the Bonny men and Jaja, they will have no claim upon Her Majesty's Government for redress.

6. I learnt with regret that some of the English traders are supplying the belligerents with munitions of war, and I can hold out no hope of a speedy termination of the war.

7. It is reported that an application has been made to their Lordships to cause the mouth of the I'Commetain, or Opobo, to be surveyed.

I would respectfully recommend that this request should not be entertained whilst affairs remain in the present unsatisfactory state.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. M. DOWELL.

P.S.—I sail to-morrow morning for the South Coast.

No. 60.

Captain Miller to Commodore Dowell.

Sir, "Sirius," Jellah Coffee, May 14, 1870.
I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a letter I have received from the Administrator of the Gold Coast, and of my reply thereto, in regard to the existing state of affairs in the district of the River Volta.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. MILLER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Administrator Ussher to Captain Miller.

Sir, "Eko," off Jellah Coffee, May 13, 1870.
IN order to meet the requirements of the Colonial steamer "Eko," which has been placed at my disposition by his Excellency the Administrator of Lagos by direction of the Governor-in-chief for service in the River Volta, a quantity of coal was despatched and landed at Addah some weeks since by the steam-ship "Tornado," of Lagos.

A small force of constables and the townspeople of Addah were placed in charge of this coal. During my absence it has been reported, I fear with truth, that the Abunabe people (the people inhabiting the coast and inland towns from Jellah Coffee) have destroyed this coal by crossing the river during the night and throwing it into the Volta.

3. Their object in so doing has been to prevent the "Eko" from ascending the Volta,

and is the culminating point to a long series of hostile acts against her Majesty's Government and its allies, by which trade has entirely ceased in the river.

4. In addition to this the Abunabe, in conjunction with some piratical tribes along the left bank of the Volta, and incited and abetted by one Geraldo Leina, a notorious slave dealer, living within gun-shot of your vessel at Voger have called in to their assistance the Ashantees, who have possessed themselves of the territory allied to Her Majesty's Government, and have only been prevented from subduing it entirely by the efforts of a native Chief of the river.

5. I may mention that, although Her Majesty's Government has not exercised its rights of jurisdiction for some time past as it forms part of the territory ceded to the British Government in 1860 by Denmark in consideration of a sum of 10,000*l*.

6. The hostile acts of these people, in conjunction with the threatening attitude of Ashantee along our entire frontier necessitate some decisive step; I therefore, before proceeding to the Volta to ascertain the precise truth of the report to which I have alluded, should be glad to receive from you an assurance that I may rely on your co-operation in recovering from the inhabitants of Jellah Coffee and the coast towns of Abunah a due compensation and an atonement for the injury and insult offered to the Government under my charge; and in order to further this object I shall be happy to consult with you as to the measures which ought to be taken in the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. J. USSHER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Captain Miller to Administrator Ussher.

Sir,

"Sirius," Jellah Coffee, May 14, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant with regard to the disturbed state of affairs in the district of the River Volta, and informing me of the hostile acts of the native tribes on the left bank of that river. I beg to acquaint you that I have forwarded a copy of your correspondence on this subject to the Commodore Commanding-in-chief, pending whose instructions on the subject I shall be glad to carry out any services that, under the circumstances, may be necessary, upon requisitions duly forwarded by the Governor-in-chief.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. MILLER.

No. 61.

Commodore Dowell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

*"Rattlesnake," at Sea, Lat. 6° 37' S., Long. 2° 44' E.,
April 30, 1870.*

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of two letters from Commander Seymour, of the "Growler," reporting the particulars of an act of piracy committed in the Congo by the natives of that river, in January last, upon the English schooner "Loango," and his proceedings in consequence thereof; and I have great pleasure in bringing before their Lordships' favourable notice the prompt and decisive manner in which Commander Seymour acted in the matter, as also the conduct of the officers and men under his command, alike creditable to all concerned.

2. With reference to the act of piracy I have, during my late visit to the Congo, thoroughly investigated the matter, and have come to the conclusion that the attack on the schooner was neither premeditated nor in any way previously arranged, but that the natives (who, especially on the south bank of the river are always ready to rob and plunder when they get an opportunity), finding the "Loango" at anchor off their creeks, and suspecting from their own observation that no resistance would be made in case of attack, took advantage of the opportunity, and boarded and took her, as reported.

3. A Portuguese man-of-war had been at anchor for three days close to the spot where the outrage was committed, and only sailed a few hours before the attack was made. Now this vessel was awaiting the return of a boat she had despatched to Embomma, and it is unlikely, therefore, that the natives could have known at what time she would leave the river.

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4. A canoe had been alongside the "Loango," and had probably ascertained the state of affairs on board.

5. There can be no doubt that the master of the "Loango" was, at the time of the attack, lying in his cabin in a helpless state of intoxication. The crew, although they had two Snider rifles and two revolvers, evidently did not know how to use them, and upon the natives boarding at once took to the boat without firing a shot, leaving behind them the master in his cabin and an unfortunate boy, whom the mate had sent aft to put the helm over just before the natives boarded.

6. I cannot ascertain that the pilot was in any way implicated in this affair, nor does it appear what became of him after the attack. The boy who was left on board, and whom I saw at St. Paul de Loanda, told me that he saw the pilot fire a revolver at the natives and then jump over the bows. I presume he escaped in some boat or canoe.

7. I am of opinion that this outrage would never have been committed but for the want of vigilance on board the "Loango," and her remaining at anchor so long in the most dangerous part of the river, near Scotchman's Head. She had brought up there at 7 P.M. on the 25th of January, and the attack took place at 4 P.M. the next day. I consider that if, owing to the failure of the ordinary sea breeze or other cause, a vessel is unable to proceed towards Punta da Lenha, she ought, rather than remain so long at anchor in one place, to weigh or drop down the river to another anchorage.

8. With reference to the report brought to Commander Seymour by the man John Thomas, that a French barque had embarked slaves and gone to Landana, which induced him to leave the Congo and was the cause of his being absent from the river when the "Loango" was attacked, I believe the coincidence to have been accidental, and the supposition that the report was spread merely to draw away the "Growler" whilst the attack was made, to be unfounded. John Thomas belongs to Shark's Point, and in the days of the Slave Trade, frequently gave information of the movements of slavers, on the understanding, that should his information lead to a capture, he was to receive a reward. There is no doubt that the barque in question did receive on board a lot of negroes at Banana, but merely as passengers for conveyance to Landano. John Thomas must have known what they were, but probably trusted to the vessel being taken if found with these negroes on board, in which case he would have got his reward. John Thomas is of course a great rascal, but I cannot make out that he was in any way concerned in the Loango affair.

9. I have caused the prisoner taken by Commander Seymour to be sent to Ascension, where at all events it will be desirable to detain him at present; he was certainly engaged in pillaging the "Loango." After several inquiries I have come to the conclusion that he is a brother of M'penge Nebacca, and not a son of Manuel Vacca, as Commander Seymour supposed.

10. The principal person concerned in this outrage was certainly M'pinge Nebacca, whose village was destroyed by Commander Seymour, but I have no doubt that Kango of Songo and his people were also engaged in it. I consider, however, that Commander Seymour acted rightly in sparing Kango's villages, as the boy who was wounded, and had been taken to one of them, was given up on his demand; but I have now issued a notice to the natives informing them that, in the event of any similar outrage occurring in future, I shall hold all the villages in the neighbourhood answerable for it, and that punishment will fall upon all.

11. There is now a large and increasing trade between Banana and Punta da Lenha, employing a number of sailing vessels and launches, besides half-a dozen small steamers which are constantly running; and it is admitted that the traffic is attended with but little risk or danger. The natives on the south bank are known to be a set of robbers, who only require opportunity to commit acts of piracy; but if only ordinary precautions are taken no danger need be apprehended from them, and trading vessels may navigate the Congo as safely as other African rivers. I have addressed a letter on this subject to the Representatives of British firms in the river, copy of which I beg leave to transmit herewith.

12. For the present I have stationed the "Pioneer" in the vicinity of the Congo for the protection of our trade, with orders to visit the river frequently, and occasionally, at irregular intervals, to ascend as far as Punta da Lenha. Her head-quarters will be Kabenda, where supplies of fresh meat and fruit are procurable, and where she can be communicated with by the factories at Banana in six hours.

13. It has been proposed that, in cases of piracy committed by the natives, fines should be inflicted as part of the punishment, as is frequently done in the Oil Rivers when the Treaties are violated; but in the first place we have no Treaties with these people; in the second, the natives who commit the piracies are so poor that they could not pay; and

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thirdly, as we have no trade with them we should have no means of compelling them to pay in case they declined to do so; and to levy a fine which you cannot enforce could have no beneficial effect. The only manner in which we can punish them is by destroying their villages and canoes.

14. I regret to state that Commander Seymour has not recovered from the wound he received on this occasion, but I trust that the change to Ascension, whither the "Growler" has proceeded, will have a good effect.

15. As regards the attack on the launch "Agnes," on the 29th December last, first referred to in a letter dated 1st January, 1870, from the agent of Messrs. Taylor and Laughland to Commander Seymour (copy inclosed), it appears to me that when this occurred but little importance was attached to it, and, considering the time that elapsed before it was reported, and the difficulty of ascertaining who were concerned in the attack, and, further, that in the meantime an example had been given to the people of the river of the punishment which would be inflicted in similar cases, I have approved of Commander Seymour not having taken any steps in the matter. It is, I think, to be regretted that the merchants should persist in sending their trade goods up the river in vessels manned solely by Kabenda men or Kroomen, unarmed, and totally at the mercy of any small number of natives who may choose to make a raid on them, trusting for protection merely to the sense of fear the natives have of our men-of-war.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. M. DOWELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 61.

Commander Seymour to Commodore Dowell.

Sir,

"Growler," *St. Paul de Loanda, February 11, 1870.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 28th January last, having just anchored off Banana Creek, at the mouth of the River Congo, five hands belonging to the British schooner "Loango," of Glasgow, owned by Messrs. Taylor, Laughland, and Co., and consigned to Mr. Scott, their agent at Ponta da Lenha, came on board, and reported that the "Loango" had been boarded by natives at 3 P.M. on the 26th January, when at anchor just below Campendi Island; that they had slipped the cable and deserted the ship in her only boat, leaving the master and boy, vessel and cargo, in the hands of pirates.

2. I at once got up steam, and at 11 A.M. weighed and proceeded up the river. About 0.30 P.M. I discovered the "Loango" at anchor close in shore, three quarters of a mile above the large creek leading to King Plouby's Town, and surrounded by canoes with natives busy pillaging the vessel, who left her and pulled away when they saw my ship coming.

At 1 P.M. I started in chase of them with three boats manned and armed, and scoured the neighbouring creeks; but though we succeeded in capturing a dozen canoes—which I afterwards destroyed as punishment—with several barrels of rum in them, which I returned to the schooner, the natives, all except one man whom I overtook in the water, by swimming and landing escaped into the bush. The ship meanwhile had anchored close to the "Loango," boarded and taken charge of her, no one being found on board.

On my return to where the schooner was I found Mr. J. McCormick, sub-agent for Messrs. Taylor, Laughland, and Co. at Ponta da Lenha, and acting in Mr. Scott's absence. This gentleman had with some others come down in a small vessel armed, to try and rescue the schooner. Going on board the "Loango" I found that in the short space of twenty hours the natives had taken away the whole of her sails and stores, and quite stripped the cabin and forecastle. The schooner was quite new and 96 tons measurement. Of the cargo, including 13½ tons of gunpowder, rum, coals, rice, &c., all was gone except the coal, 65 hogsheads of rum, and a few et ceteras.

4. Of the master and boy nothing could yet be learned, and as of course my first object was to save them, I consulted with Mr. McCormick and agreed that, being able to do no more that day, he should at once go to a factory called Ilha, near Campendi, belonging to Mr. Oliveira, a Portuguese, and obtain, if possible, a guide for the creeks and native towns around. A party was set to guard the schooner, and at 11 P.M. Mr. McCormick returned with a slave of Mr. Oliveira's as a guide.

5. About 5 A.M. on the 29th I left the ship with a 1st gig, cutter, and whaler, manned and armed, and believing from various inquiries of the prisoner and others that King M'Pinge Nabacca was the head man in this outrage, and the master of the schooner probably at his town, if alive, I proposed to visit him first, and if possible make a surprise,

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but on entering a creek just below Campendi I found waiting in a canoe Mr. Sant' Anna, agent at Ilha, who without my knowledge or wish guided us to a place called Zans Town, then saying it was the residence of M'Pinge Nabacca's brother, whom he advised us to seize. Having come I thought it best to land, and forming, advanced rapidly on the village, but the natives had all escaped into the bush, and none could be taken. Finding some plunder from the schooner here, and knowing who was the chief of it, I burnt the village and returned to the boats.

6. I now determined to visit M'Pinge Nabacca next, and guided by Mr. Oliveira's slave, pulled some four miles to the eastward, when he indicated the landing-place.

Having landed, we proceeded with all convenient speed for about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles along a narrow and rough path in the bush, passing through several ponds with water at times 3 feet deep, till at last a clear space appeared, and the slave signed to advance. We did so, and found ourselves in a large native town, but the inhabitants, firing only some straggling shots, fled into the bush, evidently having felt secure in their hidden retreat, and now completely surprised.

We secured two prisoners, one of whom was afterwards released, but the other, to be mentioned presently, I have retained. At the further end of the town Mr. Henry B. C. Wynyard, Sub-Lieutenant, found the master of the schooner, Mr. John Lewis, lying by a house, and saw him wounded by a bullet through the hand, fired by a native at the moment he reached him; this unfortunate man was also injured by a blow from a matchet on his head, and from this and other causes has been unable then or since to give me any information.

In this town was plunder from the "Loango" in every house, including 4 or 5 tons of gunpowder, and things far too numerous to mention. I resolved to remove what light and valuable things I could, send on a party carrying the merchant-captain (who could not walk) to the boats, and burn the whole place. This was effected as soon as possible, and all the powder blown up.

7. Questioning the prisoners, it appeared that the boy was likely to be found in a village called Nebiula, about two miles to the eastward. I now sent the cutter to the ship with Mr. John Lewis, who appeared very ill, keeping the whaler with me as the fastest boat. Having proceeded about two miles, the slave pointed to a spot in the bush as the place to land; on approaching it the natives opened fire on us with muskets, which we returned, and pushing some 40 yards up a creek, too narrow for oars, found a spot to land on. I left five out of our party of thirteen in all to guard the boats, and with the rest advanced on the village, distant about a third of a mile; but they were prepared, and had cleared away every house. Searching the bush round, however, we found a large quantity of gunpowder hidden away; this I had blown up, burnt the village, and returned to the boats. Embarking, we pushed out into the large creek. During all this time we exchanged a random fire with the natives, not one of whom could be seen; but though several bullets passed through the boats our casualties were fortunately very few. As nothing more could now be done, and no further news got about the boy, I returned on board, reaching the ship at 4 P.M., now anchored near Campendi Island.

8. Late in the evening a message was sent that the boy was known to be alive in a village rather lower down, and would be given up for some trade. I replied that I could give none, but, were he not delivered up next day, would treat all the towns in that part as I had treated Mr. M'Pinge Nabacca. On the 30th January I awaited the answer, and in the evening the boy Charles M'Arthur was brought off in a canoe alive, but dangerously wounded through his left shoulder.

9. On the 31st I proceeded under steam to Ponta da Lenha, and thence delivered over the "Loango" to her consignees.

10. With regard to the prisoner mentioned above, his name is M'Vica; and as I have discovered him to be the son of the notorious Manuel Vacca, I have kept him on board till I could learn your wishes on the subject.

11. In conclusion, I have much pleasure in recording the zeal and energy displayed throughout by my officers and ship's company; and, while at a loss to particularize, would beg to call your attention to the fact that Mr. William S. Gow, now Navigating Sub-Lieutenant, although wounded, continued to afford me all the support in his power till the close of the day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. H. SEYMOUR.

Casualties during the Day.

Killed.—None.

Wounded.—Edward H. Seymour, gun-shot wound through right lower leg, about lower third bones uninjured, and wounds progressing favourably; William S. Gow, Navigating Sub-Lieutenant, gun-shot wound, carrying away flesh uninjured. This officer has returned to duty.

(Signed) A. G. BAIN, *Assistant-Surgeon.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 61.

Mr. Mc Cormick to Commodore Dowell.

Sir,

Ponta de Lenha, February 1, 1870.

ON this occasion, I, as the representative of Taylor, Laughland, and Co. of Glasgow, feel myself indebted to thank you for the deliverance of the schooner "Loango" from the hands of pirates in the River Congo.

The chastisement you have already inflicted upon them, namely, burning three of their towns, will certainly have a good effect upon the pirates of the river; but you will please excuse me remembering you that what was robbed from the schooner "Loango" of Glasgow, 96 tons register, and belonging to the above-mentioned merchants, was of more than treble the value of what was destroyed actually belonging to the pirate. Consequently I trust you will see the necessity of returning, and, though not thoroughly exterminating those robbers, that you will, by burning their villages or strongholds, deter them from any such murderous, villainous, or piratical attempts on the lives of British subjects and British property, as was manifested on this present occasion, namely, of the schooner "Loango."

In connection with the prisoner taken on the occasion of your burning the town of M'Pinge Nebacca, I would earnestly entreat that he is sent back to Congo on no condition whatsoever. He is the brother of the ringleader of this most scandalous robbery and almost murder (if not quite so); and I understand he (M'Vica the prisoner) had an active share in the entire transaction.

More, I may inform you that M'Pinge Nebacca and M'Vica (your prisoner) are cousins, and Manuel Vacca, who is also interested to no small amount in the robbery of the "Loango."

Yours, &c.

(Signed) J. Mc CORMICK.

Inclosure 3 in No. 61.

Commander Seymour to Commodore Dowell.

Sir,

"Growler," St. Paul de Loanda, February 11, 1870.

THE prisoner M'Vica was at first thought to be the brother of M'Pinge Nebacca, but has since been proved to be Manuel Vacca's son.

I would submit that, in my opinion, he should certainly not be set at liberty, and I quite agree with Mr. M'Cormick in his idea about him. M'Vica's presence on board the schooner was proved, although he denied it; and could I have brought home to him the violence committed on the Captain or boy, I would myself have had him tried and punished for so gross an outrage.

I have since heard that, after we left, the natives sent up to Ponta da Lenha to see if they could make terms for the release of M'Vica.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 4 in No. 61.

Mr. McCormick to Commander Seymour.

Sir,

Ponta da Lenha, February 1, 1870.

I AM sorry to inform you of the robbery of the schooner "Agnes" (of about 12 tons register tonnage belonging to Messrs. Taylor, Laughland, & Co., Merchants, Glasgow), by pirates about 1 mile above Mallela River, Congo, a few of the details are as follows:—

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On the 29th December, 1869, while the schooner "Agnes" was anchored, waiting on the sea breeze, she was attacked by about ten canoes carrying altogether about thirty negroes armed. The eight unarmed Kabendas on board thought it useless to offer any resistance, consequently the pirates proceeded at once to rob and destroy all and everything on which they could lay their hands.

The loss on this was of trivial amount, say, perhaps, 200*l.*, but had the schooner been loaded, as she might have been and often is, the loss would have amounted to more than treble what it actually was. I may also mention that had it not been that a Portuguese ship happened to pass close by at the time we would mostly certainly have been without the schooner at present, said ship having fired two guns, thus frightening the pirates. The sea breeze having sprung up the schooner arrived at Ponta da Lenha in the evening. I would therefore request, as a British subject and on behalf of British interest in the River Congo, that you would chastise such a piracy in such a manner that they are not likely to be continued.

Your attention will oblige yours, &c.

Pro Taylor, Laughland, and Co.,
(Signed) J. Mc CORMICK.

Inclosure 5 in No. 61.

Commander Seymour to Commodore Dowell.

