

indicate decisively the rapid advancement of the colony in substantial prosperity.

“It is already rich in all the requisites on which to establish a most flourishing settlement, and it requires nothing but *available labour*, to turn those requisites to valuable account.

“The produce of this county is officially reported as

Wheat, bushels	. . . 25,164	Oat-hay, lbs	. . . 3,632,960
Barley, do.	. . . 18,849	Maize & Millet, bushels	90,312
Oats, do.	. . . 21,477	Potatoes, do.	. . . 9,100

“The estimated quantity of land in cultivation in the district is 10,000 acres, while there are about 1,200,000 acres of pasture and, a large proportion of which is courting the hand of industry to produce abundance of food for man.

“The soil and geology of Albany does not materially differ from the other divisions of the colony. The cliffs belong in general to the sandstone and quartz formations so predominant in South Africa. Graywacke, quartz, schistus, and clay-slate are common. In the construction of the Queen’s-road some organic remains have been found, and a few fossils, both of the animal and vegetable kingdoms, are in possession of Mr. Bain, the superintendent of that work, in a fine state of preservation. The soils are extremely various along the coast; they are chiefly sand mixed with vegetable matter and shells. Further inland there is much clay interspersed with sandy flats, and patches of rich vegetable mould, resting upon a stratum of iron-coloured clay, or upon beds of limestone and sandstone.

“The zoology of Albany is common to the other divisions of the colony. On the arrival of the settlers in 1820, the elephant, rhinoceros, and hippopotamus were common; but they have either been destroyed, or have retired on the approach of civilised man. Elephants are still met with in the jungles of the Fish and Bushman’s Rivers. A straggling ostrich is sometimes observed crossing the sandy flats, and at the mouths of the large rivers the hippopotamus is occasionally perceived protruding his huge but shapeless head from the stream for a little air. The lion is rarely seen, though the district is not altogether freed from his ravages. The buffalo is still common in the woody jungle of the district. The quagga and hartebeest used formerly to browse on the flats in herds, but they are now seldom

seen. Springboks are much more common, but they have been so much hunted by the youth of Albany, who are in general fine shots and daring horsemen, that they have become comparatively scarce. The rietbok, the elegant little bluebok, and several others of the antelope tribe are often met with, though they are by no means numerous. The wolf is the most troublesome animal of prey with which the division is infested. In cold and wet weather he is especially daring. At such seasons he will descend from the mountain ridges into the more inhabited parts, and will seldom depart without levying tribute upon the stock of the farmer. The wild dog is equally destructive. This is a gregarious animal, hunting in packs, and committing great ravages upon such flocks of sheep as they happen to meet with when prowling through the country. The leopard and panther, usually called here the tiger, are not uncommon. They frequent the woody parts of the division, and occasionally do much mischief in the sheepfolds; they will clear a fence or climb a tree with a live sheep, and are dangerous and untameable animals. The ant-bear and porcupine are common; the former is to man rather useful than otherwise, but the latter is very destructive to gardens and other cultivated lands. The division abounds in numerous smaller animals, which it is not necessary in this sketch even to enumerate. The ursine baboon and several varieties of the monkey tribe are common.

“The birds of Albany are various, and many of them extremely beautiful. To the ostrich may be added the pelican, the crane, the paauw, the wild goose, the turkey, the guinea fowl, the wild duck, the pheasant, partridge, snipe, and many others.

“Of birds of prey there is the gigantic vulture, the secretary, (*Serpentarius*), or snake bird, several species of the hawk family, the crow, the rook, &c. The butcher-bird is not uncommon. The long-tailed bunting (*Loxia Caffra*) is familiar, hovering during spring seasons over marshy spots. The honey-bird, with its shrill cry of *cher, cher*, is often heard, while the little sugar-bird, sipping the nectar from the wild blossoms in the kloofs, dazzles the eye with the exquisite beauty of its brilliant plumage. There are several varieties of the king-fisher, and also of the parrot and loerie, many of them of gorgeous

plumage, together with others so various in their habits and appearance as would occupy no inconsiderable time for the ornithologist even to name them.

“ Reptiles are very common. Among the *ophidian* class, the *cobra di capella*, or hooded snake, and the puff-adder are the most formidable; their bite is much dreaded, and has often proved mortal within a few hours. Powerful stimulants have been used with success, but are not always an effectual antidote.

“ It is very satisfactory to be able to remark, that the efforts which have been made to promote the *moral* advancement of the division has been no less ardent than in the development of its physical capabilities. In this respect Albany ranks first of all the divisions of the colony. There have been no less than twenty-one buildings erected in various parts of the division for the celebration of Divine service, besides the establishment of many out-stations, to which ministers of one or other denomination itinerate for the purpose of imparting to those neighbourhoods religious instruction. Of these places of worship, *three* belong to the Church of England, *fourteen* to the Wesleyan Methodists, *two* to the Independents, *one* to the Baptists, and *one* to the Roman Catholics. Besides these, as already noticed, several handsome and spacious edifices for religious purposes are in course of erection at Graham’s Town. Considerable attention has been paid to education, and knowledge is as widely diffused as in most favoured rural districts of the mother country. The number of pupils in the several day schools has been estimated at 3000; in the Sunday schools at 3800; which, out of a population of 13,886 souls, the estimated amount of the whole division, is a result which will bear comparison with any other part of the world—extent and other circumstances being at all equal. Some of the places of worship have small lending libraries connected with them, and by these and other means the acquisition of information is rendered comparatively easy. On the whole it may be safely averred, that the general intelligence of the inhabitants is not a whit inferior to that of the middle and lower classes of any county in the United Kingdom.

“ The general character of the division, and the pursuits of its inhabitants, are decidedly pastoral, and manufactures have not, therefore, made much progress. Only 100 families out of the

whole population are supposed to be engaged in them. There are several tanneries, which produce excellent leather. Hats made in the division are held in much repute, and, though of inferior finish, are found in general more durable than those imported. Soap is manufactured on the spot, and several tile kilns have been constructed, but the clays hitherto used in the manufacture have not fully answered public expectation. The same remark will apply to bricks, though a considerable number is made annually, and many substantial houses have been built of them.

“On an impartial review of the present condition and the natural capabilities of Albany, the conclusion is unavoidable, that it is a most important section of the colony. On this division has rested the *onus* of grappling with the Kafir question, and of resisting that pressure upon the border which a people in a barbarous state will ever make on a civilized community. Blot out the division of Albany from the map of South Africa, and the Cape of Good Hope will be again speedily overrun by the barbarian hordes of the interior. With an educated and moral population here, you have a shield for the colony, the value of which cannot be too highly estimated, and that, whether it is considered in regard to the colonists or to the native tribes themselves. If one is not raised into civilization, the other must sink into barbarism, and thus the natives may either become of the greatest advantage or of the greatest evil. The importance, therefore, of adopting such measures as shall lead to the one, and avert the other, is self-evident. Through a mistaken policy the greatest misfortunes have happened; let those serve as a beacon for the future; and let a people who have done so much to advance the prosperity of the colony, and also to promote the advantage of the native tribes, have not only credit for good intentions, but be encouraged in their well-meant endeavours by the public suffrage, and the reasonable but efficient support of their own Government.”

2. COUNTY OF UTENHAY.—Utenhay, as an independent division, was established in 1804. It had previously formed a part of the district of Stellenbosch, an old section of the Western Province, and owes its name to the title of the Barony of the

Batavian Commissary De Mist, a man of extraordinary talent, who was sent out by his Government in 1803 to inquire into and allay the differences, and check the struggles for ascendancy, which had unluckily sprung up on the eastern borders, between the frontier inhabitants who naturally wished to maintain their connexion with Holland, after the English invasion of the colony in 1795. These struggles De Mist mildly, but with justice designated, what English writers have unfairly denominated "a rebellion," as "*intemperate displays of laudable feeling,*" occasioned by an "aversion to foreign domination."

Utenhay is bounded on the west by the counties of George and Beaufort, on the north and east by those of Somerset, Graf Reinet, and Albany; and on the south by a sea-board of 160 miles in length. It is divided into 11 wards or hundreds. Its area is 8960 square miles, and is peopled by 11,019 souls, of whom 4628 are white, and 6391 coloured.

This county, like most of the other divisions of the colony, has its territorial limits very injudiciously laid down. In the first place a mountain range, which traverses it, shuts out a large proportion of its inhabitants, who could with ease resort to Somerset or Graf Reinet as their chief town, but they are thus, by an arbitrary arrangement, forced to attend the courts, the annual taxation, and all ceremonies connected with the church at the town of Utenhay. Then a considerable space, the Oliphant's Hoek, abruptly stretches into the county of Albany, obliging its population, for the same purposes, to visit Utenhay, when Graham's Town is easier of access and more convenient; but the whole arrangement of the county is unsuitable and incommodious, and requires remodelling, an event, it is hoped, not long to be delayed; when instead of the late absurd changes these sections of the colony have undergone from the name of drostdy to district, and from district to division, we shall have it permanently called by the good old English designation of the shire or county of Utenhay, &c.

The productions of this fine and fertile county are both varied and abundant. Grain of all kinds is raised to a great extent, and returns of wheat have been known, especially in the vicinity of the sea, where the climate is moister and irrigation not re-

quired, to have reached from 90 to 100-fold increase. The supply of fruit of every description, both of tropical and temperate climates, is most abundant; the vegetables, too, are plentiful and excellent; and fish, both delicious and cheap, swarm in immense shoals on the coast of this and every maritime division of this extensive colony. The county is also well adapted for stock; it contains 2300 horses, 10,500 head of cattle, and 146,000 sheep, and 20,000 goats, among the former of which are a large number of the Saxo-Merino breed.

The exports of this county are principally butter, for which it obtains an unrivalled fame throughout the whole colony, equal in fact to that of the celebrated Epping of England; wool in considerable quantities, tallow, soap, hides, skins, horns, aloes, grain, and great quantities of salted beef for the use of shipping and the islands of St. Helena and Mauritius;—the contracts to supply which are held by an inhabitant of Elizabeth Town, Algoa Bay.

A considerable quantity of wine and brandy is also made in the county, but is all consumed on the frontier. Timber, too, from the Zitzikamma forests on the border of the county is an important article both of home use and export.

