

# THE ASHANTEES AND THEIR KING.

### Against These Superstitious Africans England Has Been Waging War for Twenty-six Years.

WHILE interest has been centered in England's war in South Africa and page after page of war history has been published, only occasional scraps have come to us of the trouble England is engaged in with Ashantee land, where for twenty-six years Great Britain has been engaged in war.

The King of Ashantee, who is Great Britain's implacable foe, is the most extraordinary monarch in the world. He is picturesque, powerful and a merciless despot. Twenty-six years ago England sent out an expedition to a cost of \$4,000,000 to bring the King of Ashantee to terms, and since then it has cost \$34,000,000 more.

country of Dahomey, may have something to do with England's solicitude for the people of Ashantee and their comic opera King.

There is probably no other savage race who are capable of putting up such a stiff fight as are the people of Ashantee, for they are born warriors and love their country with a savage kind of patriotism. Besides, they would not dare refuse to fight. Refusal would mean not only disgrace, but instant death. The power of this picturesque monarch is unquestioned. Should the Car of all the Russias even think of doing what King Prempeh does and thinks nothing of doing, there would be a vacancy at the Winter Palace. The



THE ROYAL COURT OF THE KING OF ASHANTEE.

This King lives in the interior of Africa several hundred miles from the Gold Coast, on the western shore. He wears a giraffe of dried grass around his loins, and a "plug" hat. Where he got this hat nobody knows, but it is his only crown. He has no throne, but instead he has a stool of solid gold, which four slaves carry around for him wherever he goes. Upon this he sits and gives his orders. They are all verbal, but often they mean either life or death.

The King's name is Prempeh, and he is the absolute monarch of more than 3,000,000 savages. His emblem of authority is a giant umbrella. The spokes are of embossed gold, and on the end of each spoke is a human skull. This emblem has descended to him through a long line of ancestry.

King Prempeh has exactly 3,333 wives. Why this number should have been decided upon he does not know. Like several other things they came to him by inheritance. He takes them for granted.

The Kingdom of Ashantee is rich in gold, and Prempeh is many times a millionaire. He wears earrings of solid gold. All of his personal adornments are of gold. He owns the only house in his kingdom. It is a rude structure of stone. His Royal Highness sleeps on the floor.

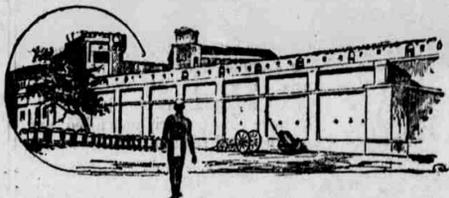
King Prempeh is a bloodthirsty ruler, and is in the habit of making human sacrifices. This is one of the practices

Sultan of Turkey is a novice in tyranny as compared with the black King of Ashantee. If his breakfast does not happen to agree with him, the cook is liable to lose her head, literally. If one of his subjects should even happen to look at one of his wives, the said subject would be conducted by a subordinate to some shady grove or to the rear of the woodshed, and he would never return. Should any of his warriors refuse to fight, well, there is no telling where the gore-shedding privileges of the monarch with the plug hat would stop!

Whenever a King of Ashantee dies a guard of 2,000 of his subjects are slaughtered to conduct him to the other world. It is said that as many as 10,000 people have been slain on such occasions.

Every time there is a national festival there are human sacrifices. In fact, blood letting seems to be one of the principal occupations of royalty in Ashantee.

Back of the town of Coomassie there is a place called by travelers the Grove of Skulls, where the bones of victims are thrown. Here is what Henry Stanley said of it when, in 1874, as a correspondent, he accompanied the expedition of Sir Garnet Wolsey: "As we drew near the forest we became suffocating. It was almost impossible to stop longer than to take a general view of this great Golgotha."



BRITISH FORT IN THE CITY OF COOMASSIE.

which England desires him to stop, for whenever his gods are displeased he seeks to propitiate them by having a few hundred of his subjects beheaded. It was to put a stop to this that England made war on the King of Ashantee in the seventies. There was fighting again in 1885, and again in 1896. Now there are indications of more trouble. Still the King of Ashantee goes on with his barbarous practices, killing whenever he pleases and ruling with absolute power. His subjects love him because he is of their royal blood, and fear him because of his cruelty. But they will allow no other country to interfere with their affairs, if they can help it.