Sir, "Growler," *St. Paul de Loanda, February 11, 1870.*

SO long a time having elapsed it appeared hard to discover the real aggressors, and considering all things I considered it best not to act in this matter; the more so as I had just given an example to the inhabitants on the river. I wish, however, to state that in addition to this the schooner "Boakora" from Loanda, having run ashore last November at Sharko Point, was plundered and burnt by the natives there. I believe they consider a vessel when aground as a lawful prize though not deserted, but the general tendency to piracy of the Congo tribes is evident.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 6 in No. 61.

Commander Seymour to Commodore Dowell.

Sir, "Growler," *St. Paul de Loanda, February 11, 1870.*

IN addition to my despatch of to-day's date, I beg to forward the following remarks on the same subject.

2. The South Bank of the Congo is peopled by pirates, of whom the most important Chief seems to be M'Pinge Nabacca, and perhaps next Kango of Songo; while Manuel Vacca, though second to none, has since his return from Ascension exercised, I believe, rather a general than a local influence. M'Pinge Nabacca appears to have been almost the first man on board the "Loango," and the only blow struck in her defence, which was given by a black seaman with a handspike, fell on his head, but with what result is doubtful.

3. I had some thoughts of burning the town of the Kango of Songo, but as nothing had yet been proved against him, and it was from that direction the boy was returned who received his wound on board the schooner, I spared him.

4. Before leaving the Congo I wrote to M. Oliveira, requesting him, through his factories of Ilia and Songo, to issue the following message from me:—

(1.) Her Majesty's ship "Growler," or some other British man-of-war, will before long revisit the Congo, and, should any fresh outrages have been committed, punish them more heavily than in the late operations, as they will in that case seem not to have been severe enough.

(2.) My only reason for not destroying more native life and property was, that the captain and boy of the schooner "Loango" were recovered alive, but this should not prevent my putting to death the man or men who wounded them, could I prove the offence.

(3.) Besides M'Pinge Nabacca and Manuel Vacca, I shall take care that Kango of

Songo is marked as one of the first for punishment, should any future outrage take place, having grave suspicions about him.

5. Mr. Laughland has suggested to me the infliction of a fine, to be in produce; and I believe it might have a very good effect, but thought right to leave this for your consideration, before pledging myself to enforce its payment by arms, if required.

6. I inquired carefully into the desertion of the schooner "Loango," and was sorry to find that her master had been under the influence of liquor for some time past, and appeared to have no influence over the crew, who by their hasty and disorderly flight showed the total want of order prevailing on board. The vessel was supplied with two Snider rifles and two revolvers, which were got up and loaded, but not one shot was fired, and the arms were left behind for the pirates to seize.

7. I have strong suspicions of the complicity of the Shark's Point natives in this affair, for the following reasons:—

The "Loango" made Padron Point on 19th January, and passing close by Shark's Point was swept by the current out to Vista, having been for some hours close to Turtle Cove, though not at anchor there.

On the 23rd January, as reported in my letter of proceedings, I was informed by John Thomas, a Shark's Point native, that slaves had been embarked at Banana, and the native from the latter place whom I took on board as informer, proved to be his near relation. On my return to Shark's Point on the 2nd February, John Thomas was not to be found, though we had good reason to have expected him, and the natives said he had been some days absent on business: I have not, therefore, yet seen him since the affair.

8. When sailing for Landano on the 24th January, I had thought of leaving a boat's crew behind, but the sudden arrival of the Portuguese "Sagrés" made this needless. She sailed again at noon of the 27th: the attack was made three hours after. It, is of course, uncertain if the report about slaves was a blind or not.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Inclosure 7 in No. 61.

Commodore Dowell to the Chiefs and Inhabitants of the Towns and Villages on the Banks of the River Congo.

I HEREBY give notice that an English man-of-war is always stationed in the neighbourhood of the River Congo, and that in the event of any such outrage as that committed by M'Pinge Nebacca and his followers on the schooner "Loango" again occurring it will be punished most severely.

That I shall hold all the inhabitants of the towns and villages in the vicinity of the place where the act of piracy may be committed, responsible for the same, and that retribution will fall on all alike. I would therefore advise every one to endeavour to prevent a repetition of such abominable acts.

Given under my hand on board the "Rattlesnake," at Shark's Point, this 26th day of April, 1870.

(Signed) W. M. DOWELL.

Inclosure 8 in No. 61.

Commodore Dowell to the Agents of British Firms established in the River Congo.

*"Rattlesnake," at Shark's Point, River Congo,
April 26, 1870.*

Gentlemen,

AS it appears evident from the late outrage committed upon the "Loango," that the natives of the Congo only require opportunity to perpetrate similar depredations, I would venture to suggest to you that the following instructions should be given to the masters of your vessels, and precautions taken when navigating the River Congo.

I would recommend that the masters should be cautioned never to allow a canoe of any description to come alongside whilst on passage between Boolambeuba, or Shark's Point, and Punta da Lenha.

That all vessels should be armed, and a very good look-out always kept, especially when at anchor, the arms being ready loaded, &c., in case of need.

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That care should be taken that the crew understands the use and management of the rifles, pistols, &c.

That the rifles should be all fitted with bayonets.

That boarding-nettings should be fitted three feet high round the ship, to be put up on entering the river.

The masters should be careful, when obliged to anchor, to lie as much in the middle of the river as possible, and not to remain at anchor in one place longer than absolutely necessary. I would recommend that if, owing to the failure of the sea breeze or any other cause, a vessel is detained more than eighteen hours, she should weigh and drop down to another anchorage.

One of Her Majesty's vessels will be kept in the vicinity of the river (unless obliged to leave in consequence of sickness or other unforeseen cause), whose captain will render every assistance and protection in his power to the traders; and the merchants are requested to communicate with him should any piracy be threatened, or should the presence of a man-of-war be desired. But the merchants must understand that the naval officers' orders are very peremptory not to enter into hostilities with the natives except for the protection of life and property.

The "Pioneer" or some other vessel will occasionally visit Punta da Lenha.

If the precautions I have recommended are taken, combined with the constant presence of a man-of-war in the vicinity of the river, I think that no recurrence of such outrages need be anticipated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. M. DOWELL.

No. 62.

Commander Jones to Captain Miller.

Sir,

"Pert," Bonny, May 29, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 16th May inclosing directions from their Lordships dated 11th April, and copies of certain letters to and from Lord Clarendon on the subject of the war in the Bonny.

2. On the arrival of this ship here yesterday, Waribo and Oko Jumbo, head of the house of Manilla Pepple, came on board. In the course of conversation then, and subsequently at a general meeting of merchants and agents held on board the usual hulk, they expressed their entire willingness to conclude a peace with Jaja; but the indispensable basis of any Treaty must be the "permanent abandonment of the Andoney country by Jaja, and his return to Bonny on his old footing." The merchants were also unanimous in their opinion that a peace concluded on other terms would be to little purpose.

3. The heads of the Manilla Pepple house being willing to grant almost any terms that the Consul and the Court of Equity deem just and desirable, it remains for us to communicate personally with Jaja, now established on the Opopo, with his head-quarters 9 miles from the mouth of that river. He is not likely, however, to be so reasonable as his enemies were; and it is the general opinion, that so long as he continues to fancy that he is inaccessible to British ships-of-war, letters or proposals of peace will be of slight avail. The inclosed letter from him to Commodore Dowell just received would seem to point to a different conclusion, but it must be remembered that he has heard of our arrival in the Bonny, and of our intention to visit him if possible.

4. It is not very clear, however, that we shall be able either to cross the bar or ascend the river; merchant vessels receive their cargo outside the bar. We can obtain no pilot, and the river has not been surveyed. I understand that there is 9 feet on the bar, and if I find that there is not too much sea on it as to endanger boats, I shall send one a-head to sound and endeavour to carry out the Consul's wishes by ascending the river.

The mouth of the Opopo is 35 miles to the eastward of the Bonny, but is in connection with Bonny Town by numerous inland creeks and lagoons, which is the usual route of the trading canoes.

5. It is computed by the merchants here, that the actual decrease of exports since September from the Bonny exceeds 300,000%. to which, so far as they are concerned, must be added the loss of their goods—all exported from England for purposes of barter—which are rapidly depreciating in value from the effect of the climate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES GRAY JONES.

REPORTS FROM NAVAL OFFICERS.

Inclosure in No. 62.

Chief Jaja to Commodore Dowell.

Sir,

Opobo River, May 26, 1870.

I BEG of you that you will please at the earliest opportunity visit this river in a small man-of-war. I wish very much to have a personal interview with you, and trust to prove to you that this river does not belong to Bonny, as the present King of that river wishes to maintain. This river is entirely separate from the Andoney. All I wish is to carry on my trade in peace.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAJA, *Chief of Opobo.*

No. 63.

Commander Jones to Captain Miller.

Sir,

"Pert," Old Calabar, June 10, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to report that, having secured the services of Mr. John Bowerbank, agent for Horsfall's cruizer, as pilot, I took this ship over the Opobo Bar on the 31st May, and we anchored off the town of Opobo, six miles from the entrance, at 4 P.M. on that day.

2. Two sailing-ships and three steamers were taking in and discharging cargo outside the Bar, and a barque of 400 tons, with two smaller vessels, taking in oil at the town, being at anchor within a few yards of the shore. The forest surrounding the town was being cleared; wooden jetties were being constructed, and there was every appearance of active and increasing trade about the place. Alongside some of the jetties was 8 fathoms at low water. Jaja was absent at one of his forts on the Andoney, and did not come on board until the 3rd June. He treated, I consider, both the flag and Her Majesty's Consul with some want of respect previous to appearing, and throughout his interview with us displayed very plainly that he considered himself entire master of the situation. The result of the conference was:—

(1.) He partially refused to return to Bonny, or abandon his present position.

(2.) He was willing to stop the war; but—

(3.) He would not allow the Bonny men to trade through the territory he now holds possession of either now or ever.

3. Some letters passed between Jaja and Consul Livingstone after we had left the town, and were at anchor in the mouth of the river, but they did not in any way alter what I have stated above; and the correspondence ended by Jaja stating that he would communicate further with Lord Clarendon direct, and without the intervention of Her Majesty's Consul. This ship re-crossed the bar and returned to Bonny the same day, on the 3rd June.

4. The simplest account I can give of the present state of affairs is this; Jaja having occupied and fortified certain assumed impregnable positions on the Andoney, Ambee, and Opobo, cuts off the Bonny men from the Eboe and Ina markets, which have heretofore supplied the Bonny trade, cannot avail himself of the Eboe market at the head of Opobo River, because, though blockaded by him, they are actually held by Bonny men who were cut off in that position early in the war, and still hold out, but he has the entire monopoly of the Ina markets. There is, properly speaking, no war going on, and neither side has sustained any loss in men since the original fight in Bonny last September. Jaja retains his position without much effort, and carries on a lucrative and rapidly increasing trade with white men through the mouth of the Opobo, the Bonny men being afraid to attack him; and, in fact, having never entertained the idea of doing so. Jaja increases his influence over his own Chiefs and the King of Tingani continually, and so far from desiring "a return to the old state of affairs," is very strongly of opinion that he has everything to lose and nothing to gain by such a step. In fact, having secured to himself a monopoly of the trade, sees no reason why he should abandon it.

5. It must therefore be accepted as a fact that the Bonny oil trade, as it existed before the war, will never be resumed without the armed intervention of Her Majesty's Government. Such an intervention, however, would be, I think, neither for the good of the oil trade generally, or altogether fair to the present antagonistic parties. On the other hand, it seems both fair and desirable that free and unmolested trade should be assured to the white traders and natives in the Bonny, through the creeks and rivers now held

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exclusive possession of by Jaja; and that both parties should be allowed to secure what portion of the general trade they can in fair traffic.

6. The practical effect of such a measure would be to restore to Bonny about half its old trade, and leave the other half to be exported through the mouth of the Opobo. So long as things remain without some kind of armed interference on our part Bonny will get none; Opobo will get nearly two-thirds of the amount that used to be produced, and the remainder will be lost altogether.

7. This point of raising the blockade of Bonny, therefore, Consul Livingstone and myself strongly pressed on Jaja, and I have no doubt that if we had been empowered at that time to proclaim a blockade of the Opoba, so much would have been conceded and ratified by Treaty within forty-eight hours of our arrival; but so soon as he had heard Lord Clarendon's letter to him read, and observed, as he at once did, that it only threatened him at some unknown time in the future with the "displeasure of Her Majesty's Government," he naturally concluded that he was at least safe in his complete monopoly of trade for two or three months more, and he stedfastly refused to concede anything more than a cessation of the war, which cessation really means nothing, as there is, as I have previously observed, no fighting going on; and he was careful to point out that neither in peace or war would he allow the Bonny trade, with what he now calls his markets, to be resumed.

8. As there has been no previous survey of the Opobo, I have prepared a rough survey of the river so far as I had time to explore it, which is appended; and from information obtained there and at the Bonny, I have no doubt that if one of Her Majesty's ships were anchored in Half Moon Bay, with a boat stationed in the mouth of the Ambee, and another on the river between Hedgehog Point and Minnemaffa, she would be able to dictate terms to Jaja in the course of a week, as not only would he be cut off from oil supplies, but be starved into submission, the country he holds possession of not being self-sustaining.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES GRAY JONES.

No. 64.

LIST of Ships furnished with Slave Warrants, specifying the Number of Guns, Tonnage, Names, and Ranks of their Commanding Officers.

North America and West Indies.

Ship's Name.	Guns.	Tons.	Name of Commanding Officer.
Royal Alfred*	18	4,068	Captain Richard Wells.
Racoon	22	1,467	Captain Edward H. Howard.
Pylades*	17	1,278	Captain Cecil W. Buckley.
Valorous	10	1,257	Captain Edward Hardinge.
Eclipse	6	1,270	Captain A. H. Hoskins.
Danaë	6	1,287	Captain William Graham.
Sphinx	5	1,061	Captain H. B. Phillimore, C.B.
Niobe	4	1,083	Commander R. G. S. Pasley.
Vestal	4	1,081	Commander James E. Hunter.
Royalist	3	669	Commander Rd. S. Bateman.
Philomel	3	664	Commander Douglas Walker.
Lapwing	3	663	Commander Chas. G. F. Knowles.
Plover	3	663	Commander J. A. Poland.
Fly*	4	464	Commander Thos. T. Phillips.
Myrmidon	4	697	Commander H. L. Holder.
Aboukir (Jamaica)	86	3,091	Commodore Rich. W. Courtenay, Sup.
Britomart	2	270	Lieutenant Basil E. Cochrane.
Cherub	2	268	Lieutenant N. S. F. Digby.
Minstrel	2	268	Lieutenant Harry F. Yeatman.

Cape of Good Hope, and West Coast of Africa.

Ship's Name.	Guns.	Tons.	Name of Commanding Officer.
Rattlesnake*	17	1,705	Commodore W. M. Dowell, C.B.
Sirius	6	1,268	Captain David Miller.
Growler	4	464	Commander E. H. Verney.
Rocket	4	464	Commander A. R. Wright.
Pert	4	464	Commander Chas. G. Jones.

CLASS A.

REPORTS FROM NAVAL OFFICERS.

South East Coast of America.

Ship's Name.	Guns.	Tons.	Name of Commanding Officer.
Gladiator*	6	1,210	Captain N. B. Bedingsfeld.
Beacon	4	465	Commander Thos. S. Gooch.
Cracker	4	467	Commander Hawksworth Fawkes.
Speedwell	5	428	Commander J. P. J. Parry.

East Indies.

Ship's Name.	Guns.	Tons.	Name of Commanding Officer.
Forte*	24	2,364	Commodore Sir L. Heath.
Cossack	16	1,296	Captain John E. Parish.
Dryad	4	1,086	Commander George Parsons.
Nynphe	4	1,084	Commander John C. Wells.
Bullfinch	3	664	Commander Edwd. F. Lodder.
Teazer	4	464	Commander R. M. Blomfield.

No. 65.

Administrator Ussher to Captain Miller.—(Communicated by the Admiralty, July .)

Sir,

"Eko," River Volta, June 26, 1870.

AS this vessel is about to leave the river, and as I am not likely to have the advantage of a steamer again in these waters for some time, I shall feel obliged if you can assist me in the following manner (unless such be contrary to your instructions):—

2. The contents of my previous despatch of the 13th May will already have acquainted you that, although Her Majesty's Government has not exercised it of late, it still possesses the right of jurisdiction for a considerable distance from the Volta mouth to below Quittat. This jurisdiction was ceded to us by Denmark for a pecuniary consideration, that State having acquired the right, I believe, by actual conquest.

3. The operation of a large body of allies from our protected districts, in conjunction with the aid of this steamer, have been successful in obtaining for the Accras and their allies the comparative command of the river from Upong Rapids to the mouth, by the total destruction of Doffo.

4. You are, however, doubtless aware that the Ahunnahs (the inhabitants of Jellah Coffee and all the coast and interior towns) made a Treaty in 1868 with Sir A. Kennedy, C.B., Governor-in-chief, pledging themselves to endeavour to make peace with the protected district, to abandon the Ashantee Alliance, and otherwise to discourage the hostile operations on the eastern bank, so long abetted by them, and so ruinous to the whole trade of our large cotton and oil district up the stream.

5. While abstaining from any openly hostile demonstration near the seaboard (although making no steps towards peace with the Addahs) they supply the Ashantees and Acquacicos, against whom the Accras are at this moment fighting, with arms and ammunition, purchased from British traders (you will say not an uncommon thing on the Coast).

6. In addition to this, the Ahunnahs have marauding parties everywhere along the eastern bank, where, in conjunction with some rebellious tribes from our river bank, the Urlamfis, Mefis, and others, they are ready for any mischief, and harass the rear of our allied forces in a dangerous manner.

7. You will readily understand that the expense and responsibility incurred by this Government will be likely to be futile, if, while the local Government is assisting one contending side, a tribe like the Ahunnahs are actually trading with British merchants in friendly relation with British vessels, and receiving periodical visits from mail steamers, and that all the efforts of the Gold Coast Government and the Accras, who are fighting for life or death against their deadly enemy Ashantee, will be neutralized and of no effect.

8. I am not prepared at present to make any requisition upon you for a stoppage of trade, nor am I prepared at this moment to assert the rights of Her Majesty's Government to coerce these people into obedience and a cession of resistance to its policy, but I do now, Sir, ask you to be good enough to cause the Chiefs of this Ahunnah to be warned in as solemn and impressive a manner as possible that any further deviation from the Treaty of 1868 with Sir A. Kennedy will render them liable to be treated with the utmost rigour in their coast towns, as well as with the severity of a land force which the allies will surely direct against them. That these deviations will be considered to mean, firstly, any

* Warrant applied for this day, July 27, 1870

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attack by hostile forces made upon the River Volta from Ballah to Addah, that being mostly their country. Secondly, the continued presence of Ahunnahs with the Ashantees in the north; and, thirdly, the supply to them of powder and arms. We well know that if this latter traffic be ceased the Ashantees, severely pressed already, must go.

9. I do not think I am asking you to incur any responsibility in soliciting you to do this in the name of this Government, although I am thoroughly aware that the moral force your warning will carry will add great weight to the belief they may entertain of it. I may here warn you that you will be met with denials and asseverations of every kind. My own experience up this river has opened my eyes to these people thoroughly, and to the necessity of repeated warnings being followed by action.

10. In the case of the rebellious and piratical Duffos, destroyed on the 18th and 19th June, with a loss to them of 600 prisoners besides their killed, and the destruction of the Ashantee and Acquacicos Captains, already in occupation of protected territory, the Ahunnahs should be able to read a lesson.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. J. USSHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 65.

Captain Miller to the Chiefs of the Ahunnahs, or Native Tribes, living on the Eastern Bank of the River Volta.

THE Government of the Gold Coast has written me a letter, saying,

1st. That the Ahunnahs (the inhabitants of Jellah Coffee and all the coast and interior towns) made a Treaty in the year 1868 with Sir A. Kennedy, Governor-in-chief of the West African Settlement, pledging themselves to endeavour to make peace with the natives on the west side of the Volta, promising to give up the Ashantee Alliance, and that they would discourage any hostile operation on the eastern bank of the Volta so long encouraged by them, and so ruinous to the cotton and oil district up the river.

2nd. That they have made no steps towards peace with the Addahs.

