

5. I have touched but briefly on the points stated in Mr. Ferguson's letter, because it is very full and interesting with regard to the subjects it deals with and deserves attention for itself.

6. I enclose the original Treaty effected by Mr. Ferguson with the King of Banda which is referred to in paragraph 5 of his letter.

I have, &c.,

W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 57.

Mr. FERGUSON to the GOVERNOR.

(Secret.)

SIR,

Nkoranza, December 15, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to report my arrival here on the 11th December (instant) from Lawra in Banda.

2. Before proceeding to countries east of Salaga, as was proposed in my last letter, written near Yegi, I considered it advisable (in view of the instructions contained in paragraph 3 of your Excellency's letter, secret, of 31st May 1894, that I am *not to proceed to the east of the neutral zone*) to ascertain the longitude of a point on the zone side from which I could reckon my position when going eastward towards countries such as Bimbla, &c., through which the longitude which bounds the zone on the east passes. I selected the junction of the Volta and Daka rivers as a suitable point for taking the necessary astronomical observations, and, having proceeded thither on the 5th November, I was engaged on that duty when intelligence relating to the western part of our Hinterland reached me on the 14th, that the King of Banda who had applied to me for an English flag was about to proceed to Gaman. About the same time, persistent rumours came from Kraki that a German Expedition was at Panto with the object of proceeding to Kraki, Salaga, Yendi, and neighbourhood. I also heard that the French were operating from Dahomey towards Borgu and the Niger river.

3. Guided by certain considerations, I decided to leave for the west and not for Bimbla. On the one hand, the object for which I now remained in the Hinterland was very prominent, viz.:—*to carry out the instructions directed against French advances into the neutral zone*; and, in this regard, I not only considered that our interests in the Eastern exterior of the zone were protected against German operations by the Treaties which we have made with Mamprusi, Dagomba, Biubla, and Chakosi, by Treaties which the Niger Company have with Sokota and other States, and by the fact that should the French attempt to advance from the Dahomian side they would first have to cross the Hinterland of German Togoland; but also that our advances in the eastern exterior sheltered us against French operations into the neutral zone from the east and north-east. On the other hand, the most probable quarter near French sphere of operations from which advance into the zone could be anticipated appeared to be from Banda, which is situated on the south-western exterior of the zone. Although that corner of the zone was below the 9th parallel, it did not appear to be completely protected against advance from Bontuku, and so, having protracted my stay a few days in order to gain more information respecting the German Expedition as well as to complete the astronomical observations upon which I was engaged, I left the Volta-Daka junction on the 19th November for the west.

4. Meanwhile messengers were dispatched by me to assemble the authorities of the Brong people at Nkoranza. I also stationed a corporal and two Hausa privates at Kofere on the 25th November, to obtain confirmatory information respecting the German Expedition and affairs in Kraki, while I proceeded to Banda.

5. I arrived at Lawra in Banda on the 3rd December. Lawra is situated on the right bank of the Volta river, about one and a half days journey north-west of Bontuku, and in latitude 8° 16' 22" N. Here the Bandas have gathered and built houses after the Ashanti-Nkoranza war. They were very grateful for the peace which had been brought about between them and the Nkoranzas, they had taken advantage of the safety of the roads travelled through by me to redeem most of the prisoners of war captured from them by Mo (Nkoranza ally). The King of Banda, called Sei Jande, who had been ailing in the early part of the Ashanti-Nkoranza war, died about two years ago, and as the Native custom for his burial had not yet been performed there was a kind of interregnum in Banda with Segawri and other Chiefs as regents. *Se Yau*, the heir apparent, was however styled *King* by Native custom, although the royal Stool had not been delivered over to him, and the Government of Banda was conducted by Segawri and the other Chiefs of Banda, in the name of *Se Yau*. A treaty of friendship and

freedom of trade was executed, on the 5th December 1894, by me with the authorities, and the British flag hoisted in Banda territory. I attach the original of the Treaty referred to. Se Yau was absent, but he was represented by his sword-bearer Asamyina (who was authorised for the purpose and who was sent in the first instance to apply for the flag) and by Head Chief Segawri.