When, in 1874, England sent an expedition against King Koffee, the predecessor of King Prempeh, Sir Garnet Wolsey was at the head of it. He burned the King's capital, Coomassie, and forced him to agree to certain conditions, among other things that he would abolish the practice of human sacrifices, but these arguments neither Koffee nor Prempeh has carried out. The consequence has been frequent trouble ever since Great Britain has undertaken the task of civilizing these black-skinned and untrained savages.

The fact that the country of Ashantee is exceedingly rich in gold, and that France controls the neighboring

We saw thirty or forty decapitated bodies and countless skulls, which lay piled in heaps and scattered over a wide extent. The stoutest heart and most aloof mind might have been appalled."

Several officers of the expedition, although it remained in Coomassie only two days, visited this Grove of Skulls, and subsequently described it as surpassing in horror anything to be seen in the world.

The King of Ashantee is opposed to progress. He does not want any roads in his domain. When the English cut their way inland from the gold coast they left a road behind them. With several pistols pointed at his head, the King agreed to keep this road in repair and not allow it to be overgrown, but he knew that the rainy season was at hand and that the English would have to hurry back to the coast. The road was never touched.

The system of human sacrifices practiced in Ashantee is founded on a wild idea of filial duty, for it is believed that the rank of dead relatives in the next world will be measured by the number of descendants sent after them from this. There are two periods, called "The Great Ad" and "The Little Ad," succeeding each other at intervals of eighteen and twenty-four days after the death of some member of the

# BEES NEVER CALL TO WANDER

### Don't Like to Go More Than Five Miles After New Material.

The range of the honey bee is but little extended by the seasons, and it is supposed that bees go for miles in quest of nectar, while others in quest of honey go only a short distance. It may be curious to many to understand how any one can tell how far the bee may fly, but this is simple when understood. Years ago, when the Italian bees were first introduced in the United States, these bees, having marked districts from those of common bees, were easily distinguished, and after a few bees were obtained the Italian bees they could be observed and their range easily traced. If bloom is plentiful near where bees are located they will not go very far, perhaps a mile in range, but if bloom is scarce they may go five miles. Usually about three miles is as far as they may go profitably.

Bees have been known to go as far as 10 miles in a straight line in crossing a body of water that distance to a hive. It is wonderful how the little honey bee can go so far from its home and ever find its way back to its own particular hive. If, while the little bee is out of its home, or hive, the hive should be removed some ten or twenty feet, according to the surroundings, when it came back to where its home was first located it would be hopelessly lost. If some one in an open spot, with no other objects close, should find the hive, but, even should the hive be moved only a few feet, surely the bees would get lost.

So, to move a hive, if done in winter time, it would be all right, but in the summer time, it should be done after dark, or when the bees are not flying, and even then the bees should be stirred up some and smoke blown in at the hive entrance and a board or some object placed in front of the hive so that the bees in coming out may mark their new location. Bees, no doubt, are guided by sight, and also by sense of smell. They are attracted by the color of bloom, as, if they are at work on a certain kind of bloom, they are not likely to leave that particular kind of bloom for any other as long as they can find that kind. Again, bees are often attracted to sweets by their sense of smell, for they will go after sweets, even if in the dark, if close. However, any kind of sweets may be placed in glass in plain sight, but if covered, so as not to emit any smell, the bees will take no notice of them.—Baltimore American.

**Deliberate Purpose in Animals.**  
An amusing incident, which shows that animals are subject to feelings very like those which occasionally ruffle the bosoms of men, occurred some little time ago at the Jardin des Plantes in Paris.  
A large elephant, formerly the center of attraction, found itself supplanted in popular favor by a new arrival—a young camel. The camel was the latest acquisition, and very naturally attracted the attention of visitors.  
The elephant for a long time showed signs of dissatisfaction, and at last its feelings reached a point where it could no longer be restrained. When the usual crowd gathered about the camel, the elephant prepared for action. It filled its trunk with water, and with deliberate aim discharged the water all over the people who stood looking at the baby camel.