The following is the declared return of this county:—

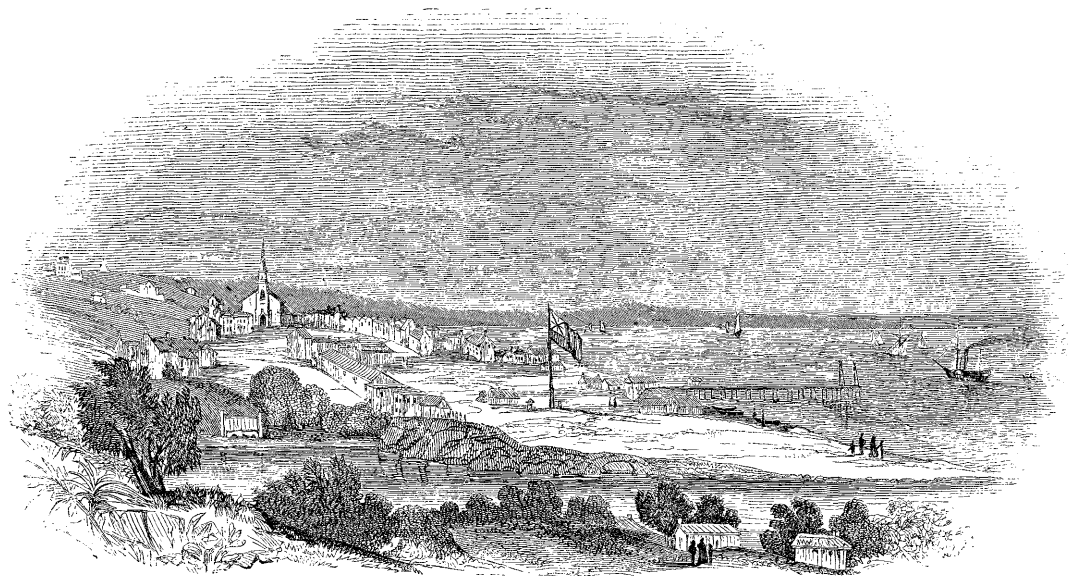
Wheat, bushels . . .	12,000	Oat-hay, lbs.	400,000
Barley, do.	24,000	Wine, galls.	4,427
Oats, do.	15,000	Brandy, do.	4,256

The county of Utenhay is well watered; the Kromme River, the Chamtoos, the Van Stodens, the Zwartkops, the Koega, Sundays, and Bushmans, are the principal streams. It is believed the Kromme and Chamtoos, which debouche in St. Francis Bay, are capable of being made navigable. A vessel belonging to the late F. Korsten, Esq., called the *Utenhay Packet*, of 130 tons, entered the Zwartkops; but the excellence of the neighbouring anchorage before the town of Port Elizabeth in Algoa Bay, into which the Zwartkops falls, lessened the inducement to repeat the experiment. The other rivers, although not availed of for water communication from the sea (although perhaps they might), are even now, nevertheless, of great value, and several of them are capable of being led out to water a soil of the richest description.

The scenery of many parts of this county is very pleasing, and its beauty is greatly enhanced by two fine mountain ranges—the Winterhooks and Zurebergen—of great height, which stretch across it from west to east. The summit of the last-named elevation commands one of the noblest panoramic views in the colony. The vast expanse of the Indian Ocean—the hills about Graham's Town—the Kaffrarian mountains—"Dark Katta," "Green Camalu," and the hoary Winterberg ("stern giant, gaunt and grey!")—the lively and verdant Boshberg—the rock-crested Bruges Hoot—the serrated Tanges Berg—the buttresses of the Camdeboo—the blue distant Snewberg with the lofty peak of Formosa, with the sharp lines of the Winterhook; between these and the observer stretch fine and large valleys more or less fertile and inhabited. Around him beautiful forests, (still the abode of the elephant,) clothe the banks of many of the branches of the Bushman's River, which occasionally reveal themselves, like silver threads, through the dark foliage of the venerable yellow wood tree. It was in one of the gorges of this magnificent but dangerous ridge that the elder Stockenström lost his life, by Kafir treachery, in 1812.

The great roads are tolerably good, and, with one exception, soon to determine, like all the other roads of the colony, entirely free from toll and turnpike.

The capital of the county, also called Utenhay, is planted on the declivity of a gentle hill, flanked by a bold ridge of mountain, on the left bank of the Zwartkops River, and about fifteen miles from the sea, in a very rich and picturesque valley, supplied to excess with water by which its fertile gardens are irrigated. It contains 350 houses and 1500 inhabitants, but its growth has been greatly retarded by its more successful rival Graham's Town, the capital of the province, on one side, and the neighbouring town of Port Elizabeth, in Algoa Bay, distant twenty miles. Utenhay has frequently been recommended as the seat of the Supreme Government, which it is likely at no remote period to become. Its central position with regard to the whole colony; its proximity to the barbarian frontier, whence alone danger to the possession can be apprehended, and the consequent necessity of this being the military station of the colony; its convenient nearness to the safe and capacious harbour of Algoa



Port Elizabeth, Algoa Bay.

Bay; and its extraordinary capability, superior to every site within the comprehensive limits of the Cape Colony, for the erection of a noble city; all point it of necessity the most promising place of the settlement. With an almost prophetic eye to the future fortunes of this spot, the authorities, who planned the town thirty-seven years ago, laid it out on a scale worthy of such a destiny. It contains a very handsome church for the Dutch congregation just completed, a fine court-house, a clean and well conducted gaol, with other public buildings; the old English church is being repaired, and a new one is now contemplated.

PORT ELIZABETH, situated in Algoa Bay, is the seaport of this and the whole Eastern Province; and at the landing-place a considerable town has sprung up since the arrival of the British settlers in the year 1820.

Algoa Bay, called by the Portuguese *Baya de la Goa*, as distinguished from *Rio de la Goa*, appears to have been first visited by the Dutch in the year, 1669. On the 25th October, 1689, a vessel (the *Noord*) was despatched with directions to purchase from the natives first the Bay of Natal, and in returning from that bay to visit "the Bay de la Goa, lying from 33 to 34 deg. S. latitude." It was reported by the Cape Government in 1690, that "the Bay of Natal, with some surrounding land, had been solemnly purchased for some merchandise, from the king and chiefs of those parts, on behalf of the Company, whose marks were set up in various places; that the *Noord*, after leaving Natal on the 11th January, 1690, four days after, put into the Bay de la Goa without anchoring; and after leaving that bight in the afternoon of the 16th, and running W. by S. and W. S. W. 14 miles, was wrecked upon a reef (Cape Recife). The crew, eighteen in number, vainly searched for inhabitants and food until the 23rd, when they set out for the Cape. After travelling together for some days without meeting a single man, they divided into several parties, and only four of them reached the Cape on the 27th March, after having been stripped and ill treated by the *Camfers* Hottentots, who lived by plunder. In the year 1752, we find the Company's marks erected at the mouth of Zwartkops River by Ensign Bentler. In 1772, some leases of farms taken on that river by colonists were cancelled as being

beyond the boundary fixed for the Swellendam district ; but those farms were reoccupied in 1775, when the Bushman's River was declared the boundary between the district of Swellendam and that of Stellenbosch, which extended to the Fish River. On the 2nd May, 1785, an event occurred which drew the particular attention of the Cape Government to Algoa Bay. The English East India Company's ship *Pigot* put in there, and with the permission of the country authorities, landed upwards of 100 scorbutic patients, who were lodged at the farm of F. Potgieter (now M. Muller's). The report of this circumstance did not reach Swellendam until the 10th July. Colonel Dalrymple, a passenger in this vessel, hired a waggon and travelled to Cape Town ; and it was either known or surmised that this officer was a skilful surveyor. The immediate consequence of the apprehensions thus excited was the formation of a new district, comprising the greater part of the present eastern division of the colony. The site of the new magistracy was fixed at Graf Reinet, some 200 miles from the sea ; but among the professed objects of establishing this new magistracy, the chief was " to prevent any foreign power from settling at the Bay ala Goa."

In 1797 the comparative importance of the Kafir boundary led Lord Macartney to contemplate removing the seat of magistracy from Graf Reinet to Zwartkops River ; but the design was abandoned. In 1799, in consequence of the disturbances on the frontier, Algoa Bay was occupied by a British garrison. Upon the peace of Amiens, Fort Frederick, built by the English in 1795, and named after the Duke of York, was given up to the Batavian troops, who, in their turn, evacuated it upon the recapture of the colony in 1806.

In 1820, on the visit of the acting Governor, the late Sir Rufane Shaw Donkin, to locate the British settlers who had just arrived on its shores, he ordered the building of a small pyramidal cenotaph, in memory of his then lately deceased lady, and named the village he then founded Port Elizabeth, as a perpetual token of respect to her memory. At this time the only buildings were the fort just alluded to, a small barrack, a mess-house the commandant's quarters, and a few temporary huts of perishable materials, besides the original farm-house belonging to a Boer of the name of Hartman. The population was

about thirty-five souls, and its trade confined to the occasional visit of a coasting vessel, with long intervals between each voyage, bringing, in exchange for butter, a few groceries and clothing, and supplies for the military. At the present moment it is a bonding port; the value of the imports are about £120,000; the exports about £150,000. The population has increased to 3000, almost entirely English, and the number of dwellings is rated at 300. A splendid pile of building, superior to any other in the whole colony, has just been completed for the use of the commissariat and ordnance departments, and a Place d'Armés, or Armoury, at a cost of above £14,000. There is a fine church for the Episcopalian congregation, a Wesleyan and an Independent chapel; and a place of worship is in course of erection for the Roman Catholics. There is also a small court-house, with public offices attached, and a gaol.

The landing of goods and passengers at this port has hitherto been upon the open beach, through a high, and frequently dangerous surf, by means of boats built expressly for the purpose, which are worked by warps from the vessels to the shore. The inconvenience, expense, and injury to property by damage of sea-water, sustained by this primitive mode, induced the merchants of the port in 1837 to attempt the experiment of a jetty, and having driven fourteen trial piles alongside of a wreck, which bore the fury of the surf uninjured for two years, they called the attention of the public to the expediency and advantages of such an undertaking, and formed a company for the purpose of raising £6000, by 600 shares of £10 each. As soon as they had collected two-thirds of that amount, the work was commenced under the direction of their engineer Mr. John Thornhill, the original projector, whose public spirit and interest in the place led him most generously to lend his valuable services gratuitously. Up to this period 352 feet of the jetty have been carried out into the bay upon 160 piles, nearly the whole of which has been floored or decked, and a stone approach with solid abutments to the sea of 210 feet completed. It is intended, as soon as 50 feet more of the piling have been finished, to commence landing goods; but for the convenience of steamers and coasters lying alongside, another 100 feet will be added to this important undertaking. The authorities of the colony, being

most impolitically restricted by the Home Government from advancing money for public works of such evident necessity and value, has only assisted the Company by the grant of a small piece of land for the purpose of building warehouses, and the use of thirty prisoners from the gaol. The amount expended upon the works up to this time is £4500, and an appeal just made to the Cape public, it is trusted, will enable the Directors to raise a sufficient sum, by the sale of the remaining shares, to finish this highly desirable work. Already passengers have been landed and embarked, and ships stores are now usually shipped from the jetty.

Another important work, long desired by the colonists, which, while it must most materially benefit Algoa Bay, will be of more general use, by the security it will afford to the shipping of every flag navigating the eastern seas, is about to be commenced by order of the Home Government, and that is, a lighthouse on the well-known and dangerous reef forming the western horn of the Bay, called Cape Recife. This rocky promontory extends for about a mile from the mainland, and the dread of the reef deters most vessels from approaching the coast and procuring refreshments, which they could at Port Elizabeth with the greatest advantage. The Surveyor-General, Colonel Mitchell, just arrived from England, has instructions to erect two additional structures of the same kind, namely, one at Point Agulhas, and one at Simon's Bay, besides improving the light already existing in Table Bay. The projected lighthouse on Recife it is estimated will cost £8000, and is to be 124 feet high. The site was fixed by Sir B. D'Urban in 1835, and the plan by Major Schwyn, of the Royal Engineers, is very beautiful.

With the exception of the small and perfectly useless military work, called Port Frederick, already mentioned, Port Elizabeth, the key to the whole interior of the colony, is left without the smallest means of defence. In the event of a war with either an European naval power, or with America, the colony might be assailed in the rear from this point;—and a body of troops, landed and marched along a peopled and well-provisioned country, could reach and take possession of the few principal passes of Hottentot Holland Mountains, immediately above Cape Town, and, cutting off the supplies, perhaps dictate terms to the capital

of the colony. On the occasion of the recent apprehension of a rupture between England and France and the United States, such a possibility forced itself upon the minds of many of the colonists. In their present powerless condition they find little satisfaction in picturing to themselves a visit from a foreign ship of war, which might with impunity burn their town, plunder their well-supplied military arsenal, and lay heavy contributions upon the neighbourhood, before a force could be mustered to call the invaders to account. A fort commanding the anchorage, properly appointed and manned, has, from the increased importance of the Eastern Province of the colony, become perfectly indispensable.