6. I left Lawra on the 6th December and arrived at Nkoranza on the 11th December. My negotiations with the King of Nkoranza and a portion of the Brong tribes respecting the portion of their territories which is included in the neutral zone were unsuccessful. The Kings replied that they all had one common interest and that since their fight with Ashanti some of them had formed a confederation with the King of Nkoranza at the head of the federate Kings. In addition to the verbal replies which they made to the subject matters of the Treaty put before them, they also handed me a letter addressed to your Excellency, which is enclosed herewith; from it your Excellency will observe that their objection is founded on Article III. of the proposed Treaty, which stipulates that they would not negotiate Treaties with, nor cede their territory to, nor accept a protectorate from, or enter into any agreement, arrangement, or treaty with, any other foreign Power, except through and with the written consent of both Great Britain and Germany.

"This" they state in their letter "looks like . . . we are to have both English and Germans together for our masters. . . . This Treaty, if we agree to it, will divide our country. We do not know either the Germans or the French," and, they continue, "our inside political affairs are so blended with those of Ashantis, over whom the English control, that we are not able to agree to the Treaty which will cut off our connection wholly or in part from the English. . . . We are not parties to the arrangement between England and Germany which Mr. Ferguson tells us about."

These and other representations contained in their letter were given to me as their reasons for declining to enter into the Treaty.

7. With reference to paragraph 4 hereof, I have the honour to report as follows:—

As regards affairs in Kraki:—

- (a.) It is asserted that Dr. Gruner despatched a Native clerk with about 10 soldiers to Nkumi on the 18th November.
- (b.) That the clerk and soldiers were accompanied by three messengers of the King of Kraki; their names are Yau Antu, Yerfangu, and Kwamin Yantaki.
- (c.) That the party of clerk, soldiers and messengers crossed the Volta river from German territory to the British territory on the right, or west, bank of that river, where Nkumi is situated.
- (d.) That the party crossed in a canoe hired by Dr. Gruner from one Kuornu for 1*l*.
- (e.) The Chief Fetish Priest of Kraki, Busunifu, was arrested at Nkumi, and taken by the party to Kraki on the 19th November and, with one Okra, were shot on the 25th November by German authorities, for plunder and extortion. On the same day, 25th November, the German flag was hoisted at Kraki.
- (f.) Dr. Gruner with two other Europeans (one of whom is a medical officer) left Kraki on the 26th November for Salaga. A fourth German officer left Kraki soon afterwards for Agome.

8. It appears from the foregoing information that two expeditions were present at Kraki at the same time, one for the purpose of punishing the Fetish Priest of Kraki and the other to proceed to the Hinterland. That proceeding to the Hinterland is the one composed of Dr. Gruner, as Chief, and two other Europeans. These officers are said to be accompanied by 25 soldiers and 50 carriers. They will travel to Salaga, Yendi and Hausa countries. The expedition is empowered, I understand, to draw on firms at Togoland and Lagos to the extent of 3,000*l*., and is intended to be away for one year. It is reported that the expedition has already offered the German flag to the King of Salaga, and rumour comes from Kraki that the object of the expedition would in some cases be directed to neutralizing British influence in some of the districts visited by me.

9. Captain Doring is returning for duty in the Kraki district, while the German Administrator at Zebbe is also reported to be on his way for Kraki. It appears that the Germans are determined to invest themselves with a certain amount of prestige upon entering into their new station at Kraki, the proposed establishment of which was reported in my letter of 17th August last.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE E. FERGUSON.

His Excellency the Governor,
Accra.

KING KOFI FOA and others of NKORANZA to the GOVERNOR.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,

Nkoranza, December 15, 1894.

Mr. FERGUSON, your officer, has called us together and deliver your message to us myself the Chief of Abbase, Droma, Yegi, Pren, Kerwromo, and all the Bron people. Mr. Ferguson says that the countries on the north of a line running roughly from Enkuanterpo to Tzinkronko have been made neutral zone by the English and Germany for trade, and that he come to us to ask us to make Treaties with us providing that we, the Bron people, must agree to have the English as well as Germans to trade, and we must not make Treaties or arrangement with any European or other Power without the Germans and the English they both agreeing.