3rd. That they supply the Ashantees and Acquacicos, against whom the Accras are at this time fighting, with arms and ammunition.

4th. That the Ahunnahs have marauding parties everywhere along the eastern bank, where, with some of the rebellious tribes, they are ready for any mischief. I, therefore, hereby warn you that you have not acted according to the Treaty you made, and that Her Majesty's Government has the power, if it chooses to exercise it, of destroying your coast towns, and of stopping all your trade with shipping.

Dated on board of Her Majesty's ship "Sirius," off Lagos, this 11th day of July, 1870.

(Signed) D. MILLER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 65.

Administrator Ussher to the Senior Naval Officer, Jellah Coffee.

Sir,

Government House, Cape Coast, July 14, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to request, with reference to my despatch to you of the 26th of June last, that you will be good enough to cause a gun-boat, if possible, to proceed to this station, for the purpose of conveying me to Jellah Coffee, whither it is now necessary that I should proceed, and endeavour, with your assistance, to put an end to the troubles which for five years have existed along Ahunnah seaboard and River Volta within British jurisdiction.

2. If the vessel which I trust you will be good enough to place at my disposition should arrive here by the 31st instant, it will be in ample time for my purpose.

3. In case any doubts should arise in your mind as to the absolute necessity of taking this step, I shall be happy upon seeing you, or any officer whom you may depute to represent you, to give you convincing proofs thereof, as well as of the authority under which I am prepared to accept the whole responsibility of the requisition, and of any further requirements which I may have to submit to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. J. USSHER.

REPORTS FROM NAVAL OFFICERS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 65.

Captain Miller to Administrator Ussher.

Sir, "Sirius," off Lagos, July 18, 1870.
 WITH reference to your letter of the 14th July, I hope to be able to send you a gun-boat, to be at Cape Coast Castle by the 4th or 5th August; but my orders are such that I cannot enter into hostilities with the natives, without orders from the Commodore, the Admiralty, or upon a requisition from the Governor-in-chief, except to defend the immediate forts or towns of Accra and Cape Coast Castle.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) D. MILLER.

No. 66.

Captain Miller to Commodore Dowell.

"Sirius," off the Nun Entrance of River Niger,
 July, 1870.

Sir, I HAVE the honour to report that the Niger Expedition went into the river this day.

2. Appended are copies of letters received from the Administrator of the Lagos Government, one of which will show the passengers who accompanied the Expedition.

3. The Expedition consisted of the "Eyo," Lagos Government steamer, commanded by Lieutenant Molyneux, Senior Lieutenant of the "Sirius," and manned by the "Sirius." A list of her complement is appended. No Kroomen except refuse were to be obtained at Lagos, but three stokers (natives) were entered, who had worked under the Colonial engineer, and the man who went up as pilot in the last Expedition accepted the place of Head Krooman in the "Eyo." Captain Glover appeared to have a good opinion of him.

4. The "Pioneer's" ship's company were not in any way changed, as the medical officers considered that they answered the requirements specified in your order; and I considered that the number of white men in each vessel did not exceed the number requisite for the defence of the vessels in the event of their being attacked.

5. The "Eyo" was armed with the 9-pounder of the "Sirius," also her 24-pounder rocket gear and a $4\frac{2}{5}$ howitzer, belonging to the Lagos Government; she is a smaller vessel than the "Pioneer," but, I understand, has better speed. Both vessels are provisioned to the end of September. Their instructions are an embodiment of those received from the Admiralty (copies of which, I perceive, have been forwarded to you), with those transmitted to me by yourself.

6. No Assistant-Surgeon was available for the "Eyo," the Surgeon of this ship having been invalided; and Dr. Gorham of the "Pioneer," being ordered a passage home by yourself in the mail-steamer, he was unwilling to volunteer for the Expedition, and, under the circumstances, I did not think it right to order him to go.

7. As a supply of coal at Akassa was uncertain, and coaling laying at anchor off the coast is so inconvenient and attended with so much risk of damage to boats from the rolling of the vessels, the "Sirius" towed the "Pioneer" down from Lagos, and the "Fly" the "Eyo."

8. With reference to letter appended from Mr. Croft, agent of Holland, Jacques, and Co., at Lagos, I suppose he wanted either the Administrator or myself to write a letter of service to every shopkeeper in Lagos, announcing the fitting-out of the Expedition.

9. By copies of Foreign Office letters forwarded to me by the Admiralty, I observe that Lord Clarendon proposed to inform the African merchants in London that there would be an Expedition this year and the next, but no longer; and as his Lordship had been in correspondence with the West African Company on the subject, and had received a list of West African exports and imports from Holland, Jacques, and Co., intimation, I inferred, had been or would be given by the Foreign Office to the African traders in London; moreover, Captain Glover had in May transmitted orders to the officers carrying on the Lagos Government in his absence to prepare the "Eyo" for the Expedition; and as such a thing would soon be known all over Lagos, I do not know what Mr. Croft can have been about to pretend ignorance. The first week in July I dined on shore at Lagos at the Administrator's, with Mr. Croft and some other merchants; the Expedition was openly discussed at the table.

10. I understand that three or four merchant-steamers will go up the Niger this year, and that they will not have a medical man in either of them.

I have &c.
 (Signed) D. MILLER.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 66.

*Administrator Glover to Captain Miller.**Government House, Lagos, July 25, 1870.*

Sir,

I HAVE directed Mr. Bells, the harbour-master, to deliver over to you the Lagos Colonial steamer "Eyo," and that Mr. Hunter, the Colonial Engineer, satisfy himself as to the working of the engines while going over the Bar.

2. No effort has been spared by the Government to render the "Eyo" efficient for the service she is going on, and I believe I may state that every requisition made by Lieutenant Molyneux, R.N., has been readily complied with.

3. I inclose Inventory of Stores, and have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. S. GLOVER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 66.

*Administrator Glover to Captain Miller.**Government House, Lagos, July 25, 1870.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to request that if it be not inconsistent with your instructions, or inconvenient to the Service, you will cause a passage to be granted to and from Nuphi to the persons named in the margin,* with the exception of Mr. Capper (who will pay his own expenses). I should wish them to be victualled by the ships they may go in as Government passengers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. S. GLOVER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 66.

*Administrator Glover to Captain Miller.**Government House, Lagos, July 25, 1870.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward for your information copy of a letter received by me yesterday from Massaba, Emir of Nuphion, River Niger, together with a copy of a letter received by me from the Agent of Messrs. Holland, Jaques, and Co., on the subject of a letter from the Emir.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. N. GLOVER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 66.

*Mr. Croft to Administrator Glover.**Lagos, July 25, 1870.*

Sir,

I BEG to acknowledge receipt of your favour, inclosing copy of a letter from His Majesty King Massaba.

It is very evident from the contents that His Majesty is very fickle-minded, and very likely by the time we reach Lukoja he may have changed his mind as regards our removing the factories from that Station. I do not feel inclined on my own responsibility to remove from Lukoja, or give up the key to both rivers, on the promise only of King Massaba, and place ourselves entirely under his rule and thumb.

The property I purchased last year was from Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul, Mr. Dixon, the late British property, and I have always been given to understand that Lukoja was under British protection, and Dr. Baikie, the late British Consul, gave grants of land to any one wishing to settle there under that belief.

I hope, in case of the natives showing any hostile feelings between Iddah and Lukoja, that the Naval Expedition will be there to afford us the protection we may require or stand in need of. Up to the present date we have received no notice of any expedition, and have only casually heard of one fitting out.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES A. CROFT.

* Mr. Capper, agent of the Company of African Merchants; Harry Maxwell and Tako, Lagos Government messengers to the "Emir"; Marna and Misone, Tassa messengers to the "Emir."

REPORTS FROM NAVAL OFFICERS.

Inclosure 5 in No 66.

Mr. Reimer to Administrator Glover.

Sir,

Lagos, July 20, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of yesterday, inclosing copy of King Massaba's letter to you with reference to the disturbance near Lukoja.

I am much indebted to your Excellency for the information.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. A. REIMER.

Inclosure 6 in No. 66.

King Massaba to Administrator Glover.

Sir,

Bidda, June 12, 1870.

I AM extremely glad to receive your kind letter by Saka, and the contents read and explained to me, and I hear and understand all you have said in the letter. Glad to hear that nearly five ships will come up this year.

I wish you will give order to your men that will come up this year to get ready to fight, because I have been telling you this for a long time, and even sent to you that I don't want anything to interrupt you on my way. You knew that the King of Iddah was a great deceiver along the River Niger, and that he is a great mischievous man, for he has done great damage to your people and mine; therefore I wish you to your man-of-war when they are coming to fight Iddah and spoil all his countries, and from Iddah to the place where Mr. Fell is killed, and from there to Muze. I wish you to tell them to burn it up, for they are the worse nation that trouble your people more along the river.

From the time that Mr. Fell was killed, you said nothing to them about it, they don't care to do any damage to your men, and I wish you will not think anything else, for the land is mine, and I wish you to destroy it. Why? Because I don't want anything to disturb you on the way or on my land.

I might have sent war down to fight them long ago; but I cannot do it as long as Lukoja is there. Why? Because you have trusted your people at Lukoja into my hand, and they all are under my protection; and if I should send war against them and scatter them all over the land, and I should return back, those heathens should gather themselves on Lukoja, perhaps come on them at night and spoil the place on account of the goods that are there; and who is to blame? I am. But you need not be afraid, for whatever you trusted into my care, be sure that the thing will be cared for, and what you put in my hand be sure the thing is there, and as long as my life is spared in this world, and your people are under my protection, I will always keep them from danger. Now some of my army is at Lukoja to keep the place safe until the steamers come.

Another that I wish you to do this year is that, if possible, I wish you to remove your men from Lukoja to a place opposite Eggan. Why? Because the place is far from me, and the land is not good for horse, for I lost good many horses there, and this prevented me from knowing what to do with the heathen below it.

This is the reason I often write you to come, that we may know what to do about all these things, for how can I go on with them without you or hear a word from you; for how can one person lose the things that two persons find it is impossible? But I say if you are not coming, send me a man like yourself,—a man that obey your order, and do as you bid him. I must remind you concerning the war that you may not forget it, will be a great benefit for you and me. Your people can come up here to me without fear.

Glad to inform you that the smith you sent me is doing well for me; he has done all the work I wanted him to do, and he is still doing something for me; and I wish you to take care of his families for me; but when steamers arrive, I will pay him his wages and then put them in steamer and send it down.

Perhaps you have heard that the King of Houssa is dead; when he died, I sent my son to salute them for me, and I am glad to inform you that I hear he is coming back in peace. Glad to inform you that my troops are now in three places,—one at Lukoja to keep the places safe, another at Budow; these are on the river called Kede, and the greatest part is at Kotonkarifi. And, by the help of God, I myself will start when the water begins to dry. Every word that is stated in this paper is what I mean, for what I say I mean it.

Let me explain to you again the condition of Lukoja, and why I don't wish your people to settle there; because it is not a trading-place, and it also prevents me to fight

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the natives below it, and if I should rise against them now and fight against them until I drive them from their countries, and afterwards submit to me, and I return back home and there be some wicked persons whose wives and children may be caught, and they wanted something to redeem their families not having any,—and knowing that there are plenty of goods at Lukoja,—will not these wicked persons come at night and plunder the place because there is nobody to protect it? I wish you understand all that I mean, because that whatsoever is good for me is good for you also. The master of a house knows what is in it, and a landlord knows what is in his land; but strangers could not know. Lukoja is not good for me and for your people to stop. Even the merchants that get those goods at Lukoja, I don't know them, neither do they give me anything for the land; but you I know and trust, and everything that comes through you is mine.

For your sake I am doing all these and undertaking all these troubles; therefore I say you may remove your people to a place where they will be comfortable and get plenty of trade. I wish you will not forget what I tell you concerning the war.

Excuse me to say that I change my word concerning Iddah, for I was in a great rage when I command this letter to be written. I sent to ask him concerning his action, and he sent to beg me pardon and promise that he will not trouble your people any more, so long as he is King of Iddah; therefore we will wait to see whether he speaks the truth or lie, when the steamers come up we will find him out. But the other countries before him toward Lukoja have all determined to fight, and I wish you will fight them and Muze and destroy all their towns.

Wishing you are quite well as I am at present, hoping these few lines of mine may meet you in a perfect state of life, may Almighty God spare our lives to see each other again.

(Signed) KING MASSABA.

No. 67.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 25.)

Sir,

Admiralty, October 20, 1870.

I HAVE laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 23rd ultimo, expressing Earl Granville's views as to the proposals contained in the Report of the Committee on the East African Slave Trade.

2. In reply, my Lords desire me to request you will inform Lord Granville that they approve generally of the proposals contained in the Report of the Committee.

3. My Lords desire me to state that a Rear-Admiral has been appointed to the chief command on the East India station, and that measures will shortly be taken to reinforce the squadron under his orders, and for sending out a suitable steam-launch to be stationed at Zanzibar, but my Lords are not prepared to station a ship at Socotra to receive on board liberated Africans.

4. My Lords also approve of the proposed arrangements under which slaving vessels captured on the East Coast of Africa will be sent to Vice-Admiralty Courts at Aden, Muscat, or Zanzibar for adjudication. Their Lordships are, however, not disposed to entertain the proposal to give a higher rate of pay to officers instead of bounties.

5. My Lords would request to be furnished with 100 copies of the Report of the Committee, and of the paper to be annexed to it, with a view to their being issued to the commanding officers of ships on the East Coast of Africa.

I am, &c.

(Signed) VERNON LUSHINGTON.

No. 68.

Commodore Dowell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Rattlesnake," in Simon's Town, November 18, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty Commander Jones' report of his proceedings in the Rivers Bonny and Opobo, whither he proceeded in August last with Mr. Livingstone, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bights of Biafra and Benin, to endeavour to bring about a reconciliation between the rival Chiefs Oko Jumbo and Jaja, whose contentions have for so long almost destroyed the Bonny trade.

2. Commander Jones appears to have acted with promptness and decision in carrying out the requisitions of the Consul, which I presume were made in accordance with instruc-

tions from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, although I have not yet received any notification that Her Majesty's Government had issued instructions other than those contained in Lord Clarendon's letter of the 11th June, 1870, namely, not to interfere in the matters in dispute between the contending Chiefs, but to protect, if necessary, British subjects established in the neighbourhood from personal injury or violence, and British property from needless destruction, neither of which in this instance appears to have been jeopardized.

3. It is satisfactory certainly to find that Jaja was so quickly brought to reason and the terms of a Treaty between himself and the Bonny Chiefs arranged, but I would remark that, although arranged, this Treaty was not concluded, and I do not feel sure but that, on the departure of the "Pert," Jaja would repudiate the terms he had agreed to during her presence in the same manner as he had done but a few days previously, in which case we should, in a measure, be bound to punish him by again blockading his town. This would have the effect of stopping the oil trade of the Bonny district altogether, and it is probable, of course, that, in the meantime, Jaja would have retreated to the Incraw, and that the blockade of the Opobo would have much less effect upon him than it had when he was actually in the town.

4. Under these circumstances, although I approve of the energy and decision shown by Commander Jones, I cannot but feel sceptical as to the result which will attend Mr. Consul Livingstone's endeavour to open up the oil markets equally to Jaja and the Bonny Chiefs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. M. DOWELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 68.

Commander Jones to Captain Miller.

Sir,

"Pert," Fernando Po, August 22, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in compliance with your order dated the 22nd July, this ship conveyed Her Majesty's Consul to Jellah Coffee, and thence (after calling at Whydah and Lagos) to the Bonny and Opobo, where we arrived on the 9th August.

Your order directed me to proceed to Fernando Po, there to disembark the Consul. On the 11th, however, he furnished me with the inclosed requisition to remain in that vicinity.

2. On the 10th and 11th August, Jaja came on board this ship, and, after numerous consultations with us and his Chiefs, solemnly promised to close the war and open the oil markets on his women and children (residing under protection of the Manilla Pepple House since Jaja was driven from Bonny) being returned to him. He also asked us to bring round some Bonny Chiefs that he might personally arrange details.

3. Conceiving that everything was now settled as far as he was concerned, we returned to the Bonny, and after some delay got four of the Manilla Chiefs, viz., Wariboo, Oko Jumbo, Ada Alison, and Charles Pepple, to come round with us to the Opobo, they recognizing Her Majesty's ship as a neutral ground, on which both parties could meet without a compromise of dignity.

4. We anchored in the mouth of the river on the 16th, and notified Jaja of our arrival. He sent answer that he was sick. On the 17th, however, after the Consul and myself, accompanied by the boats, armed, had visited him, and ascertained that his indisposition was of a trifling nature he altered his mind, and on the 18th came on board.

5. So completely, however, had his views altered since our meeting a few days previously, that he commenced the interview by demanding back all those who had been killed since the beginning of the war (except those killed in Bonny), and in the course of a few minutes, after violently abusing the Bonny Chiefs and denying that he had ever held out hopes of peace, rose from his seat, and declared he would never have peace on any terms or at any time with Manilla Pepple. The Consul then interfered and assured him that after his broken faith with us, and his declaration that he would continue to stop the trade of the English traders in the Bonny, he should be compelled to leave the matter in my hands to bring him to reason.

This threat Jaja treated with incredulous contempt. It was evident that since our last visit he had been persuaded by persons interested in monopolizing the oil trade for the Opobo that we would take no steps in the matter.

6. I then warned him that in two hours I should be off his town and take measures to stop his trade, so long as he continued to stop the Bonny trade; this also, however, he laughed at and presently left this ship in his war canoes.

7. Being furnished by the Consul with a requisition to that effect, and fully

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recognizing the cogency of the Consul's reasoning, and the absolute necessity of decisive measures being taken, I accordingly appeared off the town with the ship cleared for action at the appointed time, and sent notice to the traders that I intended to stop the trade of the town, and desiring them to drop down the river, so as not to mask the fire of our guns should it be necessary to use them. Having previously sounded and explored in all directions, I had no difficulty placing the ship in a position from whence her guns commanded the three principal creeks, and two boats stationed within sight and range of the ship completed my arrangements.

8. Jaja, convinced at last that we were in earnest, made an attempt to escape in a fast pulling canoe, but this ship following and firing three shots ahead of her, he abandoned his intention and returned to Opobo. His intention was to proceed to Incraw and there set us at defiance, the property in Opobo town belonging mainly to white traders and he considering Incraw impregnable to ships' boats.

9. In the succeeding thirty-six hours some attempts were made to pass our line of fire either by canoes, who wished to run provisions into the town, or who wished to escape from it, but they were in each case defeated, either by the ship throwing shot or the boat's rifle bullets ahead of them.

10. On the 20th August at noon, Jaja sent on board to say he was willing to make peace, and requested a meeting. We went on board the trading-hulk of Messrs. Stuart and Douglas, and it was there arranged that there should be an immediate truce.

That there should be an equal division of the oil markets, and that to make this division satisfactory and equitable, both houses should bind themselves to abide by the arbitration of King Amacluce, and the King of Eucreeka who are to meet at Bonny for that purpose as soon as possible, and that should they be unable to agree on any particular point, the disputed matter is to be referred to Her Majesty's Consul, whose decision is accepted as final.

11. On 21st August we returned to Bonny, and the assembled Chiefs there having fully ratified the proceedings of their representatives and concurred in the wisdom of the Consul's plan, we may consider the Bonny war in a fair way of settlement.

12. On the 22nd August the ship returned to Fernando Po and landed Her Majesty's Consul. We are now coaling, preparatory to starting for Jellah Coffee.

13. On leaving the ship Her Majesty's Consul furnished me with the letter dated 23rd August.

14. Before concluding I conceive it my duty to point out the certain loss of life which must ensue if the orders to protect British life and property in the Opobo, issued by the late Lord Clarendon to Her Majesty's Consul, are persevered in. Exposed to imminent dangers if hostilities are resumed, the only possible way to protect them is to place a ship of war so close to the town as to cover the whole with her guns: a few days in that position would infallibly see all hands down with fever. Land-locked, and feeling neither sea or land breeze, it is the most unfit place conceivable for white men to reside in, and this opinion of the Consul, the Surgeon, and myself is amply corroborated by the fatal experience of the few trading ships who have been compelled to remain at anchor off these.