The following note for the use of mariners, has just been communicated to me through the kindness of the port-captain, G. Dunsterville, Esq. :—

“Algoa Bay possesses capital holding ground, as a proof of which it may be observed that all vessels which have been wrecked on its beach have parted their cables, their anchors having always been picked up from the identical situation where they were first let go.

“A vessel, in my opinion, with a rope or coir cable, would ride out in this bay a south-east gale longer than in any other bay on the coast. Although there is a heavy swell setting into it with the south-east wind, still there is not that short break of a sea as in the other colonial bays.

“There are no hidden dangers, except the Dispatch or Roman Rock, which lies about two miles east by south off Rocky Point, or the next point after you round Cape Recife, and this is easily avoided by attending to the instructions already laid down.

“The signals used at the Government flag-staff are those of Marryatt's code.

“No port dues whatever are collected.

“The average length of voyage from London to Algoa Bay is from sixty-five to eighty-five days; from Table Bay five to seven days*.”

* A chart of the bay, by Lieutenant Price, from a survey made in 1797, and published by the Hydrographic Office in 1801, and which costs about 10*s.*, may be fully relied on, and is the one chiefly used.

*Position of the Roman Rock in Algoa Bay, in some Charts called
Dispatch Rock.*

The following bearings are taken by compass from the rock, which has from seven to eight feet water upon it at low water:—

“The outermost rocks off Cape Recife bear S. by W. distant five miles; the Breast beacons W. one and a half mile.

“A whitish-looking rock off Rocky Point, on with the flag-staff at the Fishery, W.N.W. half N.

“Pyramid over the town, N.W. quarter N.

“Store on the beach in a line with the church, N.W. quarter N.

“Anchorage N.W., distant five miles.

“The beacons are erected near the beach; that next the sea has a tar-barrel on the top, painted white; the mason work also shews white at the bottom—the space between the two is black.

“The inland beacon has a white cross, and when brought in a line with the other beacon, forms like a small windmill, bearing due W. from the rock.

“A vessel entering the bay round Cape Recife, with a proper offing, to steer N.N.E. until the Breast beacons are in one; and when the cross is well open with the other beacon two or three ships' lengths, she may haul up for the anchorage N.W.

“There is sufficient room and depth of water for any ship between the Roman Rock and the main, the channel lying S. by E. and N. by W.—N.B. There being no buoy upon the rock, strangers are recommended not to attempt to beat through this passage either way, as it cannot make more than one tack difference, whether turning into or out of the bay.”

In consequence of several commanders of vessels having mistaken Cape St. Francis for Cape Recife, and thereby caused much delay to vessels bound to Algoa Bay, his Excellency the Governor has caused to be erected on the highest land (known by the name of the Hummock), bearing N.N.W. $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Cape Recife, a beacon called Selwyn's Beacon; it is a spar painted white, with a black caak on the top. There not being any other land-mark near the point, Cape Recife cannot now be mistaken.

Besides the two towns just enumerated, there are the villages of Enon, belonging to the Moravian missionaries, on the flank of the Zurebergen; Bethelsdorp, near Elizabeth Town, and

Hankey, on the Chamtoos River, missionary institutions of the London Society; and a small hamlet called William's Town, connected with and at an inconsiderable distance from the last-named place.

The natural curiosities of this county are but few in number. A lead mine exists near the Van Stadus River, but the circumstances of the colony at the present moment preclude its being worked to advantage, although it is reputed to be very rich. On the banks of the Bushman's River a few years back, was accidentally discovered a quantity of a new specimen of alum*. Near the Koega River, about seven miles from the town of Utenhay, is a hot spring and a fine chalybeate, much resorted to by rheumatic patients with benefit, and there is also some slight reason to believe that coal † is to be found in the vicinity of Algoa Bay; but it is to be regretted that no practical geologist has yet visited this part of the country, which doubtless would afford a fine field for his research. Among many other phenomena worthy of his attention, we must not omit to mention the extraordinary occurrence near the Koega River, of immense strata of oyster and other shells, as well as of marine animals and fish, in a fossil state, at an elevation of above sixty feet from the bed of that stream, and full ten miles from the ocean; so plentiful is the supply that large quantities of lime are prepared from these shells.

The most important natural substance, however, found in this

* It is particularly beautiful in its structure: the colour is perfectly white, of a silky lustre, consisting of delicate fibres of six or eight inches in length, which run parallel, sometimes perpendicular, and sometimes in an undulating direction; the vertical course of the filaments being diverted by small fragments of greyish limestone, and minute particles of yellow ferruginous earth, which are found interspersed near the bases of the tender capillary crystals, which shoot from a thin stratum of concrete alum, the lower surface of which is encrusted with yellow clay, and portions of blue limestone. This alum is very pure.

† This mineral was analyzed by the Rev. W. R. Thomson, minister of the Kat River; and the following stated as the result:—

Colour—Dull grey, when fresh broken inclining to grey, with some lustre, contains—

Carbon	37½
Volatile or bituminous matter	37½
Ashes, or earthy matter	25

—100

The earthy matter contains a considerable quantity of magnetic iron.

county is salt, of which there are four natural pans, supplying the whole colony with that most essential article. There are two close to Elizabeth Town, producing a very inconsiderable quantity. The third is situated on the lands of the Missionary Institution of Bethelsdorp, affording a very lucrative source of revenue to the Hottentots of that station, from its proximity to the place of export. The fourth and largest is on the eastern heights of the Zwartkops river, which is farmed out by tender for the next three years at £200 per annum, by the Dutch Reformed Church, for whose support it is at present granted by Government. The origin of these singular natural phenomena remains a mystery; the elevation of the pans and the distance of others (as in the case of those in the country beyond the Orange River, 300 miles from the nearest coast) preclude all supposition of oceanic connexion. The deposit of continual solutions of saliferous plants so common to this continent, and their evaporation in the pans is another untenable hypothesis, as similar hollows, equally surrounded by the same vegetable substances, are generally found in their immediate neighbourhood, holding perfectly sweet water. It has been suggested that they may owe their existence to some occult chemical process, enabling the soil to generate the mineral; but perhaps after all the true rationale of the matter is, that below these pans large beds of rock salt are deposited, and that the rains of winter descend through the soil and reach the fossil, by which they are saturated, and evaporating during the hot weather, form the crust collected on the bed or floor of the pan. The truth of this theory might be tested with inconsiderable cost by boring, but as the supply at present is plenteous enough for the demand, no person has as yet thought fit to settle the question by a practical experiment.

Excellent, however, as is the pan salt for table and culinary uses, and none can be better, as well as for every other, it is to be regretted that a prejudice has existed against its employment for the purposes of salting, which is carried on to a great extent at Port Elizabeth. The objectors state that it is positively injurious, for, notwithstanding it perfectly preserves the meat from decomposition, it entirely dissolves the fat and hardens the muscular fibre so much as to render it unserviceable. To what ingredient in the mineral substance this imagined result is attri-

butable, the objectors have never yet attempted to shew, although a commission of the medical body, appointed by the Colonial Government in February, 1827, to report upon the salt in question, stated, "that it does not differ essentially in chemical composition from common culinary salt; that it chiefly consists of muriate of soda, having in combination a small proportion of earthy salts, and an admixture of insoluble impurities; and that they have not discovered any ingredient in it which, in their opinion, would disqualify it for the preservation of meat under proper management."

The fact is, that the pan salt is now found to be equally good with that imported from Europe, and is almost exclusively used in the preservation of meat intended for export.

3. COUNTY OF SOMERSET.—This county was established in 1825, being formed out of those of Albany and Graf Reinet, and received its name in honour of the Governor of the colony, Lord Charles Somerset, a descendant of the royal race of Plantagenet, and a scion of the illustrious house of Beaufort. It is a very valuable and productive section of the colony, and contains a large number of splendid and fruitful estates.

It is bounded on the north by the new county of Cradock, on the west and south by Graf Reinet and Utenhay, and on the east by Albany. It comprises 4000 square miles, containing a population of 6439 souls, of whom 3098 are white, and 3341 coloured persons.

Cattle and sheep are the leading productions of Somerset, but a very considerable quantity of grain is raised in several portions of the district, especially in Swagers Hook, where some estates produce 1200 bushels and upwards per annum; fruit is also abundant on most of the farms. The clip of wool from the merino flocks is annually on the increase. Butter, tallow, and soap, are also important items in the produce of this district; and timber of great variety and much value is cut in the magnificent forests of the Kagaberg and its vicinity. Little wine or brandy is made in this county, and what is manufactured finds a ready and immediate sale within its limits.

The following is the official return of the produce of this county taken for the past year:—

Wheat, bushels	14,020	Maize and Millet, bushels	850
Barley, do.	2,940	Potatoes, do.	300
Oats, do.	650	Wine, gallons	2,280
Oat-hay, lbs.	34,000	Brandy, do.	1,624

Many of the very fine mountain farms of this county are calculated to produce enormous quantities of grain, and their situations are particularly favourable to the growth of the fruits of Europe, such as the cherry, gooseberry, currant, raspberry, &c., their elevation affording them the advantage of a climate similar to those countries in which the above fruits are indigenous. The following is the quantity of stock bred in this division: 25,279 cattle, 305,000 sheep, 70,000 goats, and 2520 horses.

The subdivisions, wards, or hundreds, of this county are six in number.

The Great Fish River, with its numerous tributaries, (*viz.* the Bavian, Little Fish, and Brake Rivers,) is the chief stream of this county. There are also innumerable springs in this county, which supply the great pabulum for the purposes of cultivation; for without irrigation it is almost impossible to raise crops; but where this process is practicable, the soil is found to be most luxuriantly productive.

A considerable mountain-ridge stretches across the county, under the name of Bruges Heights, passing into the Boshberg, or Bush Mountain, and thence to the forest range of the Kaga, upon the rich slopes of all of which there are numerous and well-watered farms. Bruges Heights, long the limit specified by the Dutch Government, beyond which no colonist was allowed to trade with the native races, has been the scene of the most deadly struggles between the early colonizers and the Kafirs, who vainly attempted to encroach in this quarter upon the colonial boundary. From the splendid post road which passes over a spur of this elevated ridge into Graf Reinets, are seen the great plains of that county, usually covered with antelopes, and occasionally crossed by the lion and panther; and in the distance the remarkable points of the Tanges Berg, or Toothed Mountain, so named from its projecting points—the distant and well-defined Snewbergen, or Snowy Mountains, and on the S. W. side, the broken country called the Swart Ruggens, or Black Ridges, a very extraordinary country, worth the inspection of the geologist, from its singular dislocation of strata. The Bruges Heights

are celebrated for large cattle, which furnish a regular supply to the Cape and Graham's Town markets.

The chief and only town of this county is that of SOMERSET, agreeably slumbering at the foot of the Boshberg, originally a Dutch farmer's estate. It was cultivated by the Colonial Government many years back, under the care of a Dr. Mackrill, as an experimental farm, particularly for the growth of tobacco, and a fine and lucrative crop of that valuable plant was successfully raised. The subsequent want of a cattle and grain establishment to provision the force necessarily maintained on the frontier, however, induced the Government in 1819 to select this place for raising supplies for the troops. In the year 1825, having fulfilled this object, it was marked out as the future metropolis of the county which bears its name. It contains seventy houses and other buildings, and 500 inhabitants. A plain but substantial church and a prison are the principal public buildings. There is also a Wesleyan and Independent chapel. The town is governed by a municipality. There is also a church for the inhabitants of the neighbourhood of the Bavarian's River.