2. This looks like we are going to serve both Germany and English, or, in other words, that we are to have both English and Germans together for our masters. Our answer is very short, we Bron people on this side of the Addaree or Volta river are different to those on the other side, our country goes right up to River Volta, and this Treaty, if we agree to it, will divide our country. We do not know either the Germans or the French, our inside political affairs are so blended with those of Ashantis over whom the English control that we are not able to agree to the Treaty which will cut off our connection wholly or in part from the English.

3. We are not powerful, we enjoy the result of English influence over Ashantis. If our country was under both English and Germans we would have found it very difficult in our recent fighting with Ashantis to enjoy our native land. We do not understand the arrangement, when we were at Attabubu we were told that the people on the other side of the Volta, at Kratchi, were different people under the Germans, that the Volta River was the boundary, and we thought at that time that the English and the Germans were each drinking water from its own waterpot. We black men never heard that one country can serve two masters, when this happens there is fighting always, and we do not know whether this arrangement is to draw us into another fight.

4. We are not parties to the arrangement between England and Germany which Mr. Ferguson tells us about. We will, as heretofore, look upon the whole of our country as under influence of the English.

5. Through the mercy of God we have returned to our country with the assistance of the Governor of Accra. If you want us to live peaceable in our country we beg that you will tell the Queen that she should not force us to an arrangement to serve two masters which we black men know always spoil the country. Beside this we have heard that there has been fight or row by the King of Salaga about two months ago with Germans, because Salaga people agreed to Treaty which Mr. Ferguson made with the people at Salaga, they will not trade or arrange with other European beside both English and Germany together at the same time.

KING KOFI FOA

Chiefs :—

QUACOE TONH

YAW CANIMEL

KOFI CHEEMMACE

QUACOE DOHINNA

LINGUIST, ACQUASI GIRAH

KING OF ABBACE, KOBINA KROO

KING OF YEGI, ACQUASI MENSAH

KING OF DROMA, ATTAH CUDGOE

KING OF KERWOROMO, QUAMINE DOOROOGIN

their

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NKORANZA.

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CHIEFS

OF

NKORANZA.

marks

(Writer.)

A. W. BENSON.

To His Excellency

Sir W. Brandford Griffith, K.C.M.G.

Enclosure 2 in No. 57.

TREATY of Friendship and Freedom of Trade made at Lawra, this 5th day of December, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four, between Her Most Gracious Majesty VICTORIA, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, &c., &c., &c., Her Heirs, and Successors, by Her Majesty's loyal subject, GEORGE EKEM FERGUSON, an Officer in the Civil Service of the Gold Coast Colony, acting under special instructions received from his Excellency the Officer Administering the Government of the said Colony, also a subject of Her Majesty, and the KING, CHIEFS, and PRINCIPAL HEADMEN of the Country of Banda, otherwise called Ligbi or Fulà, on the other part :

Whereas Se Yau, King of the country of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà, and the Chiefs and Principal Headmen of that country, for and on behalf of themselves, their heirs, and successors, and people, have agreed to enter into a treaty with Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, &c., &c., &c., Her Heirs and Successors, by the said George Ekem Ferguson, acting for that purpose for the Officer Administering the Government of the said Colony :

Now, therefore, Se Yau, King of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà, and the Chiefs and principal men of that country whose names are herein-after signed to this Treaty, for themselves, their heirs, and successors, and the people of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà on the one part, and his Excellency the Officer Administering the Government of the said Colony, a subject of, and representing and acting on behalf of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, &c., &c., &c., Her Heirs and Successors, by George Ekem Ferguson, a subject of Her Majesty (acting for the Officer Administering the Government of the said Colony) on the other part, do hereby enter into this Treaty :

ARTICLE I.

The King of the country of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà, for himself and his lawful successors, together with the Chiefs and Principal men of the Country of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà, whose names are herein-after signed and seals affixed, for and on behalf of themselves and their successors, and the people of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà, hereby declare that they have not entered into any treaty with any other Foreign Power.

ARTICLE II.