15. A new settlement at the mouth of the river, either in Half Moon Bay or near Low Point, would not be open to the same objection, or at least not to the same degree.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES G. JONES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 68.

Consul Livingstone to Commander Jones.

Sir,

"Pert," Opobo River, August 11, 1870.

DEEMING that the presence of a man-of-war is absolutely necessary in the present aspect of affairs in the Rivers Opobo and Bonny, I have the honour to request that you remain in this vicinity for the present.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 68.

Consul Livingstone to Commander Jones, August 18, 1870.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 37.]

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Inclosure 4 in No. 68.

Consul Livingstone to Commander Jones.

Sir,

"Pert," off Fernando Po, August 23, 1870.

BEFORE disembarking I beg to tender you my sincere gratitude for the cordial support you have afforded me in the discharge of many difficult and perplexing duties in the oil rivers.

Very valuable was your aid in obtaining a suspension of the long standing hostilities between the rival chiefs of Bonny and Opobo.

Your skilful and energetic stoppage of Jaja's trade brought that proud chief, in forty-eight hours, to offer such reasonable terms of settlement that the war which has caused such heavy losses to British merchants may now be considered at an end.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LIVINGSTONE.

No. 69.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received December 6.)

Sir,

Admiralty, December 5, 1870.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the inclosed copies of a despatch of the 17th October, from the Senior Naval Officer on the West Coast of Africa, and its inclosures, containing a detailed report of the proceedings of the Niger Expedition of 1870.

2. My Lords propose to approve of the conduct of Lieutenant Molyneux and the officers and men employed under his command during the Expedition.

I am, &c.

(Signed) VERNON LUSHINGTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 69.

Journal of Niger Expedition (consisting of Her Majesty's ship "Pioneer" and Colonial steamer "Eyo"), July to September 1870, kept by Lieutenant W. H. M. Molyneux, R.N., Commanding Expedition, on board Colonial steamer "Eyo."

Friday, 29th July, 1870.—9 A.M., Captain Miller inspected the "Eyo" and "Pioneer" got up steam, "Sirius" and vessels in company weighed and hoisted mast-head flags, steamed to entrance of Nun. 10.30, "Sirius" and "Fly" giving three cheers to which we responded, parted company and steered for the Bar, followed by "Pioneer." 12.40, crossed the western ledge of breakers in 13 feet ("Pioneer" getting 12 feet), we then got soundings from 14 feet up to 3, 4 and 5 fathoms off Palm Point, 7½ fathoms passing Mission House. 1.45 P.M., anchored off West African Company's factory at Akasa. By the soundings and on comparing with the "Pioneer's" compass, found we kept too far to the east after passing the western ledge. Our compasses never having been adjusted, went entirely by the soundings and leading mark; P.M., receiving coal from merchant-vessel. 7 P.M., very strong ebb tide set down, dingy in coming on board got swamped and was lost,—in anchoring, in reversing the engines, the eccentric strap and cams of port engine broke, disconnected port engine. The engineer of "Pioneer" took the fractured part to repair it, received 6 tons of coal.—Number of men sick "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 79° to 84°.

Saturday, 30th.—Daylight commenced coaling, received 3½ tons of coal deck cargo and filled lighter. King Oponama of Akassa visited the ship and gave him a present with which he was pleased. Noon, received in all 15 tons of coal. 1.30 P.M., tried the "Eyo's" engines and found they would not go over the centre, the slide requiring more lead given. 2, taken in tow by "Pioneer" lighter astern and proceeded for Louis Creek. 3.15, anchored off entrance to creek and proceeded in gig to obtain soundings. 5.5, weighed, proceeded through creek, soundings slightly in excess of those obtained. 6.15, anchored, engineer altering slide of engine, observed several flights of parrots, sand flies very annoying.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 77° to 84°.

Sunday, 31st.—6.5 A.M., tried "Eyo's" engines with altered slide, which would not work satisfactorily; taken in tow by "Pioneer" and proceeded. 7.40, passed Sunday Island. 11.30, stopped off Liambre, chief came off and gave him present. 1.15, stopped off

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Ukeda, two chiefs came on board, one got Her Majesty's present, the other a private sash, both satisfied, people seemed friendly, dancing, clapping hands, &c. 2·25, off Bassa Creek, current 3 knots. 4·45, off Opopuroma. 6, stopped, and after some difficulty in finding out the chief gave him a present, every one seemed friendly. 6·15 p.m., anchored between Opopuroma and Angama in 5 fathoms. "Pioneer" in company, engineer of "Pioneer" repairing "Eyo's" eccentric, during the day worked starboard engine to relieve the towing.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 77° to 81°.

Monday, August 1st.—4 A.M., "Pioneer" taking coal from lighter. 7·30, weighed in tow of "Pioneer," taking coal from lighter. 8·15, stopped off Angama, found chief had gone to Brass River, could not give present, several flags hoisted at Angama, people appeared friendly, but no symptoms of excitement or approval. 10·40, passed Assaci, people quiet, some canoes came off, current here very strong, 3 knots. 12·55, off Tuesday Island. 2, passed Ekebre. 5·40, passed Ekole. 6·30, anchored beyond bend above Ekole, "Pioneer" in company, sounding throughout the day correspond with those on chart. During the night heard guns firing from the directions of Kpetema and Ekole, and several very large trading canoes passed down the river. Engineer of "Pioneer" working at "Eyo's" eccentric, "Eyo" worked start engine.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 2; thermometer, 79° to 82°.

Tuesday, 2nd.—6 A.M., weighed and proceeded in tow of "Pioneer," current 2 knots. 8, passed Kpetema, people friendly and quiet, no cheering as at most villages. 8·30, passed Taylor's Creek, current increasing to 4 knots. 11·15, off Sabrogrega, stopped, intending to give present to chief but he was away from the village, several canoes came off with yams, &c., each having a white flag hoisted. 2·25 p.m., passed Abenta and the Gamantu villages, numbers of canoes came off and followed the ships, current 2 to 3 knots. Had our first shower of rain off Kaiama villages. Chief came off, gave him present, people on shore delighted with us, dancing, clapping hands, the greatest symptoms of friendship we have met with at any village. The Kaiama villages have not been hitherto included in the list of places for presents. 6·30 p.m., anchored in the bend below Stirling Island, "Pioneer" in company, engineer of ditto, repairing "Eyo's" eccentric; worked starboard engine during the day, heard guns from Kaiama.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 77° to 82°.

Wednesday, 3rd.—5·5 A.M., taken in tow by "Pioneer," weighed. 8, passing Stirling Island. 10·45, off village of Imblama, no stir amongst the canoes, the several villages hoisting a white flag, were very quiet. The soundings above Imblama vary very much from those on chart, this channel should not be passed without previously sounding by boat. 2·15 p.m., off Agberi. 3, passing Truro Island, soundings very much less than those on chart. 6·40 p.m., anchored off Grass Island, "Pioneer" in company, engineer of "Pioneer" repairing "Eyo's" eccentric.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 71° to 83°.

Thursday, 4th.—5·30 M.A., weighed in tow of "Pioneer." 7·30, passed Opinemaugh; 8·30, "Pioneer" stopped and anchored to screw up holding down bolts, several canoes came off with swivel-guns mounted in them from Epatami. 10, weighed and proceeded. Noon, passed Adiavi. 3, stopped to communicate with "Myrtle" steamer coming down the river, she had been to Onitsha and had got on shore by Abo. 4·30, the "Pioneer" towing the "Eyo" took the ground by left bank above Obi Farm; do., came off easily without any damage, sounded the channel and found it to be on opposite bank, on the place where the "Pioneer" grounded is marked 5 fathoms on the chart, on turning the "Eyo's" engine again the steam got into the port slide (the disconnected one), and forced the trunk up which had been secured down, the unbolted connecting-rod taking the crank, as the shaft revolved split a piece out of the trunk, consequently disabling the ship again, the engineer of "Pioneer" having finished our eccentric only two hours previously; 6·15 M.P., anchored off Akra Utiri. Decided on remaining here to make good defect of trunk to be done by engineer and staff of "Pioneer," engineer of "Eyo" replacing repaired eccentric, great praise is due to Mr. Barker, engineer in charge of "Pioneer" for the way in which he has entered into the repairs of the "Eyo," we having no appliances or materials, every day we have been in company, Mr. Barker has been at work at some defect of the "Eyo's" engines, although having his own watch to keep being under steam.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 77° to 88°.

Friday, 5th.—Engineers repairing defect in "Eyo's" engine. Rained slightly. Messenger came from King of Abo to salute us and ask what was detaining us. Sent messenger back to King to thank him and hoped to see him when off Abo.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 2; thermometer, 79° to 86°.

Saturday, 6th.—Repairing defect in "Eyo's" engine.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 75° to 88°.

Sunday, 7th.—Finishing defect in "Eyo's" engine. Weighed at noon, soon found steam down to 2 lbs. pressure, hailed "Pioneer" to take us in tow; current $2\frac{1}{2}$ knots, Tabura, King of Abo, came on board, gave him present with which he was much pleased. 1:30 P.M., passed Abo, difficult passage. 3, passed Nloni, several canoes came off, saw several crocodiles, monkeys, and cranes. 6:50, anchored, "Pioneer" in company.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 76° to 82° .

Monday, 8th.—6 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. 8, entered channel by Bullock Island. 12:40, anchored off Osomari, sent message to King to come off, numbers of canoes came alongside. King Anafuru came on board and gave him Her Majesty's present which appeared to please him much. 1:30 P.M., weighed and proceeded, Onitsha still in sight, first high land seen. 5, passed Alenso, saw a herd of hippopotami, and some alligators. 7:30 P.M., anchored above Atani, "Pioneer" in company.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 79° to 85° .

Tuesday, 9th.—5:30 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. 9:10, anchored in Onitsha Bay. Employed wooding both vessels from West African Company's factory. Went, accompanied by several officers, to visit the King (Obi Akasua), gave him Her Majesty's present, also conveying to him Her Majesty's expression of friendship toward him, thanking for the furtherance he had given to trade and assistance to the Missionaries. Gave presents to his son and grandson.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 79° to 86° .

Wednesday, 10th.—5:40 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. 7:40, passed village of Asaba, people crowding on the banks apparently very friendly. 9:30, water suddenly shoaled from $4\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms to 5 feet, then took the ground below Long Island, nearly in mid-stream, "Pioneer" also; both vessels then laid out bower, sheet, and kedge anchors, hove taut, and commenced lightening "Pioneer." Sending the wood on shore, stores, provisions, &c., on board "Eyo." Both ships' companies working until mid-night, when "Pioneer" came off and hauled into deeper water. During the day the Chief Asaba sent his son to say anything we wanted to land he would take care of (?).—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 77° to 90° .

Thursday, 11th.—Employed weighing "Pioneer's" anchors, and moved her into a position on "Eyo's" port-quarter; laid out hawser to "Eyo's" quarter, and let go three anchors; hove taut and lightened "Eyo" of everything. At midnight found she did not move; left off work until the morning; blew the water out of the boilers.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 79° to 86° .

Friday, 12th.—Getting one of "Pioneer's" bower cables to "Eyo's" starboard quarter; had great difficulty in laying it out, and found lighter of very great service; (also for lightening the ships); current 4 knots; both vessels heaving on cables and hawser. "Pioneer" helping with her engines until 9 P.M. When the "Eyo" suddenly came off and hauled up close to "Pioneer." Both ships' companies worked very well; no sickness of any kind. Mosquitoes very annoying.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 79° to 93° .

Saturday, 13th.—Returning stores to "Eyo." Getting wood from the shore. Sounded passage. 3 P.M., observed West African Company's steamer "Victoria" coming up the river, sent boat to warn her off the bank. Nevertheless, at 4 she took the ground on the same bank and after steaming until she drove off. 4:45, weighed, and proceeded. "Pioneer" following later. 6:50 P.M., anchored above Long Island. Ascertained the "Victoria" had been on shore three times on her way up, but easily came off each time owing to the great power of her engines. Several alligators and numerous flights of parrots seen. The river is unusually low for the time of the year.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 77° to 86° .

Sunday, 14th.—5:50 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. 7, passing Walker Island. 8:15, passing Lake Island; very strong current, 5 knots. Read prayers. By the appearance of the banks the river seems to have lately fallen 3 feet. 12:30, water shoaling off Omodemo. Anchored in 11 feet, and sent boats to sound. Found channel. 1:50 P.M., weighed. Should recommend before crossing to try channel by boat, the chart being no guide whatever. 4:40, all the "Eyo's" wood being expended, and the bad coal we got from Lagos not being able to keep steam, hailed "Pioneer" to take us in tow. 5:55 P.M., anchored off Onigo. "Pioneer" in company. The chart still continues very incorrect. Several alligators seen to-day.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 76° to 84° .

Monday, 15th.—6 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. 8:10, anchored off Ria market. Sent kroomen of both ships for wood. Rained all night.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 79° to 88° .

Tuesday, 16th.—6:15 A.M., weighed, and found engines would not move; both

vessels anchored again, and continued cutting wood. Engineers of "Pioneer" and "Eyo" repairing the latter's engine. 5.30 P.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company, and anchored at 6.15 off River Edo. River has risen in the last two days $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Several showers of rain during the day.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 79° to 86°.

Wednesday, 17th.—5.45 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. Current, 4 to 5 knots. Noon, off south end of Lander's Islands. 4.30, off Arka Island, a very difficult passage on right bank of river. 6.40 P.M., anchored off north end of Arka Island. "Pioneer" in company. Several large alligators and cranes seen to-day. The hills about Idda in sight, river still very low; a very hot oppressive day, and a very anxious and difficult one for conducting the navigation.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 79° to 90°.

Thursday, 18th.—6.5 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. 7.10, anchored to cut wood, opposite south point of English Islands. Current, 3 knots. Noon, weighed. 2 P.M., observed "Victoria" steamer, apparently aground off channel leading to Idda; ditto, got off; saw her go through channel by the Cliffs. 3.0, off Idda; the natives quiet; no canoes came off, or the usual signs of friendship shown further down the river. Before entering the channel below Idda had 7 feet off one paddle-box and 3 fathoms on the other, evidently where the "Victoria" had grounded. 7, anchored 1 mile above Selim Island. "Pioneer" in company. "Victoria" ahead in next bend of river. Whilst working this morning saw traces of hippopotomi. During the night heavy rain, and very vivid lightning.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 78° to 86°.

Friday, 19th.—5.50 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. 7.30, passed Akohin; this village is much extended to the northward. This is where Consul Fell was killed in 1867. 9.30, passed north end of Smart Island. "Victoria" ahead; anchored to sound; 11.30 anchored above Bird Rock to cut wood. The Chief of the district and the brother of Aboko came off, and gave them a small present. Several showers of rain. Had some difficulty in selecting a good place to anchor for wood, the shore being difficult of access from rocks and a scarceness of good trees; wooding ships all day.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 0; thermometer, 75° to 86°.

Saturday, 20th.—5.45 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company, 6.30, passed Boegun Island. 8.15, passed Machonoakie Island. 9.40, off Beaufort Island; we took the passage close to the island, instead of the one generally used by ships between the clusters of rocks, which is by far the best; the "Pioneer," in following us, struck lightly on a rock jutting out from the shore abreast of the last of the before-mentioned clusters; we avoided it, seeing a dangerous ripple in the water. The "Victoria" struck on a rock on the opposite side (left bank), by a large tree about 20 yards from the shore; she knocked her fore-foot on one side, and was only saved from sinking by having a bow compartment. 3.40, anchored off Lukoja, "Pioneer" in company; King Achaia of Gbebe came on board, and after some talk wished us to drive his elder brother Abajé out of the country, simply because he is stronger than him, although the king. No faith can be put in the well-meaning of any of the actions of these people. Very heavy tornado and rain.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 78° to 87°.

Sunday, 21st.—Bishop Crowther, of Niger territory, kindly consented to perform Divine Service on board, both ships' companies attending. From what can be gathered from the Agents and Missionaries here, and according to the reference made in King Massaba's letter, it would be advisable to withdraw his troops from Lukoja, as they do more harm by plunder outside than they protect the town on necessity. The trade and produce about here, and the improvement to the place, is certainly on the decrease, owing, I am told, to the absence of a British Consul, and the fear the surrounding tribes have of bringing their produce for plunder by Massaba's troops.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 77° to 86°.

Monday, 22nd.—Bishop Crowther brought on board King Akaia and Okoro, the man who afforded great assistance to and travelled with the first Niger explorer, Lander; gave them both presents, and told the latter how he was remembered by the White people as their first friend. Demeraki, King Massaba's head general and councillor, came on board. Asked him questions relative to the protection (?) he had given to the town during the last year, and also told him I had heard that he was the cause (or rather his troops) of the attack being made by Chief Abayi the younger on the town. He said the harm done was by people who had deserted him; also that the people higher up the river had attacked his canoes on the way up the river. I had been told that his men ran away when the town was attacked, and asked him where he was with his troops. He said, on the beach, close to the attacking party. I then told him I should tell King Massaba all I had heard from the traders about the apparent evil effects of his army being here, and their not affording proper protection in the time of need. King Massaba's

grandson, Isa, came on board. Received messengers from King Massaba with his greeting and welcome to the higher part of the river; also bringing presents—honey and yams, corn and nuts. Gave presents to Demeraki and grandson. Each Chief that has been on board lately has presented us with goats and yams. I am told the river is unusually low for this time of the year, and almost useless to attempt to proceed yet, although rapidly rising. Received a deputation from the Agents and Missionaries, with a petition relative to the attack made on the town and the presence of King Massaba's troops, the contents of which I intend to convey to the King. Employed getting wood for both ships from the West African Company's factory. Have taken on board Salob Menu, interpreter and pilot for the upper river; he has accompanied all expeditions since 1857. Tried to get some coal from West African Company's agent, but none could be spared. The "Victoria" is lightening forward, to get at the leak in the bow.—Sick, "Eyo" 1; "Pioneer" 2; thermometer, 78° to 86°.

Tuesday, 23rd.—Receiving wood for both vessels. Went with Lieutenant-Commander Grant and several officers to visit Demeraki, the King's grandson, the Bishop and mission, and the several factories. I am told by the Bishop that several of the hostile Chiefs, Abaja and others, who have been in league against Lukoja, are suing for peaceful terms, but were afraid to face us until they knew our intentions towards them; they sent us a present of a goat as a token of good-will; completed wooding.—Sick, "Eyo" 2; "Pioneer" 2; thermometer, 77° to 91°.

Wednesday, 24th.—10 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. Left the "Victoria" repairing her bow and expecting to leave to-morrow; current, 4 knots. 3 P.M., off Kpakpari. 3:35, off village of Nedga; water shoaled suddenly; anchored to sound. 4, weighed. 5:30, entered the second channel through Gifo Island; it is much larger than on chart. 6:50, water shoaled; anchored and sent boat to sound; weighed and shifted berth for the night. "Pioneer" in company. Current, 2 knots. The river had risen 3 feet during our stay at Lokoja.—Sick, "Eyo" 3; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 78° to 86°.

Thursday, 25th.—5 50 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. 7:15, took the ground close to where shoal water is marked in chart, 5 feet forward; the last sounding obtained being 2½ fathoms above Adama. "Pioneer" anchored conveniently close, and laid out hawser to her and anchor also to keep from getting broadside on. "Pioneer" weighed and towed us off easily, without any damage. At 9 30 A.M., crossed the river and anchored; water again shoaling; sent boats to sound. 10:45, weighed. Noon, off Dagaki; water suddenly shoaling and seeing the passage nearly blocked up, anchored, at 1:30 P.M., to sound. 1:50, weighed and passed Pambo; current, 3 to 4 knots. 4:30, passed Adamagu. 5:30, entered the channel below Henema, at the end of the second island; water shoal and apparently no passage; anchored at 6:30 P.M., "Pioneer" in company; saw herds of hippopotami and several alligators, large cranes, and crown birds. Day very sultry and hot, altogether a very trying one. Rained heavily during the night.—Sick, "Eyo" 3; "Pioneer" 4; thermometer, 84° to 88°.