To the eastward of Somerset, upon the Great Fish River, lies Zekoe Kraal, the scene of the romantic traveller, Le Vaillant's, flirtations with the heroine of his adventures, the graceful Narina, by which "the lively Frenchman" has conferred an immortality upon the spot.

4. COUNTY OF CRADOCK.—Cradock, named after the Governor, Sir John Cradock, now Lord Howden, who administered the affairs of the colony in 1811, originally formed part of the adjoining counties of Graf Reinet and Somerset, and was erected into a separate and independent county on the 8th February, 1837.

The county of Colesberg limits this county on the north, Graf Reinet on the west, Somerset on the south, and its eastern limit is the country of the Amatembus or Tambookies. It contains 3168 square miles, and a population of 6289 souls, of whom 2985 are whites, and 3304 coloured people.

The wealth of this county is chiefly pastoral, although there are many fine arable and highly productive estates within its limits. *Achter Sneuberg*, one of its subdivisions is celebrated for the

size of its cattle, and another, the *Tarka*, for its sheep, while the northern slopes of the Winterberg are devoted to grain, of which large crops are reaped.

The farming stock is as follows:—5420 horses, 39,500 cattle, 350,000 sheep, and 66,400 goats.

Official Return of the Produce of this Division.

Wheat, bushels	29,400	Potatoes, bushels	840
Barley, do.	3,600	Peas, Beans, and Lentils	750
Oats, do.	1,900	Wine, gallons	26,600
Maize and Millet	800	Brandy, do.	10,640

It is traversed by the Great Fish River and its many branches, the Breke, the Schap Kraal, Vleek Port, and Kla Smits Rivers; but it is nevertheless deficient in water. The great elevation of this part of the colony renders it extremely cold in the winter, while in summer it is much parched.

Several very valuable farms in the county have of late passed into the hands of English Colonists, and who are generally in thriving circumstances, and doing great good in the way of example among the Dutch farmers.

There are five hundreds or wards in this county.

Its scenery is somewhat monotonous, and in many parts wild, consisting of enormous plains entirely devoid of trees, except on the margins of the rivers, and indeed in one place, in the extreme northern part of the division, one of these scarce productions has procured the name of the "*Wonder Boom*," or wonder tree, from its rarity. The grasses are coarse and scanty, but still affording admirable pasture for enormous flocks of sheep, which increase rapidly and thrive well. The mountain ranges are bleak, stony, and almost denuded of vegetation, and the only relief which the eye enjoys is through the animation conveyed to it by large troops of game, which depasture these extensive steppes, as the gnu, quagga, antelope,* ostrich, and not unfrequently the lordly lion.

* One of the great luxuries of the colony is spring-bok biltongue, which is nothing more or less than the muscles of the haunch of the spring-buck separated, salted, and dried in the air; and this, cut into thin wafer-like slices, forms an agreeable *entremet* at a colonial meal. I lately treated a green cousin of mine, fresh (raw) from England, with a right good African breakfast, under the English name of

These mountains assume the most fantastic forms. There are two in particular on the Wesleyan mission station, called Haslope Hills, or Two Table Mountains, from their flattened summits, which, as approached from the back or northern angle of the Winterberg, appear as two colossal glass houses, perfectly distinct from each other, unconnected with any other range, and situated on an immense flat. On the top of one there is said to be a small lake filled with fish. Their elevation from the plain cannot be less than 1500 feet.

Cradock, the seat of the chief magistrate of this county, is situated on the eastern side of the Great Fish River. It is governed by a municipality, and contains about eighty houses, a church capable of holding 2000 persons, public offices, a public school-room, and a prison. A place of worship has also lately been opened by the Wesleyan Methodists, and there is also one for the Independent congregation.

There are some fine hot and cold medicinal springs in the neighbourhood of the town, and native sulphur is said to be found in the county.

The town of Cradock has much increased within the last two or three years. Buildings are springing up on all sides, and are no sooner erected than they find tenants to inhabit them. Being on one of the high roads of the Dutch emigrants to Natal, and one of the nearest points with which they can communicate with the colony, there is every prospect of its becoming an important station.

eggs and bacon, the nature of which was not disclosed till after the repast was finished and then having been found good, did not disgust. The first was an omelette of ostrich egg, and the latter the salted and smoked flesh of the hippopotamus, or as it is called here Zee Koe spek (sea-cow pork), and from good pork it cannot be distinguished. Prejudice goes a great way in causing us to reject such dishes; but I pronounce, after considerable experience, that elephantsteaks, though somewhat coarse, are not contemptible; and that baked elephant's foot is a delicacy. I have eaten both these with the room illuminated with candles made from elephant's tallow, when residing at Frederick's-burg, in 1822. I beg also to bear testimony to other niceties of the native African cuisine. The flank of a quagga broiled *al fresco*; a roasted porcupine, very much like sucking pig; the leg of an earth-hog (*Myrmecophaga Capensis*) equal to the most delicate veal, with a goût only to be compared to its own; the wild boar, rather too lean, but well tasted; land tortoise baked, and river tortoise either made into soup or curried.

5. COUNTY OF GRAF REINET.—There is little room to doubt that at a very early period the division, which now forms the county of Graf Reinet, began to be penetrated by parties of adventurers from the districts contiguous to the Cape, and by the Dutch East India Company's servants, for the purpose of bartering with the natives for cattle to refresh their ships. Governor Van Plettenberg, in 1771, erected on the Sea-cow River, about thirty miles from its confluence with the Orange River, near the present village of Colesberg, a stone inscribed with his name and the date of his visit, to commemorate the incorporation of this territory with that of the colony; the inhabitants having a few months previously been permitted, by a resolution of council, to settle themselves in the Camdeboo and Bruges Heights, on what was termed loan places.

This new accession of territory was added to the county of Swellendam, but in 1786 erected into a separate jurisdiction by Governor Van de Graf, who called it Graf Reinet, in order to leave a memorial of his name as its founder, and in honour of his lady, Reynetta.

For a considerable number of years the occupation of this district was no easy task. The Bushmen, a savage race of people, entirely distinct from the Hottentot race, to which they never belonged, (and who had never been possessed of any description of stock,) partly disturbed from their hunting-grounds by the new comers, and allured from afar by the flocks and herds there introduced, carried on a determined warfare with the settlers, and the entire abandonment of the county was seriously contemplated. That great cruelties were exercised on both sides in the disputes which consequently arose, and that considerable numbers of the unfortunate savages disappeared in the unhappy conflicts which took place, it would be in vain to deny. The habits of an enemy living in caves and rocky recesses, the wantonly mischievous character of his depredations, destroying whatever he could not carry away, and the difficulty of detecting either his residence or approach, his activity, his facility of concealment, must all be taken into account when an estimate is made of the feelings of the colonists, and of the retaliation with which they pursued these unlucky denizens, if denizens they were, of the soil. The fate of the savage is melancholy

enough, and need not be made worse by the power of fiction. An attempt, however, has been made to tamper with the best feelings of our nature, and to bring down (not only upon the colonists of a past age, but also upon those of our own times,) the indignation of good men, who, not having access to the means of necessary evidence, and who never having been placed in similar circumstances, are unable to judge dispassionately of the measure of provocation which operated upon the Dutch settlers.

It has been gravely and maliciously asserted, that these same Bushmen were originally Hottentots, and only became robbers after being despoiled of their lands by the colonists; that through fear of being forced into an abject state of servitude, they retired into the *bush* or desert, and that the Government not only entertained the idea of exterminating the whole race at one deadly swoop, but actually issued orders to that effect in the year 1774. Fortunately for the character of the Dutch Government of the day, as well as of human nature, the publication of the colonial records has triumphantly disproved this accusation, and its author has recently confessed that no other order but the one which has been found in the colonial archives, and upon which the charge of such an intention was grounded, was ever seen by him; and that the order, so far from bearing out the monstrous allegation, only directs the proper authorities to repress the disorders of the Bushmen, *without loss of blood, if possible*, and to treat them with the greatest humanity, by giving them presents and food, and settling them on lands within the colony. The fact, also, of a specific difference between the Hottentot race and the Bushmen is too well known to require comment, and the circumstance that the latter never possessed cattle of any description is testified by the oldest Hottentot, Kafir, and Colonist, to whom appeal can be made, and is fully substantiated by the earliest extant records.

Graf Reinet is bounded on the north by the county of Colesberg, on the east by that of Cradock, on the south by Somerset and Utenhay, and on the westward by the county of Beaufort. This once extensive district, which, in the time of Barrow, contained an area of full 40,000 square miles, since reduced no all sides by the erection of the new counties surrounding it, is now

confined within an extent of about 8000 square miles, with a population of 8292 souls, of which 3363 are white, and 4929 coloured persons.

It is subdivided, for the purpose of local government, into eight wards or hundreds, of which that of the Sneewberg is considered the most valuable, being occupied by a superior and affluent race of stock farmers, well described by Pringle.

Cattle, sheep, wool, butter, tallow, soap, and dried fruits, and a considerable quantity of grain, are the staple products of this division. Of late years particular attention has been bestowed upon the improvement and increase of the fine woolled description of sheep, and the flocks of this valuable animal are rapidly augmenting, for which the extensive plains of the county appear peculiarly well adapted, and the fineness of the fleeces, and the length of their staple, grown on its comparatively arid pastures, is said by competent judges to exceed that of those flocks depastured nearer the sea, occasioned, it is conjectured, by the frosts, which are severe in these upland districts. From want of water at present (which can be obviated by the erection of dams, to be filled by the periodical thunder-storms so frequent in this district), a great portion of the wool is sent away in the grease.

The following is the official return of its produce :—

Wheat, bushels	25,827	Wine, gallons	33,440
Barley, do.	7,746	Brandy, do.	22,648
Oats, do.	1,900		

The Sundays, the Camdeboo, the Bull, the Milk, the Buffalo and the Kareka Rivers water this county, and as they are capable of being led out over extensive fields, they bring into existence the powers of a soil of the most extraordinary fertility, which, without this artificial description of moisture, would be condemned to everlasting sterility. There are a number of fine springs also in many parts of the division, upon which farms are established, where the vegetation is both rich, beautiful, and profuse.

The natural appearance of this district, where art and culture have not been busy, is not at all prepossessing, except immediately after rains, when the grasses which suddenly start into life, for a few weeks only, impart a beauty as evanescent as it is re-

freshing to the unaccustomed eye. The plains appear stripped of every kind of pasture, and the shrubs with which the country is thickly covered assume a hue of the most sombre description. The bold outline of the mountain ridges of the Camdeboo and lofty Snewberg which intersect the division, however, relieve the otherwise monotonous and dreary prospect, and upon their sides and summits, the herbage retrieves its colour and nutritiousness. The scenery of these elevated ranges, especially in the winter season, is particularly agreeable to an Englishman long removed from his native land; their bracing climate, their streamlets, their cold blue pools often thickly covered with ice, their leafless trees, their snug homesteads, their cheerful and warm apartments, and still warmer and hospitable inmates, always ready to receive and befriend the stranger, forcibly recal half-remembered thoughts of long by-gone winter days, and carry back the visitor to

“—— the land of his birth,
That loveliest land on the face of the earth.”