This method of throwing cold water upon the admirer of his victim is a habit which he has inherited from his ancestors. Equally wise in making his indignations was a cat that chose a particular spot for a bed. **Condition was the cat's object, and the chosen spot did not seem to be calculated to afford it.** The cat, however, was in a large building, and a large sign was placed in the yard, which seemed to be a very muddy path.  
It was found, however, that the spot chosen by the cat for its couch was the point at which a hot steam-pipe passed under the road, so that the mud was baked into a warm, dry clay, which made not only a clean but an artificially heated sleeping place.

**He Was Armed.**  
In the days when highwaymen were more numerous and successful in Mexico than they are at present, it was the common practice of the natives to travel unarmed to make it more easily possible for them to be robbed.  
With foreigners a different sentiment prevailed. The author of "Mexicans at Home" tells a good story of a German who traveled in that country.  
This gentleman always carried arms, with every intention of using them rather than allow himself to be robbed. On one occasion, when he was traveling with diligence in the interior, he being the only passenger armed—the coachman suddenly pulled up and announced that robbers were in sight.  
The German prepared to defend the coach, but the other passengers begged him not to do so, as this might compromise them. Consequently, when the robbers came up he jumped out, and going to the side of the road, called out that they were quite welcome to rob all of the other passengers, but that they would please first take down his portmanteau and place it beside him. This they did; and when they had robbed the others, he ordered that his portmanteau should be replaced, which was done. He then took his seat in the coach, and the journey was resumed.

**A Cat that Likes Elevators.**  
The Philadelphia Bourse is the home of a very intelligent cat. This tabby, which is coal black, without a single white spot upon her, has a fondness for travelling in the elevator. She is perfectly at home there, and travels up and down many times daily. She goes to the door of the elevator and moves until the car comes along and takes her on. The various elevator men are very careful of her, for she is a great mouser, and in the Bourse, as in other big buildings, mice are troublesome. These little pests frequently scatter stowed away in desks and drawers. Tabby notifies the elevator men when they desire to get off upon by moving loudly as the car comes to the particular story. In this way she makes a tour of inspection of the entire building.

**How Bacon Deciphered It.**  
"What's in a name?" growled John William Shakespeare, as he and Colonel Francis Bacon were discussing things one evening in the Dew Drop Inn.  
"Several volumes," replied Bacon, in a present tone which indicated that he had visions of Ignatius Donnelly.—Baltimore American.

**With time and patience the mulberry leaf becomes silk, which in turn becomes a woman.**

**Some Day.**  
"When," shouted the orator, "when will come that blessed day when every man shall get along the way?"  
"It's come along about the time," flouted back-an-answered the man in the crowd, who was there for the purpose, "it will come when every man earns all he gets!"—Indianapolis Press.

**Don't forget that worry kills as surely as consumption. The only difference is that you can break yourself of the worry habit.**  
No man is a thoroughbred unless he owns two umbrellas.  
The younger the boys who go calling, the later they star.

**EVOLUTION OF JOHN CHINAMAN.**  
The illustration shows a series of figures representing the evolution of a man from a monkey-like creature to a modern Chinese man.

# THE "HOLINESS PEOPLE."

### Eat and Sleep Under One Roof, Believe in Sanctification by Faith and the Gift of Divine Healing.



Moundsville, W. Va., is the headquarters of the sect called "Holiness People." They recently held a great religious fest. Many hundreds of the sect came from all parts of the world. The church originated in Michigan in 1880, and the headquarters were moved to Moundsville two years ago. They believe that God's people are coming to unity; that it is a reformation of the Christian religion, and that the great things of the world are being turned by God to His belief. They believe in sanctification by faith and divine healing.  
The congregations, called the "Church of the Living God" or "Holiness People," are very economical. They wear no neckties or clothing of fashionable design. The men all wear white shirts and celluloid collars, with bone collar buttons, and no jewelry is worn. Everything is in common style. They are all quartered in the Trumpet Home. At this Home the single people have rooms of their own and the families have suites. There is but one kitchen and one dining room. These people do not mingle with the outside world, and apparently are to them a publishing house of their own, and a very happy and contented set. They have a publishing house of their own, and a paper called the Trumpet. No one working on the journal gets any salary, as the motto of these people is that all persons need is "enough to eat and their clothing."

