

saying that they had given an annual present to Ashantee in token of friendship and alliance, but that it was in no way a tribute. The British, however, refused to treat until the matter was placed beyond dispute, and the Dutch accordingly sent an embassy to Coomassie. They returned with a document from the King denying the claim that had been raised in his name, and declaring solemnly that he and his ancestors had always regarded the money given by the Dutch as a present, not as a tribute. On the strength of this document the agreement was ratified with the Dutch, and to soothe the King of Ashantee the British agreed to give him an even larger annual gift than that which he had received from the Dutch. The English governor then informed the Elmina tribes that, although the Dutch were about to retire, yet that the British would not assume the protectorate except with the full assent and wish of the natives; that no extension of territory was desired, and that the object of the protectorate was only to keep the peace between the various tribes. The chiefs and thugs deliberated over this, and on April 10, 1872, they met the Governor in a solemn assembly and accepted the transfer from the Dutch to the English. In the mean time the British had been endeavoring to make peace with the Ashantees, and offered various trading advantages, free rights of passage, etc., but said that the terms could only be discussed when the French and German missionaries had been given up. The King wrote that the prisoners were in the hands of his general, but that he had written to ask him to give them up on payment of 1,800 ounces of gold. This was previous to the transfer of Elmina. The Dutch Government now joined the British in sending presents to the King and in begging him to give up the prisoners, and the British Governor asked for their restoration as a personal favor to himself, stating that money could not be paid for peaceful men who had been wrongfully seized, and that to show his good will he at once released Ader Bofah, an Ashantee general and relative of the King, whom he had taken in battle, and other captives. He also promised that when the missionaries were returned, the mission house to which they belonged should pay £1,000. On the 24th of September the King wrote to say that £1,000 would be accepted for the prisoners, but that it must be sent up to Coomassie. The Governor wrote that he had himself released the prisoners without ransom, and that he could not send money, but that he had paid it over into the hands of the King of Ashantee's agent at Cape Coast, and that the agent would at once send it off upon the arrival of the prisoners on the coast.

In reply, and without the slightest notification, the Ashantees crossed the Prah on the 27th of January of the present year. The Assims nearest to the river were attacked and their villages burnt. The coast tribes gathered their forces, and on April 14th a general battle was fought, ending in the rout of the Fantees. The Ashantees advanced to within a few miles of Cape Coast, and close to Elmina. Here they were joined by the Elmina tribes, and five thousand men advancing to attack the place were met by the British marines and sailors and defeated with a loss of 500 men. The natives of Elmina, being ordered to disarm, refused and took to the bush. The town was bombarded and destroyed by the British fleet.

When the news of this invasion reached England, it was determined to dispatch Sir Garnet Wolseley, an experienced officer who commanded the Red River expedition, to supersede Gov. Harley, a singularly incapable man, and to send out an expedition signally to punish the Ashantees and to put a stop to the scourge of these constant invasions, by following the enemy up and taking his capital. Between the date of the battle of Elmina and the arrival of Sir Garnet Wolseley on the 1st of this month, the only event of interest which took place was an attack on the boats of the British fleet when engaged in sounding the depth of the Prah. Several officers and men were wounded. All this time the Ashantees, some 50,000 strong, occupied the villages of the Fantees, devoured the fruits of their plantations. Their main camp was at Mampon, about fifteen miles distant both from Cape Coast and El-

mina. Both of these places are threatened by their force of 25,000 men.—*Cor. N. Y. Tribune.*

Our Country Contemporaries.

Ogden Junction, Dec. 22—

At this hour, 3 o'clock, a fierce snow storm is sweeping over the city.

The Union Pacific Express Co. contained, among its freight, last Saturday, a consignment to Chicago of silk-worms from Japan. They are of great value and require the greatest attention and care in conveying them by rail.

On Tuesday last a young man named Asper, brakeman on the Summit county narrow gauge railroad, was coming down a very steep grade with some flat cars when he allowed the speed of the train to reach to a great pitch before he applied the brakes. Seeing that the train had got beyond his control he jumped, and striking the ground heavily, dislocated his shoulder. He is progressing favorably under good nursing.

A farmer from the neighborhood of Marriott's Settlement, hitched his team to a post in front of a store last Saturday morning. He had disposed of his butter, and when he went to his wagon to get it, it was found missing. The same unfortunate man was robbed of a pair of boots and a bolt of cotton which he had bought a few moments before starting for home in the evening. He is now wondering whether it is necessary to watch his team all the time, to secure the safety of the goods in his wagon.

The Probate Court met this morning. The case of Messrs. Cook and Leavitt, which was appealed from the Magistrate's Court, was tried before a jury. The charge was gambling. Mr. Leavitt was fined \$30, and Mr. Cook \$40.

The case of Mingo, indicted for murder in the first degree, was commenced this morning, and the jury is at this hour being empaneled.

A correspondent at Bloomington, Idaho, informs us that the mining prospects in that neighborhood are very good. A shaft at the mines has been sunk to the depth of seventy feet, and before Spring they will be so far developed as to give assurance of success. Improvements and buildings of different kinds are in progress in that settlement, although the weather is very severe. A slight shock of an earthquake was felt on the 18th of this month, and a general panic occurred.

Two brothers in the southwestern part of this city, were devotedly attached to a young lady of Box Elder county, but lately a resident of Ogden. The elder of the two resigned his claims to the younger one, as he said he did not want her.

Arrangements were made for the bridal ceremony, the bridegroom expectant, happy and delicious with joy at the fruition of his hopes; the maiden, coy and full of eager anticipations of a bright future. Yesterday evening was the time appointed for a union of the twain into one "for aye and evermore." Justice Middleton was engaged to join the youthful couple in the bonds of holy wedlock, but as the hour approached for the performance of the rites, sad to relate, the capricious damsel refused to comply with the solemn promise she had made. The youth did not become frantic, nor tear his raven locks, nor yet contemplate submitting the question of making his exit from this mundane sphere of sin and trouble to the arbitrament of a bottle of laudanum. Not he, he was too practical. He took off his good clothes and donned his ordinary apparel, and kept up a stout heart. The brother of the disappointed suitor told him that it was his intention yesterday, to break up the match, but concluded, to-day, to let him have the girl. A burned child dreads the fire, and the hero of the little drama won't have her now, as he says "he was taken in once, and he can't be again." A husband and a fat fee are lost, but the first article is plentiful in the market.

EASTERN NOTES.

It has cost \$10,000,000 in cash and one hundred and thirty-six lives to bore the Hoosac tunnel.

Coffin rides down hill with his children and passes his leisure time handling the snow shovel.

The cat-o'-nine-tails is an institution that most Delaware offenders appear to go "back" on.

"You have heard of Kit Burns?" I worried the life out of him," said Bergh to a St. Louis reporter. "He had a rat-pit and a cock-pit and a dog-pit, and I drove him out of New York and into his grave. I had my force of police all round his house, and compelled him to move his den of infamy over to New Jersey. The lowest ruffians in New York infested his place on the Five Points, and then I hunted them out of Jersey. The stoppage of his business worried Kit into his grave. No, his ghost does not trouble me much. I was not afraid of him in the flesh, and in the spirit he is less troublesome to me still."

A morning paper speaks of "thieving in the outskirts," which may be interpreted "picking ladies' pockets."

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