Friday, 26th.—Daylight, sent boats to sound to find passage. 7:15, weighed, "Pioneer" in company; current, 4 knots. 10, off creek by Derri. The rain which all night and during the forenoon has become so heavy and thick so as hardly to be able to make out the land. Proceeded slow. 12:30, off south end of Muye Island; could not find passage; water shoaled to 9 feet; anchored and sent boat to sound; boat returned and weighed. 1:10 P.M., off town of Mugi; people very quiet and crowded on the banks; we had been told they intended to prevent our passing, being at war with Massaba; but no sign of hostility whatever shown. 4:5, off Yori. 4:45, off Soko, in channel above Soko, current, 5 knots. 6:38, anchored in channel above Soko, two miles below Budon. "Pioneer" in company; heavy rain during the day up to 4 P.M. The first part of the day soundings on chart very little good; the latter part in shoals and channel comparatively easy and clear.—Sick, "Eyo" 2; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 79° to 92°.

Saturday, 27th.—6:40 A.M., weighed, "Pioneer" in company. 7, passed Budon; current, 4 knots. Noon, stopped off island above Lynx Bank, and sent message to the Serikiu Rua (or the Admiral of the River), who was encamped there, and asked him to come off; as he did not come, proceeded. 1:15 P.M., off the limits of the chart supplied. 5, when near Backinkuh a heavy tornado came on; had to keep going, being in a narrow channel. When off north end, at 6:10 P.M., anchored, "Pioneer" in company. Very heavy rain and quantities of mosquitoes. We have suffered very much from them as yet, but they are on the increase. Several alligators, ducks, cranes, and crown birds seen to-day.—Sick, "Eyo" 2; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 77° to 90°.

Sunday, 28th.—Employed getting wood out of lighter. 8:50, weighed, "Pioneer" in company. 11:15, off Lufoma. 12:40, passed Eddogh. 4:20, being unable to keep

steam, anchored. 4:55, weighed. 5:30, passed the creek leading to Egga. 6:20, anchored 2 miles above Egga; we stopped here to wood ships, but the clumps of trees seem too far inland, and through a swamp; intend to try and get wood from Egga. Since leaving the chart began to make a running survey, but finding the old points so doubtfully fixed, found it quite useless, so have made a sketch of the land and a line of soundings for future guidance.—Sick, "Eyo" 2; "Pioneer" 4; thermometer, 78° to 93°.

Monday, 29th—6:50, weighed, "Pioneer" in company, and anchored off creek leading to Egga. Sent carpenter of "Pioneer" and interpreter to try and procure wood; ascertained wood would be cut for us by order of Chief of town, and Massaba's agent sent a party to do so. The latter came on board and assured me enough should be cut by next day. Gave him a present. He was much interested with our guns and small arms. Visited the Chief of Egga, proceeding there by boat; he informed me that King Massaba had stopped the trade until he is apprized of the arrival of all the ships coming up this year. This shows the despotism of the King and the great objection to removing the settlement of Lukoja nearer within his reach, as he wishes. 6 P.M., a very heavy tornado working up from the north end; the "Victoria" steamer came in sight and passed up the creek and took the ground in it a little below Egga. Tornado broke; strong breeze, and very heavy rain. Let go second anchor. The town of Egga is the dirtiest I have ever seen, so close together are the houses crowded as to prevent any ventilation or air. It is built close to the water's edge, the refuse, &c., being left on the banks. The Chief's house was so dark I could not see who I was speaking to. No vessel should anchor inside the creek. The "Victoria" intends to lay within a few yards of the town, in the most unhealthy part possible; ascertained she has been ashore twice since leaving Lukoja.—Sick, "Eyo" 3; "Pioneer" 4; thermometer, 79° to 88°.

Tuesday, 30th.—Sent to see what chance of any wood coming. The "Victoria" still a-ground in creek. Visited Bishop Crowther on board "Victoria." Have ascertained from Captain Stott, and have seen that she is supplied with sheet 5 of Lieutenant Glover's Survey, 1857-59, which extends above Egga, yet neither ships have them, thereby causing a great deal of unnecessary anxiety, having no chart whatever to guide us by. No prospect of wood yet; had expected this.—Sick, "Eyo" 3; "Pioneer" 2; thermometer, 81° to 94°.

Wednesday, 31st.—Four of King Massaba's sons came from the army camp to visit the ships. Fired a rocket, and showed them small arms, &c., then gave them a small present; they were well contented. Mallali, King Massaba's head messenger, and two others, came to salute us from the King, and to welcome us; brought quantities of yams, fowls, turkeys, sheep, honey, rice, limes, and colu-nuts, as presents, also requesting that we would not choose the way by the Kadma River to Beda, and wishing to know why we had not complied with his letter to Governor Glover of Lagos to travel the country from Idda to Mingé. Reserved my reasons until we meet. Resolved to go by way of Icheutshegga River by canoes, and asked messenger two bags of cowries. "Victoria" floated, and hauled into deeper water. Tornado and very heavy rains.—Sick, "Eyo" 3; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 79° to 87°.

Thursday, Sept. 1st.—Canoes are being got ready for us; expecting them all day, and at 6 P.M. two out of the number have arrived. Heavy tornado and rain. Sent messenger to tell the King we intend to start to-morrow for Beda. The river is rising fast. We are losing time through the indolence of the officials here, which I shall make mention of to King Massaba, to prevent its subsequent recurrence.—Sick, "Eyo" 2; "Pioneer" 2; thermometer, 77° to 87°.

Friday, 2nd.—Loaded the canoes with the presents for the King and started them. By noon, some canoes having arrived, got up steam. 2 P.M., went on board "Pioneer," leaving "Eyo" off Egga, and proceeded up the Isheutshegga, towing the canoes. 6, anchored off the village of Pie, waiting for more canoes to join us.—Sick, "Eyo" 2; "Pioneer" 2; thermometer, 78° to 94°.

Saturday, 3rd.—At 2 A.M. all our canoes, seventeen in number, having arrived, loaded them, and left the ship. Found the King's messenger had not provided enough canoe-men. Had to wait until 6 A.M.; then proceeded. 9, stopped to breakfast and wash. 4:30 P.M., found the canoes a-head of us; had been sent by the King's messenger up a small creek, close to a village; followed, and stopped at 5, for dinner. Some canoes had been there since 3:30 (ours being the slowest of the whole). After some talk with the messenger, found he had intended we should stop here for the night, and had a great deal of trouble to persuade the men to go on; also had to threaten to report him to the King if he dared to disobey. Proceeded. 9:40, stopped, and made fast to a tree in centre of river for the night. Bishop Crowther, Mr. Barnard, Assistant Paymaster, and

myself in one canoe; Mr. Renner, West African Company, and the Rev. Crowther in another; Mr. Young, Navigating Sub-Lieutenant, Mr. Cupper, merchant, in another; the remainder carrying our luggage, interpreter, messengers, and kroomen and presents.—Sick, “Eyo” 2; “Pioneer” 1; thermometer, 81° to 86°.

Sunday, 4th.—Started at 6 A.M. Stopped at 9:30 to wash and breakfast. 8:30 P.M., stopped off a village, dined, and waited for the night. Sent messenger to King to say we wanted to arrive at Beda to-morrow, if he would send the horses to meet us at Wanangi, and not to stop the night there.—Sick, “Eyo” 2; “Pioneer” 1; thermometer, 79° to 85°.

Monday, 5th.—5:30 A.M., started, and arrived at Wanangi at 8. Found a compound with two huts ready for us. 10, a messenger from the King to salute us, and to say the horses would be here in the evening, and wished us not to start for the capital until to-morrow morning. Stopped at Wanangi. Heavy tornado, mosquitoes and other such comforts. Heavy rain all night. The King sent down quantities of eatables, most of which we dispatched towards the ships. It is of no use trying to hurry these people.—Sick, “Eyo” 2; “Pioneer” 1; thermometer, 79° to 88°.

Tuesday, 6th.—By 9 A.M. the horses came for us. 4:30., started for Beda, and arrived at the gate at 11. Beda is walled, and encloses a great space; the walls are said to extend fifteen miles. The whole town can be seen as you approach the Wanangi gate from a hill. On passing through the town to the palace noticed the buildings were regular and well laid out, comparatively clean. At the palace dismounted, and were taken to the King. Passing through a large courtyard to an open reception hall, with large pillars of a kind of Egyptian style, found the King sitting on a pile of cushions. We then shook hands, and after salutation and greeting, he asked after Her Majesty's health, the Royal Family, and also Governor Glover of Lagos, then some trade palaver with the agent of the West African Company. He then took us to our compound, and sent us various kinds of eatables. We had visitors of various grades during the afternoon. Rained heavily all night. The huts leak considerably.—Sick, “Eyo” 2; “Pioneer” 1; thermometer, 77° to 86°.

Wednesday, 7th.—Began early to erect a tent, one of the presents to the King, to see the fittings; he, hearing of it, to our astonishment came to see it, and ask after our health, and to tell us he wished to see us officially this forenoon. Went in undress uniform with the officers to the Palace, had some talk about his request to burn the country from Idda to Mungé. I told him there had not been time to have orders from home upon the subject, and that Governor Glover had not authority to give me the necessary orders, and I did not think fit to do it upon my own responsibility, with which answer he was pleased, saying, if one of his generals did anything without his express orders he would regret it. I had expected to have had some trouble with the King upon this subject, but it is well ended. On speaking about the removal of the Settlement of Lukoja as he wished, told him we had no intention of doing so, and the question was not again referred to. He informed me Mr. Renner, West African Company, was his head trader in the River, and all other merchants were to trade through him: intend to speak upon that at a private interview. Requested to have the tent got up in his Palace-yard for his Councillors to see. In the afternoon, had another interview with the King, and tried to explain to him about a debt owed by Mr. Dixon, late Consul at Lukoja to Kpanaki, one of his Chiefs, Demenaki, having seized the money. He was apparently annoyed, and said all debts owed to his subjects was his money, and had acted accordingly. I told him I did not consider the debt was paid to Kpanaki.

The King said, as we would not keep the river clear, that is, to attack all unfriendly people, he would do so; but hinted we ought to keep him supplied, to a certain extent, with powder, flints, and guns. That might be taken into consideration in the selection of future presents.—Sick, “Eyo” 2; “Pioneer” 1; thermometer, 76° to 92°.

Thursday, 8th.—Sent to relieve some of the officers in the ships off Egga, the King wishing to see them before they left, and wished me to choose a couple of bullocks to go down to the ships. Sent message to King to inform him I was ready to give him Her Majesty's presents. Went with the officers and Bishop, and gave him the presents, explaining to him their several uses; the Bishop explaining the map of the Suez Canal, and the benefit to trade by it. He then told me he had not words to express his thanks for such valuable presents, and was glad to see the high estimation in which he was held by Her Majesty. He then wished we would visit Maroo, his nephew and successor to the Throne, sending us horses for the occasion, and also would like to see the presents intended for Maroo. After leaving the Palace we were attracted by a group of people, whom I found to be cannibals, making the most hideous gestures and antics. I am told the King receives these people, and gives them presents; they are from a distant part of

the country. At 4 P.M., went on horseback to visit Omaroo; were all received, and gave him the several presents, which pleased him much. He asked after the Queen and the Royal Family, and if we were at war with any country at present. On returning to the King, he told me he had sent his criers to tell his people to come to-morrow to the Palace to see the presents we had brought him, and to salute us generally. Maroo sent a bullock down to the ships.—Sick, "Eyo" 2; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 78° to 88°.

Friday, 9th.—The carriers took some more live stock down to the ships and more provisions sent to us by the King; we have now quantities in our compound. At 11 A.M., visited the King at his request to spread out all the presents in the courtyard, he then called upon Maroo and all the people in to see them, and again thanked me and told me how pleased he was with them. It then came on to rain suddenly and continued for several hours. I asked the King some questions about his army at Lukoja and told him all I had heard about them, and the evil effects of their being there; it is his intention to remove them after he has been down there in the dry season. In the afternoon the King's children and grandchildren, in number about 200, came to see me and had to give them presents to be divided by themselves. Rained generally during the day and very heavy all night.—Sick, "Eyo" 3; "Pioneer" 2; thermometer, 76° to 88°.

Saturday, 10th.—The King sent some ivory, tiger, hyena skins to select from for Her Majesty; selected three elephant tusks, 58lbs., 56lbs., and 56lbs., and 2 tiger skins. Visited the King in the afternoon and thanked him for the Queen's ivory, &c., and asked for horses to go round the town. Requested he would grant me a private interview this evening which he refused. Told him I intended to return to the ships on Tuesday morning.—Sick, "Eyo" 2; "Pioneer" 2; thermometer, 78° to 95°.

Sunday 11th.—Bishop Crowther, the Rev. D. Crowther, and Rev. T. John performed Divine Service in our compound. In the afternoon went at the King's request to visit him and to introduce Mr. Herring, who had just come from the vessels at Egga; he then took us round the palace and yards to show his horses, ostriches, crown-birds, and camels, one of which had the British Government broad arrow on his neck, evidently had belonged to the Abyssinian Expedition, also to see his powder and rocket stores; he then brought out several presents by former expeditions—guns, umbrellas, all in good order and well taken care of. He then, after some trouble, said he would grant me a private interview in the evening. Went in the evening and had a long talk with the King, asked him his reason for stopping the trade at Egga; he said he had a request from Captain Croft, agent Holland, at Lagos to stop the ivory trade until he came up the river, saying he was bringing him up a large present of guns and powder. I hear Captain Croft is not even now in the river. I asked the King if he would let me see the letter, which he refused, as I intended to publish it in Lagos to show what underhand work was going on. I then explained to him how unfair to other traders such a proceeding was, and he promised he would not do it on any subsequent occasion. Then spoke of his appointing Mr. Renner, West African Company, his principal trader, and that all other merchants were to trade through him, and explained that he should not next year wait until Mr. Renner arrived at Egga to allow the others to trade, but to let the first that encounters the difficulties of the navigation of the river when the water is low have the best chance, and that he should invite all traders to his country, and the less monopoly for him the better, and to promote opposition, he seemed to understand, and, my being a disinterested person, he would consider what I had said. Referred to the wages due to the blacksmith sent by Governor Glover from Lagos; he promised to pay him. Spoke again about our going down to the ships on Tuesday morning to which he partially consented.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 2; thermometer, 78° to 80°.

Monday, 12th.—King sent a message to request we would visit him in full uniform, as he wished to show and distribute some of the presents to his nephews and nieces. Went in undress uniform accompanied by officers and Bishop Crowther, and, after the distribution of presents, had some talk about one of the captured Christian converts from Likya* who happened to be in Beda, the Bishop requesting the King to deliver him up to me to return to her friends at Lokya.* He then said he would not permit us to leave Beda on Tuesday and, after some trouble, got him to allow Mr. Herring to depart this afternoon with a view of taking the "Eyo" out of the river on account of the health of Lieutenant-Commander Grant of "Pioneer," and also to take any other sick men with

* *Sic in orig.*

the Acting Surgeon in charge. Rained all night.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 78° to 94°.

Tuesday, 13th.—Early in the morning the King sent some mats for Her Majesty, and Omaroo sent some mats and a specimen of country made cloth. Visited the King and had a long talk about various matters, he again refusing to let me see Captain Crofts letter, he then showed us parts of the palace we had not previously seen, he said he was more pleased with this expedition than with any previous one, and would be sorry to let us go and had made arrangements for our departure to-morrow, he himself would accompany us half-way. Rained all night.—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 78° to 88°.

Wednesday, 14th.—Everything packed and ready to go by 7 A.M. Waiting for carriers and horses until 10·30, when the King came to our compound and ordered our luggage to start, requesting us to follow to the palace, 12·30, after some more talk and delay we fairly started, and proceeded by the King whom, in state array, large umbrella, &c., fifty mounted chiefs, a guard armed with muskets and others with bows and poisoned arrows accompanied, firing salutes as we passed the gates, Omaroo joined the procession; himself and his followers dismounting as the King passed. The King stopped under a tree about a mile outside the town and wished us good-bye, thanked him for all his kindness, gave three cheers and went on for Wanangi. 2·30 P.M., arrived at Wanangi, prepared the canoes and started at 6·0 for Egga. Raining very hard all night. Bishop Crowther joined our party to proceed to Lokoja in "Pioneer."—Sick, "Eyo" 0; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 76° to 95°.

Thursday, 15th.—7 A.M., arrived on board "Pioneer" off Egga. Found "Eyo" had started down the river on Tuesday with Lieutenant-Commander Grant, of "Pioneer," sick on board. In the afternoon went to Egga and saw the heads of two men stuck on poles, they had been beheaded by order of King Massaba some days previous. Having heard that four men were going to be similarly treated, went to the King's head executioner and head eunuch, and after some threats and considerable palaver they consented to leave them until I could send to the King to beg them off. Heavy tornado and rain on returning to the ship and continued all night. "Victoria" steamer off Egga doing well, has already taken in upwards of 20 tons of ivory. Waiting for our luggage and presents for Her Majesty and Governor Glover. The bullocks sent down by the King some days since have not yet arrived. River has risen since at Beda about 5 feet.—Sick, "Eyo" 1; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 74° to 83°.

Friday, 16th.—The presents; ostrich, crown birds, ivory, &c., arrived during the afternoon, also our luggage with quantities of sheep, turkeys and fowls. Our interpreter arrived from Beda with a letter from the King to Her Majesty, and with a request I would go to Egga and select a couple more pieces of ivory to add to the presents already sent. Went on shore and selected a couple of tusks 46 and 50 lbs. Rained as usual.—Sick, "Eyo" 1; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 76° to 93°.

Saturday, 17th.—Weighed and proceeded down the river, the lighter astern having the live stock. 10·5, arrived on to the limits of the chart. 10·30, stopped off where the Serikin Rua (Admiral of the River) is encamped, and sent presents on shore to him. 11·0, proceeded. 1·15 P.M., off Mûyi. 3·30, Dagaki. 6·0, anchored off Lukoja. Bishop Crowther left the ship. Rained all night. The river has risen since our departure here 7 or 8 feet.—Sick, "Eyo" 1; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 77° to 96°.

Sunday, 18th.—Commenced wooding ship, and hauled close to the shore. Bishop Crowther performed Divine Service on board. Wooded ship the remainder of the day. Visited Bishop Crowther at the Mission, and went with him and some officers to Demeraki to read to him the King's appointment of Jacob Nursa, our interpreter, to be Sub-manager of the Settlement of Lukoja, and to show him a woman and child, stolen and sold by his own people, now restored by the King at Beda; remonstrated with him on the general mismanagement of his troops at the settlement, and told him of the King's displeasure; returned to the Mission, and restored the woman and child to the Chief of her tribe and her friends. Bade Bishop Crowther farewell; he has been a good friend to us all, and the best authority on matters relative to the river, having travelled it for twenty-eight years. I append a copy of his letter to me for the information of their Lordships. Ship's Steward and one Marine very sick with fever.—Sick, "Eyo" 1; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 77° to 96°.

Monday, 19th.—Messenger from Demeraki to the Attâh of Igmarru on Idda came off. 7·30 A.M., weighed. The rocks about the Kowara bank being under water, very dangerous to pass; going very, very slow. 9·45, passed Beaufort Island, taking the same passage we came up by. 10·45, Bird Rock. Noon, passing Shuter Island. The village on the north end of that island is formed by Aboko, the Chief of Akoklo (who seized

Bishop Crowther and killed Consul Fell in 1867). These saluted us with several guns as we passed; he has evidently left Akokin. 2·0, off north end of Aboko Island; water continued shoal to 9 feet, and being unable to trace our passage on our way up, anchored, and found the next sounding under our stern. 3·30 P.M., weighed and proceeded. 3·50 P.M., anchored off the town of Iddo; sent messenger to the Attâh. The Chief Eunuch and Chief Councillor came off to salute us from the Attâh; explained to them to the effect that if the Attâh could not keep his subjects, such as Abaji and Aboko (whose offences are before detailed in this journal), in order, the King himself would come and do it for him. He, the Attâh, made the excuse he had not sufficient canoes to go and attack them, the results of which palaver I sent to the King in a letter by his messenger; gave presents to the Attâh, Eunuch, and Controller, and they being anxious that white men should settle factories in this part of the country, told them when the Attâh kept the country safe they would then probably settle. King Massaba is determined that no white men shall be molested in his territory.—Sick, "Eyo" 2; "Pioneer" 1; thermometer, 80° to 88°.