**TUNNEL DISEASE.**  
fashionable ladies of to-day, who would be much offended if they were called barbarous or uncivilized, never use soap. They grease themselves with vaseline and such stuff and carefully rub it all off again.—San Francisco Call.

**Curious Affliction of Those Who Delves in Mines and Tunnels.**  
There is a disease which attacks the laborers in tunnels and mines. It is as old as Egypt, but only within this century has it been placed to a specific parasite. It is a painful and dangerous disease, often resulting in death. A monograph on the subject of this disease, by Hugo F. Goldman, M. D., the official physician in the coal mines of Breunberg, near Oeltenberg, Germany, it carries great weight, for it is based upon years of experience, and the practical treatment of this dread disease. It attacks not only men but animals, especially the horses or mules used in the building of tunnels and the operation of mines. It is a disease caught by infection, like typhoid or cholera. It can be contracted in the air or by contact with the germs, which are really the eggs of the little worm, or myriax, which it is called. This name means "hooked mouth," and refers to the six hooked teeth around the mouth of the parasite which it clings to the interior of the human intestine. It is found not only in the duodenum, but also in the smaller intestines, where it grows and flourishes.  
Male and female can be distinguished among these parasites, the females being larger and more numerous than the males. The males grow to the length of .0075 inch, and the female is on an average half as long again. They can be seen with the naked eye. This animal has neither breathing apparatus nor circulatory system, and varies in color from grayish white to brown and even blood red, according to the condition of the person in whom it is found. The female lays a large number of eggs in the human intestines, from which they spread the disease infinitely under proper conditions. The parasite and the egg develop best in a temperature between 60 and 85 degrees Fahrenheit. The air and surrounding medium must be moist. It is on account of the moisture and heat to be found in mines and tunnels that this parasite develops so perfectly among the toilers in these places. Darkness is also necessary, sunlight killing these animalcules almost instantly.  
Akylostomiasis originated in the Orient. It has been long established in Egypt, but has been mistakenly called Egyptian cholera, or anemia, and was treated as mere poverty of the blood in red corporules. It passed over from Egypt to Italy, where it was not really understood until Dubini found the parasite in 1838.  
When the St. Gotthard tunnel was built, in the '70s, the disease spread throughout Switzerland, especially in the Alps. The further spreading of the akylostomiasis to the mines of Europe was quick to follow. When the mine was first attacked in the St. Gotthard tunnel it was thought that a new disease, the "tunnel disease," had been found, but it was nothing other than the akylostomiasis, as was proved by Peronetto, when he found no less than 1,500 of these parasites in the duodenum of a man who had died of "tunnel disease."  
The mode of infection is very apparent. The men while at work often carry their hands to their mouths, or eat their food in the tunnels or mines, and in this way the parasite or its eggs enter through the mouth, pass on into the system and find a permanent home in the intestines, to the walls of which they cling with all six teeth, feeding on the blood of the unfortunate person attacked.

**Use of Soap.**  
British critics of the Boers are fond of asserting that the sturdy Transvaalers use little soap. This may be true or not. Even if true, there is plenty of precedent. The Japanese, the most cleanly people in the world, rarely use soap. The Russians use vapor baths for cleanliness' sake. Rough inside clothing cleanses the skin. There are doctors who have cured skin diseases by insisting upon their delicate patients abandoning silk underwear and using very coarse stuff instead.  
Napoleon's moustache were good good to model and beautifully white, used bean and lemon juice, and no soap, used to shave. In England, on account of coal smoke and smut, soap is more needed than in countries with clear air. Many

**Stole the Bridegroom.**  
A young man in a convivial party at a Broad street hotel told the following story: "I had a good time at a wedding last week. It was the wedding of a friend of mine, and I and some of the boys played a good joke on him, and he didn't get mad either. The joke was to steal him. Yes, right after the ceremony we grabbed him up, banged him into a cab, and then drove him out six or seven miles into the country, where we locked him up in a barn and kept him there three days. The bride waited for him in a royal suite of rooms in an Asbury Park hotel. We had persuaded her to travel down alone, promising her the groom would arrive at any minute. Every evening, after our day's work was done, we trotted out into the country to see the groom, with baskets of food and liquor. Pretty good-natured about it the duffer was, too, I tell you, though, those three days were different slightly from what he and the girl had been counting on."—Philadelphia Record.