There shall be friendship and freedom of trade between the King, Chiefs, Principal Headmen, and people of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà, and the subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress, and it is hereby understood and agreed between the contracting parties to this Treaty that British subjects shall have free access to all parts of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà, and shall also have the right to build houses and possess property according to the laws of the country of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà, and they shall have full liberty to carry on trade or manufacture; and, should any difference or dispute arise with regard to any trading transactions or other matters between the subjects of Her Majesty residing or carrying on business at Banda or Ligbi or Fulà and the people of that country, the same shall be decided by the proper local authorities according to the customs and laws existing in that country. The King, Chiefs, and Principal Headmen of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà also hereby declare and engage that they will not extend the rights hereby guaranteed to British subjects to any other persons without first communicating to the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony their intention to grant such rights to persons other than British subjects who may apply to them to be admitted to the same privileges as British subjects.

ARTICLE III.

The King, Chiefs, and Principal Headmen of the country of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà, in consideration of their friendly connection with Great Britain and the Gold Coast Colony by virtue of this Treaty, hereby promise to have their principal trade roads in Banda, otherwise called Ligbi or Fulà, kept in order for the advantage of traders passing through and to the general advantage of the people of the country, that they will encourage trade; and they likewise hereby undertake and bind themselves not to cede their territory to, nor to accept a protectorate from, or enter into any agreement, arrangement, or treaty with, any other foreign power, except through and with the written consent of the Government of Her Majesty the Queen Empress.

ARTICLE IV.

This Treaty shall come into force the date hereof, but power is hereby expressly reserved to Her Majesty the Queen Empress to refuse to approve and ratify the same within eighteen months from the date hereof. In witness whereof, the parties to this Treaty have hereunto set their hands and affixed their respective seals.

Done at Lawra, in the country of Banda or Ligbi or Fulà, this 5th day of December in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four.

Names of Signatories.	Rank.	Marks.	Seals.
Se Yau, King of Banda, per } Asamyina and Segawri	Chiefs - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Segawri - - - -	Chief - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Se Yau - - - -	Prince - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Kwajo - - - -	Prince - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Debila - - - -	Chief - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Kwabina Jitaw - - - -	Prince - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Kwabina Manjei - - - -	Chief - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Wari - - - -	Linguist - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Nyaw Kwabina - - - -	Chief - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Isaka Gietus - - - -	Headman and Chief Councillor	×	(Seal.)
Mumuni - - - -	Headman - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Kadari - - - -	Headman - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Wulju - - - -	Chief Commander	×	(Seal.)
Seje Nde - - - -	Captain - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Kwamin - - - -	King's Nephew - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Kwabina - - - -	King's Nephew - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Yewa Bri - - - -	Queen Mother - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Seidu - - - -	Captain - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Bakala Kwajo - - - -	Chief - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Chuku Kwajo - - - -	Chief - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Pe Yau - - - -	Chief - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Hajinjei - - - -	Chief - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Mama - - - -	Court Messenger - - - -	×	(Seal.)
Osumana - - - -	Court Messenger - - - -	×	(Seal.)

GEORGE E. FERGUSON.

An Officer in the Civil Service of the Gold Coast Colony, for and on behalf of Sir W. Brandford Griffith, K.C.M.G., Governor of the said Gold Coast Colony.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in our presence, the same having been first read over and interpreted to the King, Chiefs, and people, who seemed to understand perfectly the meaning, conditions, and scope of the foregoing Treaty.

MAMA GIMALAH,

Sergeant-Major, Gold Coast Constabulary.

OSUMANU BAKASHINA,

Lance-Corporal, Gold Coast Constabulary.

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No. 58.

SIR W. B. GRIFFITH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

(Received February 22, 1895.)

(Confidential.)

MY LORD,

Government House, Christiansborg Castle,
Accra, January 24, 1895.

IN continuation of my confidential despatch of the 11th November last,* relative to the instructions which I gave to Mr. Ferguson with regard to the proposed German exploring expedition into the Hinterland of the Togo Protectorate, I have the honour to forward herewith, for your Lordship's information, transcript of a letter from that officer, dated at Attabubu on the 15th of December, in which he reports that, from the

* No. 41.