Tuesday, 20th.—6·0 A.M., dispatched messengers to the King and the Attâh; 7·10, weighed. 8·30, passed Rorka Island. 11·15, off River Edo. Noon, off Oniga. 2·0, passed Walker Island. 2·50, passing Long Island. 4·0, anchored off Onitsha and shifted berth. Receiving wood. Heard the first news of war between France and Prussia.—Sick, "Eyo" 4; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 80° to 90°.

Wednesday, 21st.—6·15 A.M., weighed. 9·15, off Ocomari. 1·0, passed Abo; took the channel by where Laird's factory is marked on chart, carrying 5 fathoms throughout, 2½ fathoms low water. 2·0, off Adiawi. 4·0, off Truro Island. 5·15, passed Imblama. 6·15 P.M., anchored 1 mile below Skirling Island. In passing the several villages the people quiet and friendly. Heavy rains during the day.—Sick, "Eyo" 4; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 78° to 80°.

Thursday, 22nd.—5·50 A.M., weighed. 7·25, passed Sabogorgan. 8·0, passed Kisstuna. 9·45, off Tuesday Island. "Myrtle" steamer passed on her way up to Onitsha. 11·20, off Opopuronia. 2·50 P.M., off Sunday Island. 4·15, passed through Louis Creek, least water 2 fathoms, half ebb tide; observed the open sea; Her Majesty's ship "Growler" made her No. at anchor below the Mission at Akana. 5·30, anchored below the Mission and communicated with "Growler," and received our mails. Assistant-Surgeon visited the sick, and found the most suffering from ordinary coast fever. Rained incessantly during the day, the heaviest rain we have ever had; weather so thick we could hardly see the land; ascertained the "Eyo" had left the river on Sunday for Lagos; Lieutenant-Commander Grant and several men sick.—Sick, "Eyo" 4; "Pioneer" 3; thermometer, 80° to 89°.

Friday, 23rd.—2·0 P.M., weighed and crossed the river bar; least water; one cast of 3 fathoms; most unusually good water (quarter ebb); the "Growler" following us. It appears by the breakers that the "outer" ridge may not exist now. 3·0, "Growler" anchored and took "Pioneer" in tow. 3·40, weighed and proceeded for Lagos. 5·15, towing cable carried away. 6·0, proceeded.

Saturday, 24th.—In tow of "Growler," proceeding for Lagos.

Sunday, 25th.—In tow of "Growler," proceeding for Lagos; performed divine service.

Monday, 26th.—In tow of "Growler." 7·30 P.M., anchored off Lagos, found Her Majesty's ship "Sirius," and steamer "Eyo;" the latter having arrived on the 22nd.

Tuesday, 27th.—"Pioneer" crossed the Lagos bar and anchored off the town; visited the Administrator of the Government, and concluded the turning over of the "Eyo" and her stores to the Lagos Government.

I have to mention the bad state in which the Colonial steamer "Eyo" was in when lent to the Imperial Government to serve in the Expedition: her engines defective, all her general fittings similar—leaky; and I am of opinion the authorities at Lagos never expected to see her again after leaving for the river.

(Signed)

W. H. M. MOLYNEUX,

Lieutenant, Commanding the Niger Expedition.

REPORTS FROM NAVAL OFFICERS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 69.

Remarks of Medical Officer.

WHILST in medical charge of the Niger Expedition, which comprised the two ships "Eyo" and "Pioneer," there were placed on the sick list, 8 men on board the "Eyo" and 13 on board the "Pioneer." The diseases may be classified as follows:—

1st. Those on board the "Eyo:"—Remittent fever, 4 cases; hæmoptysis, 1 case; dyspepsia, 1 case; wounds, 2 cases.

2nd. Those on board the "Pioneer:"—Remittent fever, 8 cases; diseases of the chest, 2 cases; dyspepsia, 2 cases; wounds, 1 case.

The health of the two ships' companies while in one river may be said to have been good. Some of the cases of fever were severe, especially that of Lieutenant Grant of the "Pioneer," who was obliged to be removed from his own ship, put on board the "Eyo," and taken out of the river as quickly as possible. The men were allowed every freedom consistent with discipline, and seemed to be happy and content.

(Signed) JAMES C. DUNLOP, *Acting Surgeon.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 69.

List of Officers employed in the Niger Expedition under my Command.

Lieutenant A. F. Grant, "Pioneer."
 Sub-Lieutenant C. A. Herring, "Eyo."
 Navigating Sub-Lieutenant C. K. S. Young, "Pioneer."
 Acting Surgeon J. C. Dunlop, "Eyo."
 Assistant Paymaster in Charge H. C. Barnard, "Pioneer."
 Engineer W. H. Barker, "Pioneer."

FROM the above officers I have received every assistance in carrying out the object of the Expedition; Sub-Lieutenant Herring deserves every credit; he took command of the "Eyo," consequent on the illness of Lieutenant-Commander Grant of "Pioneer" (it being necessary for me to remain in the river), and took her down the river from Egga to Akassa and on to Lagos, the vessel being at the time very defective in steaming powers and steering gear, also no chronometer on board. Mr. Barker rendered great service on the several occasions of the "Eyo's" engines breaking down and becoming defective, had it not been for this officer's energy the Expedition might never have left Akassa. Assistant Engineer 1st Class G. S. James, in charge of "Eyo," on this officer's conduct I shall make no comment.

(Signed) W. H. M. MOLYNEUX,
Lieutenant, Commanding Niger Expedition.

Inclosure 4 in No. 69.

Remarks on the Trade in the River Niger.

I CONSIDER the trade in the upper part scarcely developed, especially up the Binne or Tchadda, which requires to be explored, the ivory coming entirely from that region; at present it passes through many hands before it reaches Egga, overland (the principal mart). The navigation of the Tchadda by canoes is at present interrupted by the hostile tribes settling on the banks by Lukoja, whom King Massaba intends to drive away this dry season; consequently, the trade about Lukoja for this year will probably be less than ever, by reason of the King's troops being in the neighbourhood; but after they have returned to Beda, the coast will be clear to native traders.

The reason why the Binne or Tchadda should be explored, is to enable ships to enter the heart of the ivory country.

Shea butter is to be had in large quantities in the upper part of the Kisara at Onitsha, the staple produce is palm-oil which is in store there in fair quantities waiting the ships to take it away. At Idda, the Attah or chief is very anxious for traders to settle there, there being no station at present, and would possibly be a good place for a new company at starting. Abo has been tried, but I hear the native charges are very much higher than any other part of the river; lower down, except at Akassa, it would be

dangerous on account of the hostility of the natives to establish any settlement. I think vessels of very light draught armed, might keep the produce carried down to Onitsha or even to Akassa from the upper part of the river during the dry season, and thereby lessening the risk of taking the larger vessels up the full river. The "Victoria," West African Coast, was greatly delayed at Egga by King Massaba's order to stop all trade until he had seen the Agent at Beda, and by the letter of Captain Croft's (Holland and Jaynes and Co's. agent) requesting the King to wait until he himself arrived at Beda. The "Victoria" had upwards of 20 tons of ivory on board, and still more coming in; instead of it being stored, and ready for immediate shipment, the vessel had to do all the bartering.

Affording armed Support to the Traders.—Necessary, especially in the absence of a Consul at Lukoja; as a protection to merchant-ships getting on shore, their presence in the river has a moral influence over the hostile tribes, also there always being several questions at various parts, especially in King Massaba's territory to settle, can only be done by persons holding a commission, our relation with King Massaba being on the increase it would not be, in my opinion, advisable to omit sending him what he looks at in the light of an Ambassador, and the presents.

Sending Presents to the Chiefs.—The giving presents to the tribe about the Delta, I do not consider absolutely necessary, but they form such a small position of the quantity of presents sent yearly, it is of not much consequence, but I believe they, nevertheless, have a desirable effect.

The principle of the presents going to the King and his chiefs in this immediate territory it would not be advisable to discontinue.

Inclosure 5 in No. 69.

Remarks on the Navigation of the River Niger.

IN making the Nun you are apt to mistake the Sengana entrance for it; but you should look out for the White Mission-house or Factory, there being no building inside the Sengana.

The best leading mark for the Bar is the Factory white building (the Mission cannot be seen from this bearing), open with Palm Point. Point Trotter cannot always be distinguished.

Louis Creek should be sounded by boat before entering it, least water obtained was 10 feet low water, close to patch marked 9 feet in chart. Louis Creek.

Sunday Island is about the tidal limit, on the east side several small islets are grown where snags are marked. The edge of the land scarcely perceptible, thickly wooded, mangroves, lianes and other rank tropical verdure. In the bend below Akedo soundings very much less than on chart, $3\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms in lieu of 8 off Bassa Creek; current 3 knots. Bassa Creek.

The edge of the bank beginning to get higher, very thickly wooded with some very fine trees, cotton, oak, and plenty of palms, beyond limit of mangroves. Opuoruoma is one mile higher up the river than in chart; shoal marked "covered" in September, October and November, was covered in passing (August 1st) off the Ogbari River, the least water 16 feet, bottom changing from mud to sand off Assasi; current 4 to 5 knots above where "grass" is marked, formed into a separate island 20 feet high. Opuoruoma.
Assasi.

Abreast of Tuesday Islet, keep well to the left bank, avoiding also a large tree aground 50 yards from the bank. In the narrow passage below Ekole, keep close to the right hand paddle-wheels as close as possible $3\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms, least water current 3 knots; the principal points of the village of Ekole are now on the south side of creek leading to Brass. Off Taylor's Creek current 4 knots; tree in centre of river does not exist. Country still thickly wooded, numerous fine trees, scenery beginning to get monotonous; the banks getting a little higher. No animal life seen. Soundings below Kaiama less than in chart. Stumps off the Gamauta villages have disappeared. There are several shoals above. Imblama, which passage should be sounded by boat before attempting it. The shoals extend from the right bank nearly across the river, keep to the left bank and cross over up to Grass Island; least water got 10 feet. Tuesday Islan
Ekole.
Taylor's Creel
Kaiama.
Gamauta.
Imblama.

Passing Truro Island the soundings vary much less than the chart shows, 3 fathoms in lieu of 7; should recommend to keep to the right bank instead of the Island side when off north end; cross sharp over to opposite bank, the shoal to the northward is very large, and close to the island. Truro Island.

The Islands at the mouth of the Wari River are very much altered, and two more Wari River.

grass islands extend to the north end, keep close to the first grass island, a large shoal extending from island on opposite shore; country getting a little less thickly wooded, and smaller trees.

Utock. Off Utock on the large shoal, several big snags aground; a shoal off Aka Uteri, close to point.

Aken Uteri. The two islands in the opposite bank joined together. No passage between island in centre of river (below Argan) and left bank; grounded there. Take the centre of stream, passing Akra Uteri, and when clear of the before-mentioned shoal, take to the right bank.

Argan Island. Argan Island much larger than shown in chart, and Land's factory might be omitted, as it no longer exists. A village not marked on opposite bank.

Abo. Passing by Abo difficult passage. An island seen above shoal on right bank below Ogu; stump of south end of island opposite Ogu disappeared, but a small island and shoal connecting it with large island off its north-west end. Village on opposite bank not marked. Keep to the right bank after passing Ogu. Above Akra Ugidi a large shoal on the right bank. Keep close to small island below Abagivi Village, and up along by big island; current, 2 to 3 knots. Numerous large snags in shoal above the latter island.

Bullock Island. Bullock Island has a large creek apparently dividing it in half (not in chart) below swampy grass island. When off south end of the latter, cross over and keep to that bank, until off Osomasi; current, 3 to 4 knots. Leaving Osomasi, keep to right bank until passed Osutski, and then cross over to dark high trees. When nearly off north end by next creek, steer straight for south end of Alenso Island, and close the right bank; shoals on each side, keeping the right bank of first Alenso Village. Water rather shoal—14 feet.

Odekwi. Island by Odekwi very much smaller than in chart, and a passage of 150 yards between. Mainland after leaving second Alenso village midstream, and close to Odekwi Island, crossing to first Oko village; a large shoal in centre of river and several snags on it. On entering the Bay of Onitsha, instead of going up the river beyond the anchorage and turning round and getting the eddy tide (according to directions given in chart), should prefer to steer straight in from midstream for about 20 yards to the right of big cotton tree, and when close in letting go the anchor, then swinging to the eddy tide; deep water close in.

Asaba. Very strong current off Asaba; point, 5 knots. Several snags on shoal off Asaba. When this shoal is passed, cross the river (the passage is blocked up on right bank); avoid a shoal extending from the same bank to centre of stream (where both ships grounded). A shoal also extends from south end of Long Island.

Long Island. From Long Island keep to the left bank, crossing over and running along Walker Island off north end; steer straight for south end Lake Island. Shoals on each side. Then close to left bank; current, 4 to 5 knots. Cross over when well above Lake Island; a shoal nearly in centre of river. Leave it on starboard hand. Recrossing the river, steering for small village by a large tree; anchor to sound passage by Omodemo; the islands and shoals very different to chart; cross towards Jordan Point. Snags on shoals opposite village of Na. Adamagu not seen.

Omodemo. Oniga one mile higher up the river than shown on chart, and a shoal off left bank not marked; cross over from the River Inam. Below Oria Market the shoal in right bank appears to join the land; cross over and recross to Oria Market to avoid another shoal. The market is higher up than on chart (good place for wooding ship). Keep to right bank, avoiding a small shoal off River Ede, and cross over to village (not in chart), below deep-water point, above the latter point, and by Ojipo Magara and up to Obijaga the chart is very incorrect, and several shoals visible; cross over from deep water point, keeping as close as possible to the islands in right bank; very shoal water to be expected, possibly 8 feet; current, 3 to 5 knots. A large shoal extends from Ojipo Magara, crossing again to a little below the centre of Obijago Island, carrying fair water up to creek; then cross over to Ojstupé. Take to the left bank at the creek between Lander Islands, continuing on that bank, steering for south end of Orka Island, off which are several large snags; keep about the centre of stream between island and right bank; small water may be expected, especially off north end of island.

Lander Islands. Avoid point by where landing-place is marked; a shoal extends off that point; good water in channel up to and beyond Idda, going along right bank by Bofo, closing the north end of Aboko Island. Ututurri has altered, there being a second island to the south of it, water being shoal off Otta Koliko. Should recommend keeping well to right bank up to Akokia, crossing above north end of Akokia, and recrossing again above south end of Smart Island. The chief of Akokia has formed a large village on north end of

English Islands.

Idda.

Aboko Island.

Shuter's Island. Avoid north end of Smart Island crossing the river, return to left bank below Sapia; a large shoal is situated in centre of river by Sapia. Cross to the right bank in the direction of a small creek, but keep well clear of the bank, passing outside Bird Island; then to the left bank off south end of Mackonokie Island (centre of river off Bægun Island), avoiding a sunken rock, marked in chart, off the north end of this island. There are some rocks, two of which extend due north 150 yards, and one due east off north point. (I am told these rocks have never been seen before, perhaps owing to the lowness of the river this year.) The mountains very high and picturesque. The quantity of trees very much decreased. The bank low and rocky at many points. We are getting in dangerous and rocky ground.

Smart Island.
Sapia.
Bird Island.
Mackonokie I.

Mid channel up to and in too close to Iroko Island (shoal water off south end of ditto), big village not in the chart a little below Iroko. Should recommend taking the passage between the two clusters of rocks off Beauford Island; part of the eastern cluster is never covered, which will serve as a guide; the western cluster is above when river is low.

Iroko Island.
Beauford Island

We took the passage close to the island, the "Pioneer" touching on a rock abreast of the upper end of the western cluster close to a jutting out from the shore. Cross to the left bank avoiding a rock off big tree by point under Mount Crozier, also jutting out from the shore 20 yards. The "Victoria" struck on this.

Keep in mid stream (inclined to the right bank) between Kowara bank and shoal, opposite which are both much altered and extended to the north; the bank on the port hand extends dry nearly to the rocky islet, keep midway between that and the last rocky islet of the Kowara bank in $2\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms, both are well above water at low river, the soundings will decrease to 10 feet higher up. South Duck Island is extended to the south, the Sacrifice Rocks are plainly visible; in coming down at high river the latter rocks are not visible, the worst part is passing between the Kowara and the rock on opposite bank; had to go slow as both the rocky islets were covered, at last saw the ripple over the rock on the right bank which was sufficient guide; would recommend on going up to endeavour to obtain the approximate bearings and position of the islets, it being in my opinion the most dangerous part of the river to pass when water is high, expect small water when abreast of Gbebe

Kowara Bank.
Sacrifice Rocks

Above the Confluence, River Kwara.—Above Nedyia keep close to small island on right bank; shoal marked opposite by village does not exist.

Nedyia.
Adama.
Lilibé.
Gifo Island.

The "Victoria" grounded on entering the channel through Gifo Island by Aggambuh; can give no directions for entering, but avoid starboard hand; the whole channel is uncertain, the soundings varying very much, irregular and small; the width is much more than the chart shows. When clear of the channel keep to the right bank until nearly opposite Dagaki, pass close to Dagaki at along the left bank crossing over to the north end of island, keeping as close as possible to Pambo, then suddenly cross the river to the island on opposite side, from thence to Itubihu on opposite bank. (This part of the river is full of shoals.)

Dagaki.
Pambo.
Itubihu.

Cross over to Adamaga Kunkari keeping to that bank avoiding small shoal above Dakaki and enter channel below Hinema; when clear of the later channel keep as close as possible (up to Winne) to the left bank, crossing over, keeping very close to south end of island in the middle, along the right bank avoiding the small shoals which lay on the port hand and the various grass islands and shoals from the left bank up to the creek of Derri, off which close the left bank, again recross the river nearly opposite Epu, closing the left bank and keeping along it until off south end of Mungo and the several small islands up to Govi.

Winne.
Derri.
Epu.
Mungo
Govi.

On the left bank by Soka and through the narrow channel above, when below Olugodo keep well to the right bank; shoals marked in chart on that bank do not exist; but a large one off the village, in centre of river, crossing to left bank well above the village and up to Bongede creek, cross again and keep to the port-hand creek leading to Akagi, recrossing the river to avoid Lynx (1869) bank in centre of river; when that bank is passed to the north end, close the opposite one up to Abaka. Then keep well over to clear the shoal off that point and return to the right bank; (here the limits of the chart supplied end). When off large creek on port-hand cross over to, and passing Rackambuh, above the end of which channel extends a large shoal from the right bank, keeping to the starboard-hand; when clear of shoal cross the river, then close the left bank under Mount Elphinstone Fleming, continuing on the same bank, crossing towards a large clump of trees by the first village of Kenemy.

Bongede Creek
Akagi.
Lynx Bank.
Abaka.
Rackambuh.
Kenemy.

N.B.—I am told that the creek has plenty of water from the foot of Mount Elphinstone Fleming, up to Eddogih.

Eddogih.

Off the large island in the middle of the river, apparently blocking up the passage,

Eggu. plenty of water will be found close to on the right bank, crossing again when passing the north end of island, pass the first creek leading to Eggu, recross the river to the creek formerly called Ederisas, and on to opposite bank and anchorage of second creek leading to Eggu.

Line of soundings. *Additional Remarks.*—In ascending the river I took a line of soundings the whole way to Eggu, which I intended to put on a tracing, some of the soundings being very different to those on the chart.

Sheet 5. I again make mention with reference to sheet 5 not being supplied to either ship comprising the Expedition, while merchant-vessels in the river have it.

Journals of former Expeditions. I am told it has been customary to supply the Officers Commanding the Expedition with copies of Journals of former Expeditions as a guide; we ascended the river without a single copy supplied to us; if I have been misinformed, and that it has not been the custom, I would beg to suggest that it be taken into consideration, not only for navigation references, but as to the necessary and usual mode of dealing with the respective Chiefs, and to who to give presents to.