**Not Law but Gospel.**  
Clergymen of the past often had traits of individuality which are perhaps never so common at the present day. Archbishop Sumner was once holding a confirmation in an English parish church, when he observed that a number of people were standing in the aisles, although several pews were empty. He stopped the service, and asked the reason.  
"The pews are private property," answered a man, "and they're shut up."  
"There can be no such thing," said the bishop, authoritatively. "Let the pews be opened."  
"We can't open 'em," shouted some one. "There's locked."  
"Yes, there is a locksmith here?"  
"Yes, my lord."  
"Very well; let him remove the locks. A hymn shall be sung meanwhile."  
So the locks were removed, the audience seated itself, and the confirmation went on.—Youth's Companion.

**Servants in China.**  
In China a rich man gets as many servants as he wants, and yet he pays them no wages, while the common people have to pay them well. Even then they are hard to get, for the reason that the employe of the rich man can make more than triple the ordinary wages in perquisites.  
**Pennsylvania Railway Employees.**  
Hereafter no new employe will be taken on the Pennsylvania railway who has passed the age of 35. The company's new pension system makes this precaution necessary.  
**The Blonde—I wish I could play the piano, awfully. The Brunette—Why, you can.—New York World.**  
A good boy may not become a handsome man, but a handsome boy always becomes a good woman.

# THE FOE OF OLD AGE.

### Professor Metchnikoff and the Fountain of Youth.

The scientific world is now interested in the experiments and discoveries of Prof. Metchnikoff, the world's greatest bacteriologist. The modest statements which he has given out lead to the belief that he is on the way to solve the problem of prolonging human life. For ages physicians and philosophers have contended that the age of man should be greater than three score years and ten. According to the law of Plourens, warm blood animals live just five times the period necessary for their long bones to complete ossification. This period applied to man makes his age limit 100 years, which is believed to be correct, unless accident occurs to prevent it.

The statements and theories of Prof. Metchnikoff are not based on old dreams, hopes or prophecies, but upon years of careful experimenting which has rendered discoveries that are accepted by the scientific world and has placed the discoverer in the front rank of scientists. He has proven that all life forms are groupings of simple cells, and that each class of cells performs a distinct office. He discovered that the office of certain of these cells was to devour other cells that threatened the health of the human organism. They are the "police-men" of the body. Every day people inhale thousands of disease germs, but if the blood is in healthy condition, the devouring cells or "police-men of the body" pounce upon and destroy them. This is why many people go through a period of epidemic of pestilence unaffected, while others

"So Miss Primrose has purchased a kodak?" "Yes, I presume she thinks she can catch a man that way."—Philadelphia Bulletin.  
Bliss—How long is your wife going to be away this summer? Kingley—I don't know. I haven't figured up yet how much I can get into debt.—Detroit Free Press.  
"Daughter, I notice that Harry isn't a bit gallant to other women." "No, indeed, no; I broke him of that right after we were married."—Indianapolis Journal.

"Sure, Pat, and why are ye wearin' yer coat buttoned up like that on a warm day like this?" "Faith, yer rivets are so tight the shirt of Haven's on."—Punch.  
Harold—"If I should attempt to kiss you, do you think your dog would bite me?" Ethel—"Well—er—he has never bitten any of my other gentlemen friends."—Judge.  
"Here's a good scheme. A man proposed to a woman twenty-seven times. 'How did it work?' 'I gave her softening of the brain and she took him.'—Chicago Record.

Dealer—Five dollars for this beautiful painting! Why, man, the frame is worth more than that. Connoisseur—But not with that picture in it.—Boston Transcript.  
"What is tact, pa?" "Tact, son, is ability to know you've done the wrong thing without waiting for somebody to come along and tell you you've done it."—Chicago Record.  
De Witte—I really don't know how I have offended you. Miss Cuttings—You don't? De Witte—No. Will you accept my apology and tell me what it's all about?—Puck.