The discouraging appearance of this district to travellers in search of the picturesque has, notwithstanding, the one advantage that it acts as a foil to the beautiful and extensive town situated at the foot of the Snewberg, also named Graf Reinets, the capital of the county. The vast contrast it exhibits in its fertility and liveliness of appearance (upon which the visitor stumbles unexpectedly and at once) compared with the immense and weary plains he has left behind has caused it to be called, in the homely diction of the inhabitants, “the pearl upon a dunghill.” The celebrated Mr. Barrow, who visited this spot in 1797, thus describes the place as he then saw it:—

“Its appearance is as miserable as that of the poorest village in England. The necessaries of life are with difficulty procured in it; for, though there be plenty of arable land, few are found industrious enough to cultivate it. Neither milk, nor butter, nor cheese, nor vegetables of any kind, are to be had upon any terms. There is neither butcher, nor chandler, nor grocer, nor baker. Every one must provide for himself as well as he can. They have neither wine, nor beer; and the chief beverage of the inhabitants is the water of the Sunday River, which, in the summer season, is strongly impregnated with salt. It would be

difficult to say what the motives could have been that induced the choice of this place for the residence of the landrost. It could not proceed from any personal comforts or convenience that the place held out; perhaps those of the inhabitants have chiefly been consulted, being the situation nearly central with respect to the district: though it is more probable that some interested motive, or a want of judgment, or a contradictory spirit, must have operated in assigning so wild, so secluded, and so unprofitable a place for the seat of the drosdy."

That Mr. Barrow was not gifted with the spirit of prophecy is apparent from the progress this still improving place has since made. It is copiously supplied with water from the Sunday River, on which it is seated, by two channels cut for the purpose. Its streets, admirably laid out at right angles, are remarkably well built, certainly not equalled by any other town in the province, and are lined with rows of lemon trees, the golden fruit of which is so plentiful as to be thrown away for want of demand. Some of the plots of ground in the cross streets are hedged with the same plant, or with quince enclosures, impervious to any animal. The public offices and court-house are a noble range of buildings; the parsonage is another handsome structure. The church is also capacious, and its tower one of the most perfect specimens of good masonry; it has lately been improved by a spire of forty feet high. There is also a good public school-house, and a very handsome and spacious chapel built by the abused frontier farmers of this county for the use of the coloured classes, before any missionary society had lent a hand to their instruction.

The number of houses in the town is about 300, with a population of 2450. Its chief support is derived from dried fruits, oranges, wine, and brandy, and a very considerable trade is carried on by a number of merchants, who exchange European imports for the raw produce of the surrounding country. The successful progress of this town must in all justice be attributed to Captain (now Sir A.) Stockenstrom, who, while its chief magistrate, was indefatigable in exerting himself for its improvement, where he acquired a well-deserved popularity, which afterwards he well nigh injudiciously sacrificed.

The natural curiosities of this county have not as yet had the

advantage of a steady and scientific inquirer to search them out. Iron ore in the pyritical form appears abundant. Fossil remains, in considerable quantities, have been discovered in several situations; and near the chief town is a medicinal spring similar to that of Harrowgate, much used by rheumatic patients, and, it is said, employed with success. Saltpetre is reported to occur largely in some places.

Perhaps the best criterion of the value of this division is to be found in the fact that it is rapidly filling up by English people from the adjoining districts, as well as by old colonists from the Western Province, who bought out the original Dutch holders on leaving for Natal. The most favoured haunts of the new occupants are the glens, which penetrate the Sneewberg range, and are considered the fittest for sheep; but many persons are settling themselves on the great lower plains, where wine and corn farming are carried on upon a most extensive scale, as well as the breeding of the improved description of sheep.

6. COUNTY OF COLESBERG.—Colesberg, named in honour of the gallant and justly appreciated Governor of the colony, Sir G. L. Cole, was separated from Graf Reinet on the 8th of February, 1837, and invested with all the dignities of a separate county. It is the most northerly portion of the colony, having a part of the southern branch of the Orange River (the Nu Gariep), and what is in courtesy called Griqua Land, for its north-eastern boundary; the Stormberg Spruits for its eastern limit; on the south the counties of Graf Reinet and Cradock; and its western skirts upon the desert country of the Cis-Garipine Bushmen. Its area is about 11,654 square miles, peopled by 9026 souls; of whom 4248 are white and 4778 coloured.

The scarcity of water in this division condemns it to a chiefly pastoral existence, for nothing cultivatable by art can be raised without irrigation, and the opportunity of effecting this is somewhat rare; the consequence is that it is dependent upon the other districts for its bread corn. The practice of constructing dams is gaining ground, which will render the inhabitants in some measure independent in this particular. Its streams are the Sea-Cow River, the Orlogs and the Brake River, the Zureberg, the Brand and Stormberg Spruit. These streams are all

periodical, and empty themselves into the Orange River, a never-failing and splendid stream, in some parts from 1300 to 1700 feet wide, beautifully fringed by forests of mimosa and willows, and studded with innumerable islands. If this river were diverted from its course, which doubtless might be effected by a good engineer, its waters could irrigate thousands of acres of the richest kind, and afford food to an immense population.

This division contains nine wards or hundreds, of which the Hantam is particularly noted for its hardy breed of horses.

The product of this district is, as already intimated, chiefly stock, of which large herds are successfully reared both of cattle and sheep, but the aridity of the soil and the uncertainty of rains force the farmers very frequently to remove from their estates, and to hire from the Griquas, inhabiting the opposite side of the Orange River, the pastures which they have not the means to feed off. The stock of this division is given as follows:—Cattle 89,314, horses 9341, sheep 883,693, goats 64,068.

Official Return of Produce.

Wheat, bushels	17,420
Barley, do.	2,858
Oats, do.	460

Colesberg is the name of the chief village, and is situated on the side of the Torenberg, or Tower Mountain, in a long sandy glen. It was selected in the year 1830 as the site of a church for the immediately-adjacent wards, and 18,000 acres were granted by the Government in freehold to the churchwardens, who have the right of alienating building lots as they may be required. About 100 houses have been built on this spot, which are occupied by from 400 to 600 inhabitants. The spirit of teetotalism reigns triumphant over the rigidly righteous lords of the soil attached to this town, and no canteen or spirit-house is allowed to be licensed to any of its occupants. Notwithstanding this prohibition, large importations of the *creature* are daily made under the covert name of "Eau-de-Cologne," actually introduced in bottles of the "Eau Véritable," but which smell much more strongly of the water of life than the celebrated perfume.

The village is situated, like Cradock, on one of the immediate high roads of the emigrant farmers to Natal; has become, and is

likely to continue, a depôt for a principal part of the trade of that newly occupied dependency, the surplus live stock of which has only these outlets to the colony.

With the exception of the hot springs of Brand Valley in the ward of New Hantam, and the agate and porphyritic blocks in the bed of the Great or Orange River, there are few if any other remarkable curiosities; but the country east of the Sea-Cow River is well worth the visit of a geologist, where the mountains assume such fantastic shapes as are unparalleled in any other part of the globe; cone, pyramid, table, cylinder, sometimes clustered and sometimes detached, of every height and at every degree of inclination, arrest the astonished beholder, who can hardly fancy he beholds natural objects with his own eyes, but is almost persuaded he has entered some fairy region.

If the scenery of this division is not altogether pleasing to the mere tourist, it is at all events striking to the lover of nature in its wildest form, and has peculiar interest for the sportsman. Immense plains, skirted or sprinkled by the extraordinary elevations above alluded to, stretch their interminable length, until vision would be weary if it were not relieved by the living mass of wild creatures which continually flit across the extensive *wasté*. Troops of the galloping gnu, the stately ostrich, many varieties of the elegant antelope, the hartebeest and eland, the prancing quagga, the beautiful zebra, and the wild buffalo, pass rapidly before the traveller; and lions, leopards, panthers, and other equally splendid specimens of the *fera natura*, occasionally favour the visitant, by exhibiting their forms in that state in which they are worth ten thousand caged or stuffed animals, as we see them imprisoned in menageries, or trussed up in those sepulchres of science called museums.

RETURN of the Extent, Population, and Stock, of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope for the Year 1841.

Counties of the Colony, and Dates of their Establishment.	Extent in Square Miles.	POPULATION.*									STOCK.			
		Whites.	Coloured.	Total.	Per Square Mile.	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Employed in Manuf-actures.	Employed in Com-merce.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Goats.
<i>Western Province.</i>														
1. Cape Town . . . 1652	9	—	—	18720	2080	295	600	319	} 1550	2400	5365	14819	26349	10415
Cape County . . .	3584	5288	7473	12761	3½	97	301	189						
2. Stellenbosch . . . 1681	2280	6387	8036	14423	6½	142	605	254	300	40	5069	18056	23298	12465
3. Worcester, late Tul-bagh . . . 1803	20000	4044	4801	8845	½	90	275	162	25	12	5096	18909	161803	35000
4. Clanwilliam . . . 1836	22111	2786	7900	10686	½	38	313	135	11	10	7487	29150	253011	97484
5. Swellendam . . . 1745	7616	9442	9244	18686	2½	126	610	254	200	80	11711	51368	223690	88153
6. George . . . 1811	4032	5642	5640	11282	2½	42	294	11	900	250	5504	26190	30400	88230
7. Beaufort . . .	13050	2670	2569	5239	½	40	127	68	6	22	1150	11907	309327	52052
Total Western Province	72682	36259	45663	100642	1½	870	3125	1392			41932	170390	1027678	333799
<i>Eastern Province.</i>														
1. Utenhay . . . 1804	8960	4628	6391	11019	1½	195	460	280	150	250	2300	10500	146000	20000
2. Albany . . . 1820	1792	7710	12067	19777	11½	163	1213	356	2400	2299	3340	42510	255400	45350
3. Somerset . . . 1825	4000	3098	3341	6439	1½	38	228	48	150	150	2520	25379	305000	70000
4. Cradock . . . 1837	3168	2985	3304	6299	2	67	790	197	20	30	5420	39500	350000	66400
5. Graf Reinet . . . 1786	8000	3363	4929	8292	1½	44	275	178	150	105	4690	28500	855400	49000
6. Colesberg . . . 1837	11654	4248	4778	9026	¾	100	253	113	24	80	9341	69341	883693	64068
Total Eastern Province .	37574	26032	34810	60842	1½	607	3219	1172			27611	217730	2795493	294818
Total of the Colony	110256	62291	80473	161484	1½	1477	6344	2564			68993	388120	3823371	628617

* The greater portion are employed in Agriculture.

RETURN of the Produce and Land of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, for the Year 1841.

Counties of the Colony, and Dates of their Establishment.	PRODUCE.							LAND.			Town and Villages.	Pl. of Worship.	Schools.	Missionaries.	Mills.	Tanneries.	Distilleries.	Breweries.	Candle Manufactory.	Staff Duties.	Savings Banks.
	Wheat, bushels.	Barley, bushels.	Rye, bushels.	Oats, bushels.	Oat-hay, lbs.	Wine, galls.	Brandy, gall t.	Cultivated Acres.	Pasture Acres.	Uncultivated Acres.											
<i>Western Provinces.</i>																					
Cape Town 1652											8	21	15	4	48	12		5	3	5	1
Cape County	74400	32792	13666	37024	2380000	141360	21096	40000	1200000	1128000	4	8	9	11	8	9					
Stellenbosch 1681	59835	25847	13191	53040	—	2727336	114760	28000	235000	268150	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Worcester, late</i>																					
Tulbagh, 1803	24837	22752	6696	18131	—	26356	10184	103000	1500000	2000000	2	4	4	1	3	3	6				3
Clanwilliam 1836	12252	3844	3544	1970	—	6080	4560	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Swellendam 1745	124600	123096	2372	60196	—	110960	53352	—	—	—	9	7	9	8	12	7					2
George : 1811	74205	41189	900	41004	—	27468	28980	20000	420000	700900	8	10	9	12	4	4					2
Beaufort	8335	2592	—	1811	—	—	—	10000	57000	2513500	3	5	4	2	—	1	1				1
<i>Eastern Provinces.</i>																					
Uitenhage . 1804	12600	23500	—	14800	400000	4427	4256	12000	302000	2000000	4	12	7	10	9	6	2		1		1
Albany . 1820	25164	18849	—	21477	3632960	—	—	9000	220000	900000	10	21	18	11	10	9	2	2			
Somerset . 1825	14020	2040	—	650	34000	2280	1824	4000	10000000	2000000	1	3	1	—	8	5	1				1
Cradock . 1837	29400	3600	—	1900	—	26690	10640	5000	10000000	2000000	2	3	2	—	5	—	—				2
Graf Reinet 1786	25857	7746	100	1197	—	33440	22648	4000	140000	—	1	3	1	—	9	4	7				1
Colesberg . 1837	17420	2838	—	460	—	—	—	4000	140000	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—				

SECTION IV.

HISTORY OF THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF THE BRITISH SETTLEMENT, ESTABLISHED IN THE DISTRICTS OF ALBANY AND UTENHAY, ON THE EASTERN FRONTIER OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, IN THE YEAR 1820.

THE termination of the continental wars in the year 1815, which enabled Great Britain to disband her large military and naval armaments, and restored to other countries a portion of the commerce and carrying trade she had exclusively enjoyed during the long contest, threw out of employment a very large proportion of her population, and effected throughout the United Kingdom extensive and alarming distress; and, however glorious the close of that eventful struggle, it was darkened by intense suffering, aggravated by unproductive seasons, the result of which, but for the adoption of some adequate remedy, was to be extremely dreaded.

During this period of national distress, and the political excitement it naturally produced, the minds of the British Cabinet had been anxiously and frequently engaged in devising palliatives for the evil, and at length colonization was fixed upon as the only effectual remedy. The question of relief was therefore reduced to the simple choice of the future destination of the settlers, who were proposed to be sent away, and the Cape of Good Hope, to which attention had been directed from the time of Mr. Barrow, was fixed upon as the scene of the experiment. This decision reflected upon its originators the highest credit for sound policy, in engrafting its native-born subjects on a conquered possession, and in diffusing a free labouring population among a community of slave-owners. The selection of a settlement like the Cape, blessed with a delightful climate, and from its long prior establishment capable of supplying the wants of the new comers, and thus preventing much of that misery inseparable from the formation of a new colony, was also characterized by humane foresight.

In July, 1819, the Commons House of Parliament granted a sum of £50,000 to carry the emigration into effect. The promulgation of the intentions of Government was received and em-

braced with avidity by the public, and the applications for permission to avail themselves of the facilities offered were numerous beyond expectation. The number to be accepted was limited to 4000 souls, and the disappointment of the unsuccessful candidates, amounting to above 90,000, was bitter beyond description.

The two first vessels with the adventurers (the *Chapman* and *Nautilus* transports) left the English coast the 9th December, 1819, and arrived in Table Bay on the 17th March following, and on the 9th of April they anchored in Algoa Bay on the eastern frontier, where the anxious emigrants safely debarked on the following day. From the tenor of the Government circulars it was generally supposed by the emigrants that they were to be settled around the port, but on their arrival, to their annoyance, they learned that their ultimate location was fixed above 100 miles in advance, a discovery more particularly unpalatable when they found that their transport thither was to be at their own cost. Waggons were liberally supplied, however, by the Government, and the first party of the emigration was located on the 26th April near the mouth of the Great Fish River, on the ruins of a Dutch farm, which had been plundered and burnt by the Kafirs some years before. To this foundation of the British settlement in Albany the new comers gave the name of Cuylerville, as a token of respect to Colonel Cuyler, the chief magistrate of the district of Utenhay, whose kindness and attentions were both fatherly and unremitting.

Before the middle of the year 1820, the remainder of the settlers had all arrived in the colony, consisting in the whole of 3736 persons. Two small parties had been located in the districts of Clanwilliam and Swellendam, in the Western Province; but they were soon disgusted with that part of the colony, and joined the majority of their countrymen in the Zureveld. The whole of this large number of emigrants were landed through the surf in Algoa Bay, without the occurrence of an accident or the loss of a single life; a circumstance which speaks volumes in favour of the port, which very unjustly had acquired a bad reputation*.

* It would be ungrateful at this place not to name as deserving the highest praise the conduct of the Commandant of Fort Frederick,

A clever writer, lately gathered to his fathers, in an interesting and useful work, intituled, "The State of the Cape in 1822," shortly after the arrival of the British settlers, did them the injustice to represent their anxiety to leave their native hearths as arising from political disgust. He stated that the settlers exported with them feelings of hostility to the parent state, and that possibly the Home administration, mindful of the consequences which in the reign of the First Charles followed a prevention of the departure to America of Haslerig, Hampden, Pym and Cromwell, encouraged this emigration of the discontented to a distant part of the globe. This cruel surmise had for several years the most injurious effects upon the character of the immigrants, and was only erased by the noble denial which was given to it by his Majesty's Commissioners of Inquiry in 1825. Now, it may be as well at once ingenuously to confess that the emigration of 1819 to the Cape of Good Hope, perhaps unluckily for the glory of the settlers, had nothing romantic about its character. It was neither encircled by the celestial halo of religious enthusiasm, nor dignified by the sublimity of voluntary exile in search of freedom; it was not the growth of fanaticism, nor, to use the words of the calumniator, the result of the "fears of bereavement of political and personal liberty." It was, as far as the mass of the settlers were concerned, the emigration of intelligent and feeling men; of men who had fortified their minds to undergo the separation from country and from kindred, fleeing with their offspring from actual penury, or its gradual yet certain approach. If Albany is destined to become the seat of a new empire at the extremity of the African continent, and to own an independent flag, she must be contented to trace her origin to those pressing, but not discreditable motives. The founders of Albany, in the words of the poet, abandoned their native home to seek—

" — A warmer world, a milder clime,—
A home to rest, a shelter to defend,—
Peace and repose."

Captain Francis Evett, formerly of the 21st Light Dragoons. This fine veteran officer (now an octogenarian) waded through the surf, and landed with his own hands the greater number of the women and children. Nor did the old gentleman's kindness end here, for his house and table were open to all whose character and conduct deserved the attention.

The first years of the new colony were those of severe difficulties, considerable privation, and much disappointment, heightened by an unprecedented failure of the wheat crops, which were not confined to the new settlement. The native tribes also exercised on their new neighbours those predatory habits which they, in common with other savages, naturally are heir to; and the British settlers felt galled under the restraints imposed by the colonial government, at that time in every sense despotic. Notwithstanding this complication of evils, the immigrants were made of too sturdy materials to yield to their pressure. They inherited the temper of their race who emigrated to America two centuries before—"the Pilgrim Fathers," who, under similar suffering, publicly declared in a manifesto to their Government, "that it was not with them as with other men, whom small things could discourage, or small discontents cause to wish themselves home again." In the failure of their crops, the Albany settlers saw a severe but doubtless a wise dispensation of Providence, and they looked with an unabashed countenance and with full confidence towards their country for relief from the other evils with which they were then beset.

The close of the year 1823 was the most critical period of the new settlement; the plant appeared to be in the last stage of exhaustion; it had not recovered its change of soil and climate, although it was supposed to have struck root, and fears were generally expressed that its doom and failure were sealed. Exactly similar were the appearances and prognostics in the first days of the foundation of our noble American colonies, more recently of New South Wales, and still later of all those on the western and southern coasts of Australia. It appears, indeed, to be the law of transplantation, whether of men or vegetables.

The following year, 1824, is the æra of the successful establishment of the new settlement in the eastern division of the Cape of Good Hope. The complaints of the British settlers produced a Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry, by which they were nobly vindicated from the aspersions attempted to be fixed upon them for expressing English sentiments, and for demanding the privileges of their birthright, under an English flag and in

an English colony. The same commission recommended an extensive reform in most of the branches of the local Government, which has since been effected, and is still hailed as a boon obtained chiefly through the influence and instrumentality of the settlers. The immigrants also obtained, though with unbounded difficulty, the legalization of a trading intercourse with the neighbouring Kafir tribes, hitherto forbidden under the penalty of death. Within a few months, the articles thus purchased from the savages, consisting principally of ivory and hides, were estimated at the value of £32,000. The disease which had hitherto proved so destructive to the crops lost much of its virulence. Native depredations were far less frequent, general confidence became restored, hope revived, and the Albany settlement commenced a career of success from which, with the exception of the check given by the Kafir irruption of 1834, it has never been for a moment diverted.

From 1825 to the close of 1834, the young colony made astonishing strides. Fine wool farming was successfully introduced by Messrs. Daniel, Griffiths, White, Korsten, and others. A direct commerce was established between England and the settlement by Messrs. Maynards in 1828. Our Albany traders had opened a traffic, of a very lucrative kind, with the native tribes, as far as Natal on the east, and among the numerous aboriginal clans on the north, to an immense distance. Our travellers had reached the Portuguese colony of Dela-Goa Bay, in one direction, and the tropic of Capricorn on another. Our missionaries had carried the standard of the Christian faith almost as far as the traveller had set his foot. Population, building, stock, and produce, rapidly multiplied, and the political and social reforms demanded by the new comers, for the most part, were conceded.

The disastrous and unprovoked invasion of the frontier districts of the colony by the Kafirs, at the end of 1834, was certainly a severe blow to the now flourishing settlement. Their irruption *may be traced to the remissness of the Government, in allowing a fatal diminution of the military force on the border; in failing to watch and check the first symptoms of aggression on colonial subjects in Kafirland, and on colonial property within the boundary; and also in neglecting to curb certain intriguing*

demagogues and mischievous partisans in the colony, who, under the mask of philanthropy, tampered with the ignorant natives on the subject of their imaginary wrongs, and thus precipitated them upon their own countrymen, the unoffending settlers. On the eve of that unexpected explosion, no other plantation of so short a date, assailed by so many difficulties, (principally artificial,) had ever accumulated an equal amount of wealth, enjoyed so much ease, or exhibited so promising a prospect for the future. The towns and villages resounded with the voices of a busy and contented population, their flocks literally covered a "thousand hills," and rich and ripe harvests awaited the sickle of the reaper. By this unforeseen and unmerited calamity the labours of fourteen years' toil, patience, and frugality, within that number of days were almost annihilated, and property to the value of £300,000, at the lowest computation, swept off or destroyed, besides the sacrifice of fifty valuable lives. This stroke has been the more severely felt, because the chief sufferers, the British settlers, were cruelly and falsely taunted as the cause of their own misfortunes; and not only has compensation and redress been denied them, but the public inquiry (by an appeal to their sovereign and parliament, into their conduct, on the spot, and in the face of open day) which they courageously demanded, was most ungenerously and unjustly refused to them. The British settlers, so far from having been guilty of the smallest aggression upon the Kafir tribes, had been, on the contrary, their greatest benefactors, by subscribing several thousands a-year for their civilization and instruction by missionary efforts, and by opening a mutually beneficial trade. In lieu of being obnoxious to the charge of oppression, the only time the settlers entered the Kafir country in hostile array was in 1823, with the sole view of defending the family of the Chief Hintza and his people against the all successful marauding tribe of the Fetcani, a predatory people, who were then devastating the interior. This chief (Hintza) and his people were saved from certain destruction by the generous interference of the settlers, for which they never asked, never received, and never were offered remuneration. Hintza, however, repaid this act of friendship six years afterwards by planning and causing to be executed the murder of many of the

very individuals who had been at his rescue, and by deeply injuring the settlement which had furnished his defence.

The elastic spirit of the settlers, and the extraordinary capabilities of the country, have, however, nearly obliterated the injuries of the Kafir invasion, which is now only referred to as a matter of history;—and, although many families still suffer from the effects of that irruption, the settlement, as a whole, has recovered from its consequences, in spite of a vicious border policy, which, after six years' test, is pronounced and proven a decided failure. It is, however, mainly to the extraordinary adaptation of the colony to the rearing of fine woolled flocks that it owes its speedy recovery.

In a series of questions proposed by the South African Land and Emigration Association relative to, and in order to elicit information respecting the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, submitted at the suggestion of Lord John Russell, Secretary of State for the Colonies, will be found the following important queries:—

“No. 86. Has the colony founded in the Eastern Province in 1820, commonly called Algoa Bay, answered the expectations formed by the Government and the public?” and “No. 87. Do you know its present population, and whether any extensive emigration from England has increased the original number?”

As the replies to these questions, prepared for transmission to England by an Emigration Committee, established at Port Elizabeth in the month of June last (1841), will perhaps furnish satisfactory information upon the subject, and exhibit in a brief but comprehensive view the value of the settlement and the progress it has made, I shall adopt their answers, at the risk of being charged with the sin of considerable repetition, premising, however, that they emanate from a body of persons, most of whom have had the advantage of a twenty years' experience in the colony, and who have filled, or still do so, the various situations of public functionaries, landed proprietors, farmers, merchants, traders, &c., and are therefore entitled to the greatest confidence:—

“The colony, founded in the Eastern Province of the Cape of Good Hope in 1820, is correctly known here by the name of

'the British Settlement of Albany,' the latter named district being that in which the greatest number of the settlers were originally located; a considerable number, however, located themselves in the neighbouring county of Utenhay, especially at the sea-port in Algoa Bay named by his Excellency the then Governor, Sir Rufane Donkin, 'Port Elizabeth,' which is completely an English town, and an integral portion of the British settlement of 1820."

"The emigration was a Government measure, for which the House of Commons readily voted £50,000, a sum of money never more advantageously laid out by the English nation."

"The emigrants who landed in Algoa Bay in the early part of 1820 were 3736 in number. This number has never been materially augmented, except by births. Indeed, the immigration to the whole colony, including 750 juveniles sent out by the Children's Friend Society, has not, during the last twenty years, amounted to more than 4000, a portion only of whom have settled in the Eastern Province*."

"Amongst the original immigrants were several persons with considerable capital, but certainly seven-tenths had little if any means; but the latter class, it must be observed, are now the most wealthy. The capitalists, not only ignorant of the country and climate, but unfitted by their previous habits to cope with the humbler ranks, soon dissipated their resources upon unproductive undertakings. Many of the immigrants were sent out either by parochial assistance, or by the subscription of their friends, and these it is known have been among the most successful. The large proportion of the settlers, had they continued in their native country, would doubtless have remained, or become a burden upon the parish, and entailed a hopeless state of servitude upon their posterity; but here they are metamorphosed into a self-supporting independent population."

"In the brief space allotted for a reply to the questions pro-

* Emigration to the Cape is under-rated by the Port Elizabeth Committee. The number recorded at the Custom House give 4870, without including the 760 boys. Many vessels taking only a small number have made no return; and many vessels going to Sydney &c. have landed passengers at the Cape instead of going further; and one New Zealand vessel left seventy emigrants at the Cape: so that we cannot estimate the emigration to the Cape at less than 6000.

posed, it is impossible to enumerate all the beneficial changes which have resulted, both as regards the emigrants themselves and the land they have adopted; but the following more striking points may be mentioned in order to convince the querists that the settlement has answered the expectations formed both by the Government and the public.

“Previous to the foundation of the British settlement, cultivation was necessarily upon a very limited scale in the frontier districts, now occupied by the immigrants. Wool farming was not commenced for several years afterwards. Trade and markets were most limited; manufactures and commerce were unknown; the population was scanty and dispersed; no villages existed, and only one town in each district; of churches, chapels, and schools, there were none; the post was a military communication between Graham’s Town and Cape Town once a month, or as occasion required; there were no institutions of a benevolent nature, except a missionary establishment or two; no associations for amusement or social intercourse and improvement; there was but one newspaper, and that a mere Government gazette, published in Cape Town, for the use of the whole colony; the people were grossly ignorant, miserably poor, and wretchedly servile; the Government, under the plea of paternity, interfering and oppressive; Utenhay was a wilderness and Albany a desert, and the greater part of the present Eastern Province little known to the Government, or inhabitants of the western districts.”

“The district of Albany, on the arrival of the settlers, boasted only one point of rendezvous of civilized men, dignified with the title of a town, namely, the military cantonment called Graham’s Town, comprising twenty-two poor dwellings and huts, with a population of about 150 persons, exclusive of the troops. This place, which had been a few years before a Dutch Boer’s farm, was considered so poor an estate as hardly to afford the means of existence to its occupant, and so badly supplied with water as to render it requisite to remove the stock at certain periods of the year; the same identical spot is now the metropolis of the Eastern Province, and the seat of the lieutenant-governor. It has above 800 houses, many of them elegant and capacious, besides several handsome public edifices; a government house, commercial hall, public offices; an Episcopal church and six chapels; a gaol, one

of the handsomest erections in the colony; forts and barracks; and it is peopled by upwards of 5000 souls. Here there are now eight separate religious congregations of various denominations belonging to the Church of England, Wesleyans, Independents, Baptists, and Roman Catholics; two schools, besides private seminaries, four missionary societies for the reformation of the degraded Hottentot and the conversion of the native heathen tribes, expending at least £4000 a-year on this praiseworthy object. This metropolis is governed by a municipal body of its own choice, the first instituted in the whole colony; it has also a bank, a savings' bank, a theatre in progress, a reading-room and library, a free-masons' lodge, a literary and scientific institution, an agricultural society, and several philanthropic institutions, including a benefit and a burial society. The inhabitants maintain two weekly newspapers of acknowledged talent, and several literary works of merit have emanated from its press. Not one of these things had existence here twenty-two years ago! It was the lair of the wild beast, and the haunt of the barbarian."

"The district itself, besides what has just been named as peculiar to its chief town, contains four other Episcopal places of worship, and schools at Bathurst, Sidbury, Fort Beaufort, the Mancazana, and Cuylerville, six Wesleyan chapels and schools, and several places of worship for the Independent congregations and their schools. Eight villages and hamlets have been called into being by English industry, and the population, from a mere handful in 1820, has increased to above 19,000 souls, or about 11½ to a square mile, which is denser than any other division of the colony."

"Elizabeth Town in Algoa Bay, established on the arrival of the British settlers, numbered, at the time of their landing on its shores, three indifferent houses and a few mud and straw-built huts, inhabited by some thirty-five persons. Three hundred houses now occupy the same site, with a population of nearly 3000 souls, whose unremitting labour has created property in buildings alone to the value of £250,000 sterling. Four religious communities worship within the limits of the garrison ground, for whose accommodation there is a fine Episcopal church and three chapels."

"The town of Somerset, in the adjoining district, established several years after the arrival of the settlers, and principally inhabited by English, was merely a Government farm. It now contains from 90 to 100 houses and a population of between 500 and 600 souls. The chief towns of Graf Reinet and Utenhay, as well as their districts, have been materially increased in buildings and wealth, and by the accession of a superior class of inhabitants as regards industry and intelligence, offsets from the Albany settlement."

"In 1820, the trade of the frontier districts was trifling in the extreme, and confined to a few retail shopkeepers. Commerce had no existence; one merchant alone resided on the frontier. The whole exports did not exceed £1500 in yearly value; they now reach £93,314. The imports then were very trival, and brought in almost exclusively for the supply of the few troops on the border; their present average estimate is £90,000 annually. About six vessels at the most (principally coasters) at that time visited Algoa Bay, then considered the ultima thule of the Cape of Good Hope, whose tonnage did not reach above 500 tons. About eighty-five vessels, with an aggregate of 12,000 tons, now anchor in these remote waters every year, (of which thirty-three are in the direct trade between Algoa Bay and England,) and this number is rapidly increasing. Several Indiamen and ships of war, including steamers, have begun to resort to this port for supplies and refreshments, in consequence of the rate of provisions being lower than at Table Bay, as well as for repairs."

"The British settlers, too, in spite of the injudicious system prevailing at the time of their arrival, of a rigid non-intercourse policy with the native tribes in their neighbourhood, have succeeded in opening a trade with the Kafirs, worth at least £40,000 a-year. A mutually advantageous commerce, nearly annihilated by the mischievous operation of our present relations by treaty with the Kafir tribes, might be easily restored and augmented to an indefinite extent, and would become the readiest means of the civilization of the aborigines. In the pursuit of this lucrative native trade, the British settlers have fearlessly penetrated the unknown countries beyond the southern tropic to the immediate confines of the Portuguese settlements

on the eastern coast; and have thus made valuable accessions to our geographical knowledge of the interior of this interesting continent, laying, perhaps, slowly but with certainty, the foundation of an extensive outlet for the sale of British manufactures. The native demand for paltry baubles, such as beads, brass wire, &c., begins already to be superseded by an inquiry for calicoes, kerseys, blankets, and other articles and staple commodities of intrinsic value."

"There is reason, moreover, to believe, were this interior trade fostered, civilization might, by its means, be easily and cheaply introduced into the very heart of Central Africa, from the Eastern Province of the colony. The whole route, is perfectly healthy, and the climate totally unlike that of the western and eastern coasts. A blow might thus be struck at the system of slavery, in the immediate rear of the slave trading colonies, Angola and Benguela on the one side, and Delagoa, Mozambique, and Melinda, on the other. Much as the cultivation of the soil and the rearing of stock have been extended, both pursuits are repressed by the want of steady and continuous labour, the latter evil is more especially felt on the immediate frontier. In the districts of Albany and Somerset, cattle, so coveted by the native tribes, are continually subject to depredation, and it is therefore a hazardous speculation at present to introduce the superior breeds into those parts, for which the country is peculiarly adapted. The relative produce of the Albany district, compared with that of the old settled parts of the colony, will be seen by reference to the tabular return. Wool farming, which was only commenced in the Eastern Province in 1827, has so far succeeded there, that it shipped in 1841, direct to Europe, fourteen years afterwards, 610,778 lbs., and this amount exceeds by 200,000 lbs. that exported by the whole Western Province of the colony in the same year, which began sheep farming in 1812."

"The communication by post, formerly so difficult and protracted, is now regularly maintained between the two extremities of the colony (600 miles apart) every week, five days sufficing for the transmission of letters from Cape Town to Graham's Town. The amount of postage derived from the frontier office has increased more than tenfold since the year 1821."

"The salubrity of the climate is touched upon in another

place, and need not be repeated here; but the evidence that the climate of the Eastern Province is favourable to human life may be inferred from the following return made up in 1830, of the deaths and increase of the first party of settlers which landed from the ship *Chapman*, in April, 1820, that is, ten years after their arrival:—

Landed—Men and women, 147; and children, 101	. 248
Since died—Adults, 21; children, 3	. 24
Births (surviving)	. 123

“That the establishment of the British settlement in Albany has not only been advantageous to the immigrants themselves, but of great importance to the colony at large, is universally admitted by the inhabitants of every political opinion. It has also been serviceable to the British public, and to the colonial Government. It relieved the mother country, at the time of the emigration, of a number of families likely to become burdensome, and whose industry, since their transplantation to our African shores, has furnished a large and increasing market for English produce. It has considerably augmented the colonial treasury, in the way of taxation; furnished defenders to the exposed frontier, and able and talented assistants to the civil service. Since the arrival of the settlers, the colonial law courts, and other colonial institutions, have undergone, not only rigid scrutiny, but a healthy purgation, through the efforts of the Commission of Inquiry, called into existence by the representations of the immigrants. The settlement led the way for the introduction of a free press; it procured the creation of a legislative council; it has more than *doubled* the trade of the colony; disseminated a spirit of political and religious freedom; increased the means of religious and moral instruction; successfully carried Christian missions deep into the dark recesses of the interior, and planted our Anglo-Saxon race on the shores of Southern Africa, to perpetuate and extend the British tongue and British civilisation throughout this little known, but valuable continent.”

The success which has attended the settlement of Albany has not, of course, been attained without much loss, care, and suffering. Childhood has to undergo the danger of its dentition. An infant people cannot expect exemption from the evils inci-

dent to our common humanity. The indomitable spirit, however, of free British settlers, overcame the natural impediments which are incidental to the foundation of all new colonies, as well as the artificial difficulties with which this was peculiarly assailed. The immigrants have realized the truth of the celebrated apophthegm of the sage of Verulam, one of the earliest writers on emigration, who wisely observed at the very birth of English colonization, "*Planting of countries is like planting of trees, for you must make account to lose twenty years, and expect your recompence in the end.*" The prescribed period, the twenty years, have now passed over the labours of the first British settlers, and the foundation they laid is firmly established; the recompence is now ready to be reaped by all, and has already been gathered by many of the foremost. The only drawbacks to the complete success of the immigration of 1820 are, the scarcity of labour and the unhappy perseverance in a vicious system of border policy, which, there is every reason to conclude, a stern necessity will cause to be speedily abandoned in favour of one more consonant with justice between man and man, without respect to colour or to kindred.



PORTRAIT OF JOHAN VAN RIEBECK,
Founder and First Governor of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.
(From his Portrait in the Town Hall at Cape Town.)

PART THE SECOND.

SECTION I.

GOVERNMENT.

THE Cape of Good Hope is a crown colony. Its affairs are administered by a Governor and a Lieutenant-Governor. The former has a salary of £5300, and has his seat at Cape Town, the extreme end of this large colony—an inconvenient distance from the frontier, where alone, except in times of war with Europe and America, any external danger is to be apprehended.

The residence of the latter is fixed at Graham's Town, in the

district of Albany; and the value of his appointment is £1500 a-year.

The Governor is further assisted by an executive and a legislative council, holding their sittings also at Cape Town. The members of the executive council enjoy their appointments by virtue of office, and are five in number, exclusive of his excellency the Governor. They consist of the secretary to government, the auditor-general, the treasurer and accountant-general, and the collector of customs. The legislative council is composed of the members of the executive and five unofficial persons—viz., two merchants, one sheep-farmer, one wine-grower, and one advocate. At the installation of the unofficial members, they were, of course, recommended by the Governor for the approval of the crown, and are now only removable on proof of bad behaviour, or absence from the colony. The members of both councils, who sit together, are entitled "honourables." The proceedings of the legislative body are carried on with open doors, the public being admitted by tickets issued by the members, an indulgence readily conceded to applicants, and a reporter regularly attends the session, so that the proceedings find their way into the public prints of the day.

There is but little like popular representation, or the principles of British freedom, in the constitution of either of these bodies. The very tenure by which the members of the legislative council hold their seats appears somewhat uncertain and insecure, it having been attempted in 1838 at the mere suggestion of the late Colonial Minister, Lord John Russell, to be changed and made subservient to the pleasure of the crown, and to the will of the Governor, although fortunately without success.

The unofficial members, particularly one, appear, however, desirous to fulfil their duties to the colony, but are trammelled by the Governor and his official supporters.

The Eastern Province, in particular, is totally unrepresented in these councils, not a single member being returned by or connected with the frontier and country districts. Exclusive of the Governor and three others who have made one or more hurried tours through the colony, seven out of the eleven members have never visited the eastern portions of the colony, nor have any of

them any direct interest in common with its population, on whose behalf "they are called upon to legislate." The Honourable Mr. Advocate Cloete is the only individual of the council to whom the eastern districts and their people are personally known. It must, however, in fairness be stated in this place, that, on the first establishment of the legislative council in 1836, a gentleman of the district of Utenhay, the late Frederick Korsten, Esq., was nominated to the honour of representing his frontier fellow colonists, much to their gratification; but advance of years and infirmities forced him to decline the flattering distinction, and no other person from the Eastern Province has since been selected.

As a check upon the conduct of the executive, the legislative council of the Cape is perfectly inefficient, and it has the further mischievous effect of diverting the eyes of the colonists from the real authors of mischief whenever perpetrated, and shifting the responsibility of misgovernment from the right shoulders to those of the councillors themselves; but in truth it is out of their power to apply a remedy. It is no wonder, therefore, that the unofficial members, though among the most respectable of our citizens, and though greatly esteemed in private life, should be extensively unpopular; nor is it surprising that the title of honourable affixed to their legislative rank should not have a corresponding meaning in the minds of those whose interests they should be in a situation to advance, and whose good opinion they are entitled to enjoy.

To remedy the evils of such a system, equally unsatisfactory to the governed as to governor, a Representative Assembly has long been demanded by an immense majority of the Dutch and English inhabitants, both of the Eastern and Western Provinces. This boon has hitherto been denied to their importunities, first on the plea that the Cape was a slave colony, and then that the people were not themselves "ripe enough for self-government." The total abolition of slavery, in 1830, has, however, long since silenced the principal objection, and the spirited and efficient proceedings of the municipalities*, established in most of the dis-

* The privileges of creating municipal boards in the towns and villages of the colony was granted by a colonial ordinance on the 15th August, 1836, under Sir Benjamin D'Urban, to whom the colony

tricts of the colony, have successfully neutralised the other absurd idea, for delaying to concede or rather to restore to British subjects their natural and unalienable right of being the guardians of their own purses and the managers of their own affairs, in as far as is consistent with the general interests of the empire.

It appears indeed somewhat strange, that by the mere circumstance of sailing from under the national standard, which British emigrants see floating in the breeze on the Tower of London as they pass down the Thames, and which same banner they find upon the castle at Cape Town, or on the fort at Port Elizabeth, they should have forfeited the proudest privileges of their birth, and that by this simple act the struggles of their ancestors, and the blood of their countrymen, shed to cement British freedom, should be no longer of value to them—that the charter wrested from John at Runimede—the contest under James, and the conflict with Charles to establish national liberty—the Revolution of 1688, and the Reform Bill of 1830, are events, in as far as they are concerned, as if they had never been, while the only crime they have committed, but by which they are completely disfranchised, is that of having removed with the knowledge and tacit consent of the Government from one portion of the empire to another. It is high time that such an injury should be redressed. The Cape of Good Hope, with upwards of 200,000 souls, is stigmatised by the refusal of a representative assembly, while Newfoundland, with only 100,000, enjoys all the privileges of representation and responsible government*.

owes the introduction of the legislative council, considered as a great boon to liberty, on its first establishment, being an approach, as was then hoped, to further concessions.

* “The happy prospect of prosperity to be enjoyed by the Cape, which fills my heart with pleasure, and has animated me in my task, is a subject of disquiet to many persons, by their fears of such a colony obtaining early independence. They apprehend that the very strength which we shall create by the policy I recommend will be turned against ourselves. Upon such a principle, however, every father might fear to lose his son upon reaching maturity, or at marriage, and from that apprehension neglect his nurture, as unquestionably weakness of body and mind would prevent his departure from home.”—Political View of the Northern and Eastern Districts of the Cape of Good Hope, by Baron G. K. Van Hoggendorp, Grand Pensionary of Holland.

For above eighteen years have petitions been poured from both ends of the colony, into the Colonial Office, or laid before the Imperial Parliament for the establishment of this great and important privilege, and another and strenuous effort was again made during the past year in both the provinces, and for the first time looked upon with complacency by the Government of the colony, as will appear by the annexed reply to the petition of Cape Town, which has been generally hailed as the harbinger of success:—

“ Colonial Office, Cape Town, 13th Dec. 1841.

“ GENTLEMEN,

“ I am directed by his Excellency the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, forwarding a copy of the several resolutions passed at a public meeting of the inhabitants of Cape Town and its vicinity, held in the Commercial Hall on the 24th of August last, for the purpose of petitioning for a Legislative Assembly, and also the petition to her Majesty in Council, prepared in conformity with the sixth resolution.

“ His Excellency will take an early opportunity of transmitting to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies the said petition and resolutions; and in so doing, he desired me to acquaint you that, concurring in the views and opinions therein expressed, it will afford his Excellency much pleasure to comply with the earnest requisition of the inhabitants, by supporting the prayer of the petition.

“ You will hereafter be apprised of the name of the vessel which conveys his Excellency’s despatches on this subject.

“ I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

“ Your most obedient servant,

“ J. MOORE CRAIG.”

*“ Hon. J. B. Ebdon, Esq.; Hon. Henry Cloete, Esq. ;
and F. S. Watermeyer, Esq.”*

Cherished, however, as is the hope of amelioration in the political privileges of the colony, and however uncongenial the present state of these matters may be, to men born under the shelter of the free and glorious institutions of Britain, it must still be conceded that the local government is mild in its admin-

istration, and as all chance of oppression is precluded by the institution of trial by jury and the existence of a free and independent press, a fair, if not a reasonable, amount of liberty may be said to be enjoyed by the colonists of the Cape of Good Hope.*

The liberty that is enjoyed at the Cape is rather the fruit of public opinion, and improved notions current amongst Governments and governors, than the result of defined constitutional rights. It must not, however, be imagined that any determination has been arrived at by the present Conservative Government, to withhold any British privilege from the inhabitants of the Cape, least of all can such an intention be charged to Lord Stanley, the present Colonial Secretary. As no account has appeared of the interview granted by the noble Secretary to the Colonies to the deputation of Cape merchants which waited on him on 5th March last, in order to obtain a grant of money for emigration purposes, we avail ourselves of this opportunity to proclaim his liberality and candour. The deputation were unsuccessful in obtaining their object towards assisting emigration, because the statements sent from the colony in the "Blue Book," represented the colonial finances in a state of bankruptcy. The statement was that a deficit of revenue of £5000 existed. The cogent arguments of the deputation, especially of Mr. Guthrie, must have obtained the desired concession from his lordship; but when the colonial statement in figures exhibited such a result, silence was well nigh forced on the deputation. One of the deputation, however, claimed for the Governor's official statement a palpable error or misstatement, being persuaded, from what appeared in the colonial papers, that a surplus revenue of £17,000 at least existed in the colonial chest. Of course the noble Secretary was bound to give credence to an official colonial budget, rather than a private statement. But on the 19th May following the Governor had reduced his stated deficiency of revenue to £1500; but even this made his statement not correct, for upon investigation into the subject in the legislative council, the independent unofficial

* It is to be hoped that the sentiment of the late minister for the colonies on this head may be shared by the new administration :—

"He thought the general rule should be, that whenever you had a settlement of British subjects *well established* in a place, you should give them free and popular institutions."—Lord John Russell, 1841.