(Signed)

W. H. M. MOLYNEUX,

Lieutenant, Commanding Expedition.

Inclosure 6 in No. 69.

Statement of Facts laid before King Massaba relative to his wish for the Removal of the Settlement at Lukoja.

KING MASSABA has ordered the removal of the trading establishments from Lukoja to Egga, in order to be more under his immediate protection; but this subject requires deliberate consideration.

1. Lukoja is the most convenient position in the river, it being both the confluence of trade, rivers, and nations, and a locality most healthy, the Great Expedition of 1841 fixed on it as most suitable. Ten years ago Dr. Baikie intended and determined to carry out this idea, settled on it; the scattered natives welcomed the opportunity, returned from their flight in the bush and rallied round him, till the population has increased to about 2,000; trading establishments were built, and a mission station got up.

2. It is a most convenient middle station between the lower and upper parts of the two rivers; had it not been so, how could the "Victoria" have landed her cargo to lighten and examine her for repairs, when she struck on a rock off Skoyi, below the confluence.

3. The effects of the merchants are heavier than they could move away at a minute's notice, nor do they like to remove their expensive establishments from place to place; but if lucrative trade invites them, they always take that into consideration before they form a new trading establishment.

4. After Her Majesty's Government had expended so much money to encourage trade at Lukoja, at the loss of so many valuable lives, it is very proper to inform them of the King's wishes before it be broken up, or else they may never send their ships to encourage trade in the river after this.

5. Instead of King Massaba's wishes to destroy the villages on the banks of the river, if he can be persuaded to enter into peaceful negotiations with the inhabitants it will be for the benefit of the country in general, the increase of trade, and the benefit of the King himself.

6. If the King would only encourage the settlement of the farmers at Lukoja, and not allow them to be disturbed while they are peaceably pursuing their agricultural labour, they would be a good protection to the factories around which they dwell as his subjects, whose interest they will study as their part and duty.

(Signed)

W. H. M. MOLYNEUX,

Lieutenant, Commanding Niger Expedition.

Inclosure 7 in No. 69.

By Massaba, Emir of Nupé.

BE it known to the Agents of the merchant factories, the Missionary Station, all English subjects, settlers and natives residing at Lukoja.

1. That in order to organize a better state of management in settling the affairs in the above settlement for the time being in the absence of a resident British Consul, I

REPORTS FROM NAVAL OFFICERS.

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have appointed Jacob Meheux (Musá) Government Interpreter, sub-manager, for the settlement of Lokoja.

2. I have authorized him to report to me any acts of oppression if any one which may tend to disturb the peace of the settlement, the cultivation of the land or retard the prosperity of the trade.

3. It is my expressed wish that the settlement of Lokoja should be well populated as a chief mart at the confluence, and to confirm this, I invite all those who have deserted it from fear of molestation to return to their houses and resume their farming occupation as usual, in assurance of their future safety.

I have delivered to the Commander the woman who had fled from Lokoja to take refuge at Olúmoze, but unfortunately taken prisoner there, to be restored to her relatives.

4. It is my order that all subjects at Lokoja of what tribe soever they be, should act unitedly as my police guard for the protection of the settlement after affairs are settled, and my troops withdrawn from the camp.

5. To support Jacob Meheux (Musá), the sub-manager in his office, I request the co-operation and assistance of the resident mercantile agents and the advice of the Missionary when needed, that my wishes may be carried out to the advantage of the settlement.

Beda, September 12, 1870.

(Signed) MASSABA, *Emir of Nupé.*

Witness:
(Signed) S. A. CROWTHER,
Bishop of Niger Territory.

Inclosure 8 in No. 69.

Bishop Crowther to Lieutenant Molyneux, R.N.

My dear Sir,

Mission-House, Lokoja, September 18, 1870.

BEFORE we part for a season from our present Niger Expedition, permit me to express to you in a few lines the impression your visit has made on the mind of King Massaba of Nupi, and of his leading Chief, as being very good and most favourable.

Whoever knows the difficult and complicated circumstances of this year's Expedition, and the most satisfactory state in which it ended, cannot but acknowledge that the zeal, patience, forbearance, good sense, and judgment, with which the whole affairs were conducted were beyond praise.

The prospects of the Niger affairs at the time of your starting from Lagos were most gloomy and perplexing, but the end most encouraging, and fraught with hopes for the future, abundant good both for commercial interest and the Christian civilization of this extensive country.

The application of the native chiefs in the neighbourhood of Lokoja to mediate and have them reconciled with each other, and the settlement, and Massaba's special request that you should do so if possible, is an evident proof of their confidence in you as a disinterested person, who seeks the welfare of all; it is also a clear proof of their appreciation of a British Resident Consul amongst them.

The good your visit has done to commerce, the pacification of the native chiefs among themselves, the facility it gives for the Christian civilization of the people in general, I do most greatly appreciate, and do sincerely hope that when the Admiralty have received the report of your visit this year, they will fully see the necessity of continuing it for a few years more, to assist King Massaba in his laudable efforts to encourage legitimate commerce in his rich and productive country; to do this to advantage, he needs a civilized director as Consular Agent.

Although ivory is not the produce of the soil, but the quantity of tusks collected at Egga this year was beyond that of any previous years, of which yourself was an eye-witness; and King Massaba said the quantity may be doubled next year: the quantity of ivory is estimated to be about 20 tons, but I would remind you that the ivory brought to Egga market is but a small portion of what may be got on the Tchadda or Binne branch, which trade is now in the hands of native and Arab merchants from the north, who carry the best of the tusks on their donkeys, mules, and oxen, to the Moors, through the deserts. I need not say that the benefit which will accrue to English markets will be very great, if Her Britannic Majesty's Government will once more explore the Binne, as they did in 1854 (of which Expedition I was a member, and therefore write from personal

CLASS A.

knowledge), and open it for commerce with the Kwara especially, as the natives have since the last visit been expecting the return of the steamer to open trade.

In conclusion, I beg to acknowledge the kind attention I have personally received both from yourself and your zealous officers and men, and the facility afforded me and my missionary brethren in carrying out our wishes for the benefit of the work in which we are engaged.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) S. A. CROWTHER,
Bishop of Niger Territory.

Inclosure 9 in No. 69.

King Massaba to Queen Victoria.

Biddah, September 15, 1870.

To Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

I, KING MASSABA, send Greeting:—

I write this to inform you, O Queen, the conduct and character of the King of Atagaia and all his people. Some years ago they attack one of the English Factory at Glebe, stole away all their goods, break down their stores and drove them away.

The next, they break down the house of God in their town, took the Bishop and son captive, killed the Consul of Lukoja, and no one asked them for it.

I trust, O Queen, that you have heard of all this, and that I ask your Majesty not to leave this people unpunished. I wish you to send four or five steamers next season, to punish this wicked nation. I hope to go there this coming dry season by God's help.

I am glad to hear from Governor Glover that he is about going to England and that he will ask leave from you to visit this place. I hope, O Queen, you will allow him to come, if not to this river but to Lagos, for he is a man of sense and judgment, knows how to deal with blackmen.

I send my salutation to you, O Queen, and to your family and people. All what you sent me from the time of Dr. Baikie to this present year, I have received from Captain Molyneux, for which I am very much obligè and thankful. May God reward you for your kind remembrance of me.

I wish, O Queen, that many English merchants may come up to this river for trade, for I have heard how the Mahomedans and the good people of England are united together in Egypt, and how trade is carry on there; if they come they will all have enough, and plenty more to buy, and enough land to build at Lukoja or anywhere else, and not one dare to trouble them by God's help.

I sent you a little present by Captain Molyneux; I hope, O Queen, you will please accept it. The said Captain is a sensible quiet and good man, I will be happy to see him another year, as a messenger from you.

With my best wishes for your health, I remain, &c.

(Signed) KING MASSABA, of *Nupé.*

Inclosure 10 in No. 69.

Petition.

To Lieutenant W. H. M. Molyneux, R.N., Commanding Officer of the Expedition to the River Niger, 1870.

The Petition of the Sierra Leone Emigrants and other British subjects residing at the Settlement of Lokoja at the confluence of the Rivers Niger and Tsadda.

Humbly showeth—

1. THAT since the formation of this settlement in 1860 by the late energetic Dr. Baikie, Her Majesty's first Consular Agent in the Niger, it had been the Consular residence until the year 1869, and was becoming a very thriving and promising community with regard to both commerce and Christian civilization in general.

2. That British interests had enjoyed, during the above-mentioned period of time, the patronage and protection which were so much necessary in an infant community, such as this, surrounded by avaricious chiefs, who are hostile to peace and Christian civilization.

3. That amidst this hopeful state of things which was progressing in the most quiet and peaceful manner in the year 1869, your petitioners, and the rest of this community, were startled by the intelligence of the abolishment of the Niger Consulate and the

consequent withdrawal from their midst of Her Majesty's Consular Representative, in consequence of which the whole community was well-nigh broken up, but for the assurance of protection from King Massaba, in whose territory your petitioners have settled.

4. That your petitioners are sorry to state that the steps taken by the King for affording the promised protection have issued rather in disorganizing the community, and destroying that good-will among the neighbouring Chiefs and people, which is so necessary to the advancement of British commerce and Christian civilization.

5. That the steps to which your petitioners have alluded to, are, the stationing of a large unpaid army within the settlement, empowering it to molest or capture the people of the surrounding tribes that happen to come within their reach. This circumstance has roused hostile feelings of the neighbouring Chiefs towards the settlement, cutting off all communications with it: as a consequence, one of these Chiefs, Abaje of Shimtaku, a few months ago actually encamped against and attacked the settlement with the intention of destroying it. The alarm on that occasion was so great that some of your petitioners were compelled to act on the defensive before the enemy retreated.

6. The King's troops having no means of subsistence plundered the property of the community at large, destroying in their farms the crops of their industry, in consequence of which, the farmers being disheartened, have discontinued their farming occupation, one result of which is the want of even the bare necessaries of life, and a deficient supply of produce in the trading establishments.

7. That almost the whole of a district converted to the Christian religion has been plundered, and the new converts hunted, some of whom have been caught and sold, and the rest through fear of the like treatment, have been obliged to take refuge into the bush, where they are now suffering from misery and want.

8. Your petitioners having formed themselves into a united body for the purpose of self-defence against any misrepresentation that might be made respecting them, being left without a ruling head, have ventured to address you on the several particulars of this petition; that in your official visit to this place, we believe you would be interested to obtain any information of this kind for your guidance.

9. Your petitioners having more than once reported this state of things, as above-mentioned, to the King, but without any redress, therefore humbly pray that you will kindly take the case into consideration, and that you will be pleased to request the King to withdraw his troops from the settlement, and advise him to adopt amicable terms with the industrious surrounding tribes.

10. Your petitioners having been officially informed by the King to put themselves in readiness to leave this settlement for another locality, in which he could render them a more effectual protection, than at Lukoja, beg most respectfully to convince him of the great losses the steps would involve them in, which neither can be done at so short a notice, all which would be obviated by adopting peaceful terms with the surrounding tribes.

11. That taking into consideration the great benefits which would accrue to surrounding benighted tribes from commercial, as well as religious relationship with Lukoja as an establishment of British settlers, and centre of communication with the tribes in the district bordering on both the Quarra and Tsadda Rivers, your petitioners humbly pray also that you will be pleased to make such a report of the state of things here at present, as contrasted with that of the years when Lukoja was a Consulate as will lead to a restoration of more peaceful and better days.

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

(Signed)

JOHN P. ASHLEY, *Local Agent, West Africa Company, Limited.*

ROBT. T. BRIGHT, *Local Agent, Holland, Jacques, and Co.*

JUREHUX.

J. B. COLLIER, his ✕ mark, } In behalf of the community
JOHN WILLIAMS, his ✕ mark, } in general.

THOS. C. JOHN, *Missionary.*

C. PAUL, *Missionary.*

&c. &c. &c.

Forwarded for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

(Signed)

W. H. M. MOLYNEUX,

Lieutenant, Commanding the Niger Expedition.

Lagos, September 27, 1870.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH MIXED COMMISSION COURTS.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 70.

Commissioner Layard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 23.)

My Lord,

Cape Town, February 3, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Report drawn up by the Mixed Commission, of which I am a member, in compliance with Article XI of Annex B to the Treaty of July 3, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal for the Suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, relating—

First. To the cases which have been brought before them for adjudication.

Second. To the state of the liberated negroes.

Third. To the treatment and progress made in the religious and mechanical education of the liberated negroes.

I have also the honour to inform your Lordship that my Portuguese colleague is about to transmit a duplicate original of this report to the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. L. LAYARD.

Inclosure in No. 70.

Annual Report of the Mixed Commission.

IN pursuance of Article XI of Annex B to the Treaty concluded on the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal for the Suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, by which it is stipulated that the Mixed Commissions shall transmit annually to each Government a Report relating—

First. To the cases which have been brought before them for adjudication.

Second. To the state of the liberated negroes.

Third. To every information which they may be able to obtain respecting the treatment, and the progress made in the religious and the mechanical education of the liberated negroes.

The undersigned members of the Mixed Commission established at the Cape of Good Hope, have the honour to report to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and to the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, that no case has been brought before them for adjudication during the year ending December 31, 1869 and that no negroes have been emancipated by the Decree of this Mixed Commission since its establishment.

(Signed) E. L. LAYARD, A. DU PRAT.

Her Britannic Majesty's Commissioner.

H. MALLETT, Registrar.

Mixed British and Portuguese Commission,

Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, December 31, 1869.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

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No. 71.

Commissioner Layard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 23.)

My Lord,

Cape Town, January 17, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th of November last, informing me of the projected abolition of the Mixed Commission Courts at this and other Stations, and that compensation allowances will be granted to the various officers who thereby lose their appointments.

Your Lordship is further pleased to express your satisfaction at the manner in which the duties of this Court have been conducted, and your regret at the termination of my connection with your Department.

In thanking your Lordship in my own name, and that of the existing officers of the Mixed Court and our predecessors, for this expression of your approval of our official conduct, I trust I may be permitted to hope that the severance of our connection with the office over which your Lordship presides may be but temporary, and that on our return to England our names may still be placed on the list for active employment in that service in which so many of our best years have been passed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. L. LAYARD.

No. 72.

The Earl of Clarendon to Commissioner Layard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 30, 1870.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 9th instant I inclose, for your information and guidance, a translation of a note from the Portuguese Ministers at this Court, stating that his Government agree to the proposal that the stipulations of the Treaty with Portugal of the 3rd of July, 1842, relating to the maintenance of Mixed Commission Courts by the two contracting Powers, shall be considered as suspended from the 30th of June next, whether the new Convention is concluded or not, and that all expenses on this account shall cease on that date.

The Government of the United States, however, have stated their opinion, in reply to a similar proposal, that the Mixed Commission Courts, which were established by Treaty, ought to be abolished in the same formal manner, and the Court, under your charge must, therefore, continue to entertain cases coming under the Treaty with the United States until the proposed new Convention, which is now under the consideration of the United States' Government, is concluded; but, in accordance with the arrangement with the Portuguese Government, the Court will, after the 30th June next, cease to deal with cases arising under the Treaty with Portugal.

You will make a communication to the above effect to the Portuguese Commissioners, who has probably received similar instructions from his Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 72.

Viscount de Seisal to the Earl of Clarendon.(Translation.)
Excellency,*His Most Faithful Majesty's Legation in London,*
[No date.]

WITH reference to the note of the Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires of the 2nd instant, in reply to your Excellency's of 31st January last, in which your Excellency, while explaining the reasons which prevent Her Britannic Majesty's Government from submitting just now to the consideration of His Majesty's Government the Draft of a Convention for the abolition of the Mixed Commissions established at Loanda and the Cape of Good Hope, in virtue of the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Portugal and Great Britain for the complete abolition of the Slave Trade, proposed that in the meantime the respective expenditure on each side should cease from and after the 30th of June next, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that His Majesty's Government willingly assents to the proposal of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, and that the requisite communications will be made to both the Commissions to the said effect.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The labours of those Mixed Commissions being thus suspended from the said date, and as there is to be a stipulation in the future Convention for the reciprocal delivery to the authorities of the respective countries of any ships belonging to them that may be detained by the cruisers of the other country as implicated or suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, any cases that may happen to occur in relation to that hateful traffic will be tried by the ordinary tribunals and by the respective penal laws.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) VISCOUNT DE SEISAL.

No. 73.

Commissioner Layard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 24.)

My Lord,

Cape Town, April 14, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that the Acting Commissioner of His Most Faithful Majesty the King of Portugal, has this day communicated to me a portion of a despatch (translation inclosed herewith) received by him from his Government, informing him that, as far as the Portuguese Commissioners are concerned, the Mixed Commission Court established at the Cape of Good Hope will cease to exist on the 30th June next.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. L. LAYARD.

Inclosure in No. 73.

The Portuguese Commissioner to Commissioner Layard.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, Lisbon, February 21, 1870.

THE Government of His Majesty having assented to a counter-proposal of the British Government for the purpose that the Treaty of July 3, 1842, between Portugal and Great Britain, for the complete abolishment of the Slave Trade, be annulled in the part respecting Mixed Commission Courts, has agreed with same Government so long as there is not effected a Convention for that purpose, that the expenses inherent to the Mixed Commissions at the Cape of Good Hope and Loanda are to cease for both parts from the 30th June next.

Having communicated to you this agreement I hope you will take the necessary steps in this sense, begging you to take notice that from that date no expenses or salaries in connection with that Mixed Commission will be paid by this Department.

No. 74.

Commissioner Layard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord,

Cape Town, June 15, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th of April last, inclosing a translation of a note from the Portuguese Minister at the Court of St. James's relating to the suspension of the operation of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal after the 30th June next.

In obedience to your Lordship's instructions I have communicated to the Acting Commissioner of His Most Faithful Majesty an extract of your Lordship's despatch, so far as Portugal is concerned, together with a copy of its inclosure.

I need not assure your Lordship that I shall be guided by your instructions respecting the Mixed British and United States' Court of Justice until I receive further orders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. L. LAYARD.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

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No. 75.

Commissioner Layard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 8.)

My Lord,

Cape Town, June 30, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that no case has been adjudicated by these Mixed Courts during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. L. LAYARD.

No. 76.

Commissioner Layard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 8.)

My Lord,

Cape Town, June 30, 1870.

IN accordance with the instructions conveyed to me by your Lordship's despatch of the 30th of April last, I have the honour to inform you that I have this day, jointly with my colleague, the Acting Portuguese Commissioner (the Registrar, Clerk, and Marshall being present), formally suspended the British and Portuguese Commission.

The British and American Court is still open, although, as I have already informed your Lordship, the American Commissioner left the colony on the 4th of May last. There has been no American Arbitrator in the colony since the 31st of May, 1867.

As your Lordship is aware, the lease of the premises occupied by the British Government for the use of the Joint Commissions expires on the 31st July next (see despatch of the 28th of January last); I shall, therefore, immediately before the expiration of that period, hold a sale of the furniture belonging to the Commission, as it will be needless to incur the expense of hiring other offices for its reception. Should it so happen that a vessel is captured and brought in for adjudication, I am sure that the Colonial Government will lend a room, or one may be hired, for the use of the Commission.

The printed documents will be handed over to the public library, and the other papers, minute books, &c., appertaining to the Commission I shall retain in my own custody for transmission to England.

I have also to acquaint your Lordship that, as from the 31st of July next there will be no furniture or office to attend to, and neither Portuguese or American Commissioners to wait upon, I have informed the messenger that his services will no longer be required from that date, reserving to him, of course, all the advantages of such pension or allowance as your Lordship may see fit to award him on the abolition of his office, after upwards of twelve years' service.

I hope that these arrangements will meet with your Lordship's sanction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. L. LAYARD.

No. 77.

Mr. Otway to Commissioner Layard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 23, 1870.

I INCLOSE a copy of the Convention between Her Majesty and the United States of America, signed at Washington on the 3rd of June last, and ratified on the 10th instant, having for its object to rescind so much of the Treaty of the 7th April, 1862, as related to the establishment of Mixed Courts of Justice at the Cape of Good Hope, Sierra Leone, and New York, for the trial of Slave Trade cases.