"Blifkin's wife is such a worrying woman. What's she got to worry about?" "Blifkin is such a good husband that she's afraid it won't last."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.  
Briggs—I hope you have not been worrying about that five I owe you! Griggs—Not a bit, old man. If I had I never would have let you have it.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.  
"Did you read my latest novel, entitled 'A Terrible Experience'?" asked the novelist. "Yes," answered the blunty candid friend; "and that's what it was."—Washington Star.

"Bunting tells me that he loves music passionately," said Larkin. "That can't be true," replied Gorfio. "Why not?" "I often hear him murdering a tune."—Detroit Free Press.  
Miss Kiffin (sighing)—Oh, promise me! Oh, promise me! Mr. Spudds—Couldn't think of it. It cost me \$10,000 to break the last promise I made to a woman.—Detroit Free Press.

"Is Bliffen's daughter making satisfactory progress with her piano studies?" "Very—for the teacher. It's \$2 a lesson and the job seems a permanent one."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.  
"She—Then you don't believe that a woman can make her husband what she wishes him to be. He—Well, if she thinks she is doing it, it amounts to the same thing."—Indianapolis Journal.  
A Test—Jagway—"Did you have a good time at that stag dinner the other night?" Toperly—"The greatest time I ever had! Why, I can't remember a thing that happened."—Brooklyn Life.

The Bridemaid (after the ceremony)—"Weren't you frightened nearly to death? The Bride—Frightened? Why, I could hardly keep from laughing right out, to see how ridiculous poor Harry looked.  
"I have seen it stated that any girl who marries a man under 25 years of age is taking big chances." He casually remarked, "I do so love to gamble," she answered enthusiastically.—Chicago Post.  
"She is worth her weight in gold," they said. He looked at her critically and then shook his head. "Won't do," he said. "I'm looking for something of that weight in diamonds."—Chicago Post.

"Boroughs has his faults, I admit, but he has the happy faculty of making new friends wherever he goes." "Of course. He has to. He owes money to all the old ones."—Philadelphia Press.  
Curious Old Lady—How did you come to this, poor man? Conviel—I was drove to it, lady. Curious Old Lady—Were you, really? Conviel—Yes, they were in the Black Maria, as usual.—Collier's Weekly.  
She—"Of all things! Did you ever see such a goodly?" He—"In what way?" "In what way? She has a sunshade that the sun can't shine through."—New York Weekly.

"Aunt Minerva, did you ever get up in the night and take a dose of medicine in the dark?" "No, dear; I tried it once or twice, but it always turned out to be shoe polish or hair tonic."—Indianapolis Journal.  
"And you think I married you for your money?" fearfully exclaimed young Harry Wawking. "Why, Harold, you know I would have married you if you hadn't had a cent—with the excellent prospects you had!"—Chicago Tribune.  
"Gayboy don't stay here as late as he used to," remarked the first clubman. "I suppose he got tired of having his wife go for him when he got home." "That's not it. He could stand her going for him at home, but it was her coming for him at the club that cured him."—Philadelphia Press.

"Bob's" Little Admirer.  
Of all the communications with which Lord Roberts has been deluged since he went to South Africa the briefest and best, in my opinion, is one received from three Dublin admirers. It reads: "Dear Lord Bob's—We are Irish, and we think you are the nicest man there ever was, except daddy. Aunt Nell likes you dreadfully; she has a picture of you, and she kisses it and says 'bless him!'—Your little admirers, Frances Muriel, Molly, and Ellen."

Water at Hamburg.  
One of the tasks of the Hamburg Hygienic Institute is to make frequent examinations of the water of the river Elbe to see if it contains the germs of cholera, diphtheria, or other infectious diseases. Another is to examine the water of the wells, of which there still are 2,000 in the city.  
After a woman has been married two years, she should give up trying to get her husband to say voluntarily that he is fond of her.  
A fool praises himself, but a wise man turns the job over to a friend.

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