Upon the receipt of this despatch you will immediately take steps to break up the Mixed Commission Court at the Cape of Good Hope, unless there should be any case waiting for trial, and in this event you will proceed to determine it with all possible despatch.

You are at liberty to return to England, with such of your Staff as desire to do so, so soon as you have completed your arrangements for closing the Court, which, as they are reported in your despatch of the 30th June, I entirely approve.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

Commissioner Layard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 8.)

My Lord,

Cape Town, August 1, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that on the 31st of July I gave up the premises occupied by the Mixed Commission, that day terminating our lease.

Although the Anglo-American Court is still open I have not deemed it necessary to incur the expense of engaging other premises, neither of the American officers being present at their posts or likely to return; I have therefore sold the furniture of the Commission by private auction, whereof I inclose a copy of the vendue roll. The printed books, maps, &c., have been handed over to the public library, as authorized in Mr. Otway's despatch of the 9th of April last; the records and other private documents are removed to my private residence, and packed in two cases, which I shall arrange to transmit to England by some passing man-of-war. Moreover, as there are neither chambers to clean, furniture or records to take charge of, I have discharged the messenger from the 31st of July, and thus in every way in my power diminished the expenses of the Commission.

I trust that what I have done will meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. L. LAYARD.

HAVANA.

No. 79.

Commissary Judge Dunlop to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 1, 1870.

IN obedience to the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, directing such returns to be made on the 1st of January and 1st of July in each year, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that there was no case brought for adjudication before the Mixed Commission Court here during the last six months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. GRAHAM DUNLOP.

No. 80.

Commissary Judge Dunlop to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 27.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 1, 1870.

IN obedience to the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, directing such returns to be made on 1st of January and the 1st of July in each year, I have the honour of reporting to your Lordship that during the last six months there has been no case for adjudication before the Mixed Commission Court at this place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. GRAHAM DUNLOP.

LOANDA.

No. 81.

Commissioner Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 3.)

My Lord,

Loanda, June 12, 1869.

THE observations which, in your Lordship's despatch of 25th March, I am desired to make on the Decree issued by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty on the 25th February last, abolishing the state of slavery in all the Portuguese possessions, may be expressed in very few words.

The Decree in question changes the name of "Slave" into that of "Liberto," but it does no more; I have never succeeded in discovering any difference between the position of the slave and that of the liberto; when, therefore, I mention libertos, I may be understood as speaking of slaves under another name. The Decree of the 25th February, however, affords me an opportunity of entering into the whole question of the service of libertos, and I have now the honour to submit to your Lordship certain facts, and my observations based thereon.

By the 7th Article of the Decree of the 14th December, 1854, confirming the Regulation of 25th October, 1853, all slaves imported by land are to be considered in the condition of libertos, with the obligation of serving ten years; and by the 1st Section of that Article it is permitted to sell their services for the whole or a portion of the time they have to serve.

Now, my Lord, even if the provisions of the Decree were carried out, the institution of slavery would be perpetuated by the constant introduction of fresh libertos from the interior; but, as a matter of fact, the provisions of the decree as to the libertos obtaining their liberty at the termination of ten years' service are totally disregarded; many thousands ought now to be their own masters; those really so are a few dozens, and those, principally inhabitants of this city, who, possessing somewhat more intelligence than the negroes in the country, addressed themselves to Lieutenant Nascimento Sampaio, the Chief of Police, a most honourable and upright officer, and he brought their cases before the Junta Protectora; it is not till latterly that any attempt was made in the interior to keep the registers with any degree of any regularity; the negroes there are ignorant and stupid; they have no one to advise them or protect them, and they will remain, under the present administration of the law, condemned to forced service all their lives. In what does that differ from slavery? On my way back from Mossamedes I had some conversation with the Juiz de Direito of Benguela on this subject: Benguela is a place of considerable importance, and the second city in the province. I remarked to the Judge that it was probable that very few libertos in Benguela who had completed their term of service had been set at liberty; his answer was, that he was not aware that there was one. There must, nevertheless, be a vast number of libertos in Benguela who ought by law to be free, but it appears to be nobody's business to see that they obtain their liberty.

The "Junta Protectora dos Esclavos e Libertos" have great powers conferred on them by the Decree of the 14th December, 1854. If they were to use those powers, they would find, I think, that half of the blacks now kept in servitude in this city, and many more in the country, had never been registered, and were therefore free by operation of the law; but in their cases, as in the case of most Boards, it is nobody's business in particular, so nothing is done; it is easy, of course, to strike out of the register the names that were entered more than ten years ago, but where are the owners of those names? They have been so often sold, resold, and transferred, that it would be impossible to trace them, and, in the cases where they can be found, I fear there is no one to tell them that they are their own masters. How many thousands have been shipped to the Island of San Thomé, where it must be noted they are registered anew, and have to serve ten years, although they may

nave already served months or years in this province. Indeed, my Lord, as far as I can understand the system of registration, I see no reason why a man should not be perpetually re-registered; if he is too well known in one district his services can be sold to a person in a neighbouring district ("concelho"), and he may there be presented as having been newly imported from the interior, and have to commence his ten years' period, although he may have already served eight or nine years. It is unnecessary, however, to take that trouble, as he may be kept where he is, and no one will interfere in the matter.

During my absence in the south, Brigadier-General José Rodriguez Coelho do Amaral arrived here as Governor-General, to succeed Admiral Gonçalves Cardoso, the late Governor-General, who had been superseded at his own request. General Amaral had previously governed the province for several years, and may be known to your Lordship as having organized and led the Expedition that captured Ambriz.

In an interview I had with his Excellency, I told him that I had received instructions from your Lordship to send my observations on the Decree of the 25th February, and I entered with much precision and at some length on the subject of the service of libertos. The substance of my remarks was the same as I have above had the honour to submit to your Lordship's consideration. I do not remember that the Governor-General took exception to any of my observations. He said that, if it was brought to his knowledge that any one was kept in servitude who ought to be free, he would take steps to have him set at liberty; and he dwelt, as Lieutenant Sampaio had done, on the difficulty of carrying out in the country the Regulations contained in the Decree of the 14th December, 1854. Those difficulties I admit; but I go beyond his Excellency. I maintain that it is impossible to put in force the Regulations which provide for the perfect freedom of the liberto after ten years' service; the absence of system, the want of communication and roads between the different districts ("concelhos"), the utter administrative disorganization and immorality, and the facility with which a liberto can be withdrawn from the operation of the law, render the execution of the Decree impossible. The ten years' service imposed by the Decree consequently becomes, in the great majority of cases, forced and unremunerated labour for life. As it is easy to put the law in force when the negro is to be enslaved, and impracticable when he is to be set at liberty, there remains no alternative but to close the registers, modify the 7th Article of the Decree of the 14th December, 1854, and prohibit the introduction into the province of negroes in a servile condition, either under name of slave, liberto, or under any other designation, if the Portuguese Government seriously wish to put an end to slavery, not merely in name, but in fact.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. VREDENBURG.

No. 82.

Commissioner Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 11, 1870.)

My Lord,

Loanda, November 22, 1869.

IT is with great regret that I transmit translation of a letter which I fear will leave but little doubt as to the sad fate of Dr. Livingstone.

The letter in question was written to Mr. Augustus Archer Silva, a merchant, and the United States' commercial agent in this city, who courteously furnished me with a copy by Senhor Antonio José Gomes da Silva, a customer of his, who was here a short time ago.

It was not until Senhor Silva had gone away that the subject was mentioned to me, I should otherwise have sought from him explanations of certain circumstances and facts which appear obscure.

I should have requested to be informed where the Soba Mangúangua lived. His residence appears to be not very distant from Chinté.

At the latter place, it is stated, an Ambassador arrived from Cazembé, carrying tribute to Muata Ianvo, which I assume to be the same as Matiamvo. Now, according to the small map in my possession, Matiamvo appears to lie to the north-west of Cazembé, and Chinté at some considerable distance to the south-west; it is difficult, therefore, to explain why persons going from Cazembé to Matiamvo should pass by Chinté, as every step in that direction would take them further from their destination. There is manifestly some confusion here. Senhor da Silva's letter also fails to mention the time when the alleged poisoning of Dr. Livingstone took place. The Ambassador said that when he passed there on his return from Ambacca (a district of this Province) they would not see him, but that after a long time had passed they heard he was coming back. If Dr. Living-

stone had not visited that country since he returned from Loanda in 1855, they must have nursed their wrath a long time. Senhor da Silva's letter also fails to mention the name of the place where Dr. Livingstone was murdered, the Ambassador merely saying that it was twenty days' journey from his habitation (Cazembé). Information on that point is of the greatest importance, and I shall make every effort to obtain it.

The character and trustworthiness of Senhor da Silva must also be considered. I have learnt on inquiry that the object of his journey was to purchase libertos for Senhor Albino J. S. da Costa Magalhaens, a person with an extensive coffee plantation in this Province, who has been lately advertising for a thousand. Senhor da Silva is represented as a heedless, thoughtless young man, but quite incapable of inventing and arranging, with all its details, a story such as he has related. There is therefore every reason to fear that, notwithstanding the discrepancies in his narrative, the main point mentioned by him—the murder of Dr. Livingstone—is but too true.

I have been informed by Mr. Augustus Archer Silva that he learnt, in conversation with Senhor da Silva, many particulars that are not mentioned in the letter, but which it is his intention to communicate to the Geographical Society.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. VREDENBURG.

Inclosure in No. 82.

Senhor da Silva to Mr. Augustus Archer Silva.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Senhor,

IN consideration of the request that you made to me that I should inform you of what they related to me in the interior of Africa respecting the fate of Dr. Livingstone, I will state the following:—

After a troublesome journey I crossed the Congo on a bridge of timber, near the residence of the Soba Catende in the Luennalands. Three days after I took the direction of about east south-east, judging by the sun, arriving at the residence of the Soba Mangúangua, also of the Luenna tribe, after twelve days journey from the Congo, passing through extensive and admirable plains. There I remained to conclude my business, having occupied ninety-five days on the journey from Malange.

Two days after my arrival, on the 15th June, 1868, I received information that there had arrived at the habitation of the Soba Chinde, on the banks on the other side of the Zambezia a great company from the Muata-Cazembé, going with tribute for the Muata-Janvo by order of the latter. I was induced by curiosity to send and call the Cacuata (Ambassador), who immediately came; not he alone, but also the whole company, whom I calculated to consist of some 500 persons, it being the road that they had to follow.

Let us now go on to what occurred, as I have not time for all. Entering into conversation with the Ambassador, whose name is Fuma-aíçaça, respecting the roads to Teté-Mozambique I thought of Livingstone, and asked him if he could give me any news of him. He immediately answered me that I was not to talk to him about such a fetish man ("feticeiro"). I became suspicious after such an answer, but I allowed some days to pass, and on account of the presents I was making him he showed himself more and more my friend. I then invited him one night to my hut ("chupana"), where I had ready prepared two calabashes of "caçollo," a drink made of honey, and in that way I was enabled to collect the following:—

He said—but with much secrecy, having sent away the servant—the "calunga" (Livingstone) was a great "feticeiro;" he talked every day with the sun, never slept in a house, and had no fear of wild beasts. He had an animal in a box to which he never gave anything to eat, but always when he was travelling he talked to it and asked it the road, which he never asked of any one. From time to time he opened papers and began to talk to them; he passed rivers without a canoe, and many other things that astonished us. Afterwards, when he returned from Puto Ambacca, a part of Angola, no one would see him, but we did him no harm. Some days after he passed, a great tributary died some twenty days distant from our habitations, at a place where he had passed the night; they went after him, but did not meet him. A long time passed, and we heard that he was returning. They went to meet him and tied him; they gave him "muange" (a test drink), and as soon as he presented symptoms of death they cut him in pieces and burnt him.

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After all this he asked me if he was my relation; I immediately answered "No," and even had he been so I would have given the same answer.

This is what I know from information received from the Cacua of Cazembé, Fuma-aíçaça, whom I met on the banks of the Zambezia, between the 15th and 25th June, 1868.

Wishing, &c.
(Signed) ANTONIO JOSE GOMES DA SILVA,

No. 83.

Mr. Otway to Commissioner Vredenburg.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January 15, 1870.*
WITH reference to your despatch of the 22nd November, forwarding papers relating to the reported death of Dr. Livingstone by poison in 1868, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to state to you that a letter has been received from Dr. Livingstone, as well as one from Bishop Tozer, from which it would appear that Dr. Livingstone was alive in July last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

No. 84.

Mr. Otway to Commissioner Vredenburg.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 15, 1870.*
WITH reference to your despatch of the 12th June, 1869,* I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to inclose, for your information, a translation of the reply of the Portuguese Government† to the representations, founded on your Report, that were made to them respecting the working of the Decree of the 25th February last, abolishing slavery in the Portuguese dominions.

Lord Clarendon has expressed his satisfaction at the assurances thus given by the Portuguese Government regarding their treatment of the libertos, but he wishes you to watch the working of the system, and to report from time to time whether the humane intentions of the Decree are faithfully carried out.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR OTWAY.

No. 85.

Commissioner Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 6.)

My Lord, *Loanda, February 9, 1870.*
I HAVE the honour to transmit the joint Report, which by Article XI Annex B of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, the Commissioners in the Mixed Courts are directed to make to the two Governments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. VREDENBURG.

Inclosure in No. 85.

Annual Joint Report of Commissioners.

IN conformity with the provisions of Article XI Annex B of the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, we have the honour to report—

1. That no case has been brought before the Mixed Commission for adjudication during the past year.
2. That there are no liberated negroes under the charge of the Board of Superintendence.

(Signed) JOSE RODRIGUES CALHO DO TOMASON.
Loanda, February 9, 1870.

* See No. 80.

† See Class C, Inclosure in No. 15.

Mr. Otway to Commissioner Vredenburg.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, April 13, 1870.

I AM to inclose a translation of a note from the Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires,* from which you will perceive that it has been arranged that the functions of the Loanda Court shall in any case expire on the 30th June next, and you should therefore make arrangements to break up the establishment on that date.

Commissioner Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 6.)

My Lord,

Loanda, April 22, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Hammond's despatch of the 15th February, inclosing a translation of the reply of the Portuguese Government to the representations founded on the report contained in my despatch of the 12th June, 1869.

I have attentively perused Senhor Mendes Leal's despatch, and see no reason to alter or modify the views and opinions expressed in my report above referred to. It is true that long lists of libertos, whose right to freedom has been recognized, have been published in the official bulletins of this province, but I may be permitted to remark that nearly the whole of them have been published since my interview and conversation with the Governor-General.

I will, according to your Lordship's instructions, watch the working of the new system, and report from time to time whether the humane intentions of the Decree are faithfully carried out.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. VREDENBURG.

Commissioner Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 27.)

My Lord,

Loanda, April 28, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a translation of a despatch from the Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Governor-General, in which his Excellency is informed that it has been arranged between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, that until a Convention is signed, abrogating that portion of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, relating to the Mixed Commissions, no contingent expenses shall be paid after the 30th June next. I have not been honoured with any communication from your Lordship on the subject, but I have told the messenger (the only person on whose account expenses are incurred) that his services will not be required after that date.

I have, &c.
W. VREDENBURG.

Inclosure in No. 88.

Senhor Leal to the Governor-General of Angola.

Most Illustrious and Excellent Senhor,

Lisbon, February 21, 1870.

THE Government of His Majesty, acceding to a counter proposal of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, that the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Portugal and Great Britain for the complete abolition of the Slave Trade should be annulled as to that portion relating to the Mixed Commissions, has agreed with that Government that until a Convention is concluded with that object, the contingent expenses pertaining to the Mixed Commissions in London and the Cape of Good Hope shall cease on both sides after the 30th of next June.

* See Inclosure in No. 72.

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Your Excellency being made acquainted with this agreement will not fail to take the necessary steps in that sense, your Excellency being assured that after that date no expense or salary will be paid by this Ministry.

(Signed)

MENDES LEAL.

No. 89.

Commissioner Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 30.)

My Lord,

Loanda, June 20, 1870.

WITH reference to Mr. Otway's despatch of the 13th of April last, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I communicated to his Excellency the Governor-General, in his capacity of Acting Portuguese Commissioner, the substance of the despatch in question, and hope to be able to make arrangements to break up the establishment of the Mixed Court in this city on the 30th instant, although the Governor-General will leave the province on the 27th instant.

Should Mr. Hewett not have returned I shall place the archives under the charge of Mr. George Hartley, whose nomination to the post of Acting Vice-Consul was approved of by your Lordship in despatch of the 17th May, 1869.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. VREDENBURG.

NEW YORK.

No. 90.

Commissioner Archibald to the Earl of Clarendon,—(Received January 3, 1870.)

My Lord,

New York, December 18, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, informing me that, in consequence of the suppression of the Slave Trade on the West Coast of Africa, Her Majesty's Government have entered into negotiations with the United States and Portugal to do away with the Mixed Commission Courts, established by the Powers at the Cape of Good Hope, Loanda, and New York; and that when these arrangements are completed it will be no longer necessary to maintain the staff attached to those Courts; further informing me that your Lordship is in communication with the Treasury respecting the compensation allowances which must necessarily be granted to the various officers who will unavoidably lose their appointments, and that a further communication will be made to me when that question is settled. In conclusion, your Lordship expresses your entire approval of the manner in which the duties of the Mixed Commission Court in this country have been conducted.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. M. ARCHIBALD.

No. 91.

Commissioner Archibald to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 10.)

My Lord,

New York, January 26, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that no case has been brought for adjudication before the Court of Mixed Commission established at New York under the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States of America for the suppression of the African Slave Trade, during the year ending on the 31st ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. M. ARCHIBALD.

No. 92.

Mr. Otway to Commissioner Archibald.

[Convention abolishing Mixed Commission Courts.]

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 93.

Judge Kennedy to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 27, 1870.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, December 31, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that no cases have been adjudicated by the several British and Foreign Mixed Courts of Justice established in this Settlement for the prevention of the illicit Traffic in Slaves, during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY.

No. 94.

Judge Kennedy to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 27, 1870.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, December 31, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no slaves have been emancipated, and consequently that none have been registered, by the Courts of Mixed Commission at this station during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY.

No. 95.

Judge Kennedy to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 20.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, June 30, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no cases have been adjudicated by the several British and Foreign Mixed Courts of Justice established in this Settlement for the prevention of the illicit Traffic in Slaves, during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. KENNEDY.

No. 96.

Judge Kennedy to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 20.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, June 30, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no slaves have been emancipated, and consequently that none have been registered by the Mixed Courts of Justice at this Station during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. KENNEDY.

No. 97.

The Earl of Clarendon to Judge Kennedy.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 23, 1870.

I INCLOSE a copy of the Convention between Her Majesty and the United States of America, signed at Washington on the 3rd June, and ratified on the 10th instant, having for its object to rescind so much of the Treaty of the 7th April, 1862, as relates to the establishment of Mixed Courts of Justice at Sierra Leone, the Cape of Good Hope, and New York for the trial of Slave Trade cases.

After the receipt of this despatch, which you will be good enough to acknowledge, you will discontinue to adjudicate any Slave Trade case coming under the provisions of the Treaty with the United States, unless there should be any case pending and undetermined in your Court when this notice reaches you, in which case you will proceed to determine it with all possible despatch.

The Annex to the Convention will show the manner in which prizes, captured under the provisions of the Treaty of 1862, are to be dealt with in future by the cruisers of both nations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 98.

Judge Kennedy to Earl Granville.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, September 23, 1870.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, transmitting a copy of the Convention between Great Britain and the United States of America, signed at Washington on the 3rd June, and ratified on the 10th August last, having for its object to rescind so much of the Treaty of the 7th April 1862 as relates to the establishment of Mixed Courts of Justice at Sierra Leone, the Cape of Good Hope, and New York for the trial of Slave Trade cases; and instructing me, after the receipt of this despatch, to discontinue to adjudicate any Slave Trade cases coming under the provisions of the Treaty with the United States, unless there should be any case pending and undetermined when this notice reaches me.

I beg to inform your Lordship that there is no case pending adjudication before the British and United States' Mixed Court established at this place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY.