

by parties of Hottentots, who came to take leave, and to wish me success. They did it with such simplicity and sincerity, that, busy as I was, I could not but particularly attend to every one of them. Two women came, each carrying a roll of matting, and begged, that I would use them on the journey, for their sakes, as they had made them on purpose for me. I thanked them for this proof of their affection, informed them, that we were well provided with this useful article, but that I would accept of their kind present, and save it, to take with me on my return to England, where I would keep it and show it to my Brethren, as a token of their gratitude, for having sent them teachers.

The poor people were almost in ecstasy at the thought, that the work of their hands should go across the great waters to their teachers' land; nor did I suffer such kindness to go unrewarded.

CHAPTER VI.

Departure from Gnadenthal. Account of the company. Manner of travelling in South Africa. Arrive at Mr. Von Helsland's farm on Bock Revier. Rencontre with an enraged boor. Instance of injustice. Hot Outspann. Arrival at Zwellendam. The landdrost's hospitality. Relays. Visit to Zuurbrack. Groot-Vader's-Bosch. Duyvenhoeck's Revier. Mr. Piet du Preez.

MARCH 5th. Every previous arrangement having been made, as stated in the foregoing chapter, it was our intention to set off at twelve o'clock, with a view, before sunset, to reach the house of Mr. Von Helsland, on Bock Revier, a gentleman well known to Mr. Melville, where we might find a hospitable reception and good

quarters for the first night. But by continual interruption, occasioned by parties of Hottentots, who came to take leave, and to express their good wishes and prayers, that success might attend us on our way, our departure was delayed till two o'clock. Mean-while, a large company had assembled under the grove, who joined in singing hymns, while we entered our waggons. Our company consisted of the following persons:

C. I. Latrobe, John Melville, John Henry Schmitt and his wife, and John Jürgen Stein: with the Hottentots, Marcus Moses, Christian Hector, Jeremias Waly, Lebrecht Aris, Johannes Paerl, and his father, Leonhard Paerl. The latter had lately been re-admitted, having returned to Gnadenthal after long absence. Like many other Hottentots, he had ever been extremely fond of roving, and could not well endure to remain long in one place. Several years ago, hearing on his tramps some account of Gnadenthal, and that there the Hottentots were instructed in the word of God, curiosity led him to visit that settlement. He heard the gospel with attention, and it pleased God to awaken his heart and show him the necessity of conversion. At his request, he obtained leave to live there, and as he conducted himself soberly, there was no intention on the part of the Missionaries to send him away; but he could not long bear to be confined, in attending to a field and garden. After many shorter wanderings, he absented himself for three whole years, and, during that time, had traversed the whole colony from east to west, visiting all places of which he obtained any information; till at length, weary of a vagabond life, he returned to Gnadenthal, and having anew obtained permission to reside, began seriously to make the concerns of his immortal soul his chief object.

On account of his general knowledge of every part of the colony, and especially of the district of Uitenhagen, and the Chamtoos Revier, the Brethren recommended him to me as a guide, though his age rendered him unfit to bear any great hardships. Johannes, his son, had been lately baptized, and possessed not only cleverness in the management of our teams, but a willing and cheerful

spirit. The same may be said of Marcus Moses, of whose good sense and steady conduct, we had many satisfactory proofs. All of them, indeed, deserve commendation, as well for their readiness to enter into our views, and to obey all our directions without murmuring, as for their uniformly good behaviour, by which they honoured the cause of the gospel, being everywhere known and observed, as samples of Christian Hottentots.

The commission I had received, to make search after a spot of unoccupied land, for a third missionary settlement of the United Brethren, made it adviseable for me to take with me a man, who understood well the nature of the soil, and, from his knowledge of the habits of the Hottentots, and their mode of procuring subsistence, could judge better than I was able to do, of the fitness of any place we might discover. Such a man was my faithful companion, Brother Schmitt.

Mr. Melville, having brought his own travelling-waggon from Capetown, and the Gnadenthal waggon, originally destined for the journey, as before mentioned, proving too small and inconvenient, we put the baggage into the latter, and gave charge of it to Brother Stein, who willingly accepted of that honourable post, and took his seat in the baggage-waggon. The rest of us occupied the seats in the lighter vehicle.

It may not be improper, in this place, to give a more detailed account of the mode of travelling in South Africa, especially as some of my readers may be surprised to hear, that so many arrangements were required, to undertake the proposed reconnoitring journey. In England, indeed, or even on the continent of Europe, most of them would have been superfluous, as travellers find everywhere inns, provisions, and other necessaries. But it is far otherwise in this country. Here are no inns, and in those farm-houses, in which a traveller may sometimes, but not always, find quarters for the night, provisions are often scarce, and stores not to be purchased. In some, not even a room can be had for the party to sleep in, much less beds and other conveniencies. Every thing necessary for the

expedition, must therefore be provided, calculating upon the time required for it. Thus, if more be in company, and the journey long, a baggage-waggon is essentially wanted. There are no post-houses, where horses may be hired. Travellers must therefore have their own horses, or oxen. The latter are by far the most useful animals for travelling in this country, for no expense attends the feeding of them, as they pick their own provender in the wilderness, where they either find grass, or eat the tender sprout of the rhinoceros, and other bushes, generally refusing hay or corn, if even set before them : whereas, if horses or mules are employed, a sufficient stock of the latter must be provided.

Many travellers sleep in their waggons, but we found it more comfortable, to put up a tent. Cooking utensils are likewise necessary, as all victuals must be dressed in the fields, unless it happens, that a dinner or supper may be had at a farm-house, where the people are able and willing to entertain and lodge strangers. The roads being in many places excessively bad, stony, and steep, more cattle are wanted than on roads regularly made and kept in repair. There are even places, where more than twenty oxen must be employed to drag the waggons up the precipitous ascent, and where horses would scarcely be of use. From this account it is plain, that arrangements, very different from what are required in Europe, are necessary for a journey in South Africa.

A team or set of oxen or horses put to a waggon, is called by the Dutch a *Spann*, and those places in the wilderness, where halt is made and the oxen unyoked, an *Outspann-place*. As this is a convenient word for the purpose, I am glad to be authorized by the journals of other English travellers, to retain it. The oxen are left, from two to four hours, to seek their food and get rest, while the travelling party cook their victuals and take their meals.

Since farms have multiplied, the situation and boundaries of outspann-places, have been appointed by Government, generally near some river or spring, as the want of water injures the oxen more than the want of provender. A loaded waggon requires from twelve

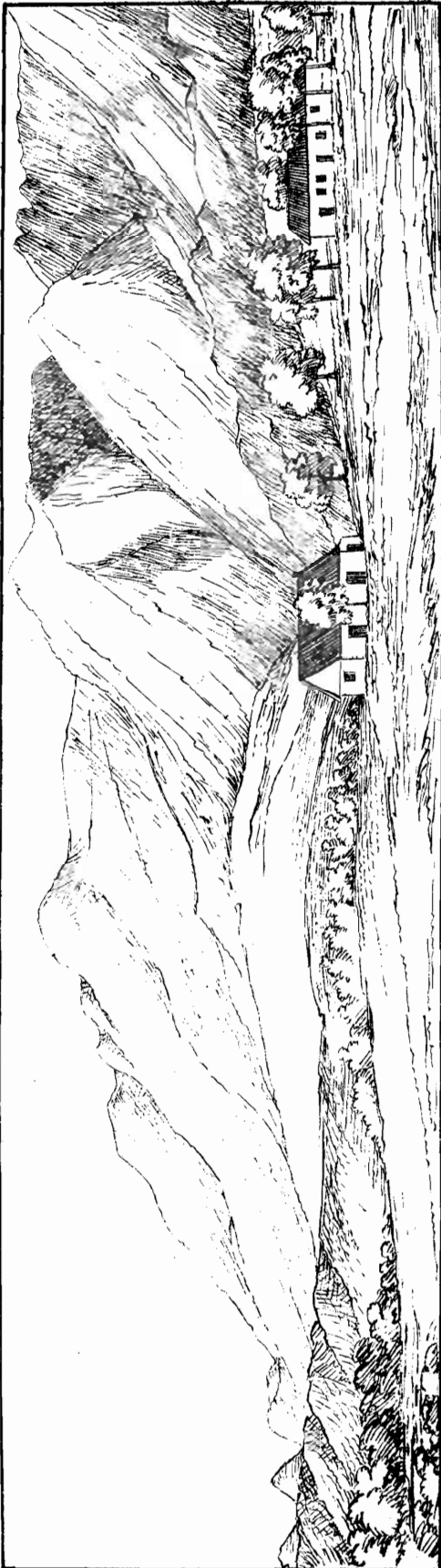
to sixteen oxen, and a light travelling waggon, from eight to twelve. Besides the Hottentot driver, who, sitting on the box, directs the whole span, without reins, merely by means of his long whip, there is always a man, or sometimes only a little boy employed, as a leader. (See p. 39). The heathen Hottentots have no mercy upon their draught oxen, and the skin of most of them, is cut in all directions by their whips, so as to present to the eye the resemblance of net-work. They drive and ride their horses and mules, with equal want of feeling, and it is well for them, that the Cape horses are a very hardy race. Nor is it without much teaching, even after they have become Christians, that they are convinced of the impropriety of such usage of dumb animals, and learn that Christian lesson "Be ye merciful, as your Heavenly Father also is merciful," Luke, vi. 36. "A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast, but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel," Prov. xii. 10. We took three saddle-horses with us, to be used, as occasion might require, in examining the country.

Thus equipped, we proceeded with tolerable speed. About one hundred and fifty Hottentots, who accompanied us out of Gnadenthal across the hills, left us in parties, repeating their farewell benedictions. Mrs. Melville and her family went with us as far as Mr. Von Helsland's farm, on Bock Revier, which we had hoped to reach in six hours, but we were full ten hours on the road. The moon had set, before we arrived, but, late as it was, we found the family prepared to receive us in the most hospitable manner.

6th. About sun-rise, the whole company assembled, with our worthy host, under the shade of some oaks, before the door. The morning-haze proclaimed a hot day, and we determined to stay here, till towards evening, when generally a cool breeze springs up, and the moon favoured our proceeding during the night.

Mr. Von Helsland's estate is well cultivated, and has abundance of wood and water. Timber is found in the kloofs or narrow glens, intersecting the high range of mountains, which here have a very rugged and romantic appearance.

Range of Mountains between Graadenthal and Zwelendani as Seen from M. Van Helstand's farm on Beck-Bovier



Continuation of the same.



After walking with our host through his garden-grounds and vineyards, I spent some time in endeavouring to make an accurate sketch of the outline of the whole chain, as seen from a field above the farm, but found the sun's heat almost intolerable. To exhibit, by a drawing, the characteristic features of a country, it is of most consequence, that the shape of its hills should be delineated with the strictest accuracy, and the features of the African ranges are too singular, not to attract attention. The few sketches I have inserted in this work, may, I trust, be pronounced scrupulously exact, as to outline, which is all the merit to which I lay any claim.

While we were at dinner, the infant daughter of a relation of the family, who had been long ailing, unexpectedly died in the nurse's arms. This event threw the ladies into great agitation, nor did Mr. Von Helsland's kind and consoling exhortations to resignation seem to have much effect. They all retired to their own rooms, and we were very sorry, not to be able to express our gratitude, both for the kindness and hospitality, with which we had been entertained, and for a considerable present of grapes, apples, dried peas and beans, fowls, tongues, and other provisions, which, by Mr. Von Helsland's orders, had been conveyed into the waggons, for our use.

Mr. Von Helsland is a native of Flanders. Having spent the early part of his life at college, and travelled into various parts of Europe, he made several voyages to the East Indies and the Cape, as Captain of a Danish East-India-man, and, after a life of great activity and usefulness, settled in this country. He is a man of the most polished manners, speaks English fluently, and can converse in German, Danish, and Latin, with ease. The family spend the summer on his farm, but in winter reside at Capetown.

About five o'clock in the afternoon, we took leave of our kind host, and leaving Mrs. Melville and her children to spend some time with the family, previous to her taking up her abode at Gna-denthal, during Mr. Melville's absence, we left Bock Revier, forded the river Sonderend, and travelled, with a bright moon to light us on a good road, till ten at night, when, for the first time, we pitched

our tent on the waste, cooked our supper, and having commended ourselves to the protection of God, slept well on our mattresses, till half past five in the morning.

7th. We had not proceeded far, before we were stopped by a boor on horseback. He came on full speed, jumped off his horse close to our waggon, shook hands with each of the party, and observed, that we had a Hottentot with us, Lebrecht Aris, who was bound by a regular contract made with him, to come and work at his farm, immediately after New-year, but had not made his appearance. Brother Schmitt ordered Lebrecht to come forward. The boor no sooner saw him, than his whole countenance changed from affected friendliness, to that of an infuriated demon. He began to rave at the poor Hottentot, without permitting him to utter a word in his own defence. Never in my life have I heard Dutch spoken with such fluency. As his rage increased with every sentence, the guttural sounds of that elegant language, seemed to proceed deeper and deeper from the bottom of his throat. At length, almost breathless with exertion, he turned to Brother Schmitt, and demanded, whether he would give up the man. On being answered in the negative, he mounted his horse, and galloped off to the Veldcornet's house, which lay in sight and near the road. We followed quietly, and Brother Schmitt going up to the door with Lebrecht, the Veldcornet, on examination, being doubtful as to the validity of the contract, thought proper to suffer the Hottentot to accompany us, but promised the boor, that after our return, he might claim his services. Poor Lebrecht stood dumbfounded, nor would the boor suffer him to speak. It was to us a very unpleasant adventure, not only because it occasioned delay, but as the character of our Hottentots was implicated.

This instance, however, was one among many, which shows the injustice sometimes done to these poor people, if left without protection to the mercy of the boors; and here it may be proper to anticipate, by giving an explanation of the business, as it appeared, on examination, before the landdrost of Zwellendam, on our return.

Lebrecht Aris owed twelve dollars to a farmer, in the neighbourhood of Gnadenthal, and not having the means to pay, engaged with the boor above-mentioned to work six months on his farm, at two dollars per month and his cost, on condition, that the boor should immediately discharge his debt. He had worked two months, when his creditor again called on him, and threatened him with imprisonment, unless he immediately paid the twelve dollars. In his distress, he applied to a missionary, who lent him the money, for the payment of which he received a regular receipt from his creditor. This receipt the poor man had in his pocket, but being nearly frightened out of his senses, by the violence of the boor's behaviour, he forgot to produce it at the Veldcornet's. After discovering the boor's neglect to fulfil his engagement to pay his creditor, he now not only refused to work any longer with so faithless an employer, but had a demand upon him for four dollars, being two month's pay. The boor, however, most unjustly insisted on his serving him the remaining four months, under pretence of a contract. But no written agreement having been made and signed, in presence of a Veldcornet, which is required to bind a Hottentot to his employer, for any stated time, the Veldcornet discharged him for the present, without further explanation. Lebrecht, after recovering his spirits, stated his case satisfactorily to us, and on our return, I submitted it to the landdrost of Zwellendam, who sent a proper reproof to the unjust boor.

Near this place, we first met with the great thorn-bush, a mimosa, with which many parts of the country are nearly covered. It has thorns from four to six inches long. They are placed two and two, in an obtuse angle, of about ninety degrees; out of the inner centre of which proceeds, from a bud, a number of small pinnated leaves, resembling the acacia. The flower is yellow, and consists of a great number of small leaves placed in a globular form. The shape of the tree is very elegant.

After a hot ride, we pitched our tent upon a waste called Storm's

Valley, near the banks of the Sonderend, without a tree to screen us by its shade from the burning rays of the sun. Before us appeared some of the lower class of hills, through which a gap admits the river Sonderend to unite with the Breede Revier. The heat was almost insupportable, and the inside of the tent like an oven. All the butter melted, and on attempting to finish some sketches, the colour dried instantly on the paper, without permitting any washing. I found at length the inside of the waggon the most comfortable retreat, where I continued writing my diary, though the ink dried so fast within my pen, that I could hardly proceed. About six in the evening, we left this place, which, by way of distinction, we called the Hot Outspan, and after travelling for some time along the low hills above-mentioned, crossed the Breede Revier by moon-light. Its banks are covered with wood and bushes, and its bed is full of large, rough stones. We encamped on the eastern bank for the remainder of the night.

8th. After a ride of about four hours, we crossed the Leuwe Revier, near a pleasant farm. Its banks are very steep, and in some places formed of perpendicular rocks, resembling mud-walls in colour. Having forded another smaller stream of brackish water, we halted on a waste, with a woody dell behind, and the magnificent range of the Zwellendam mountains before us, towards which, after two hour's rest, we directed our course. The morning had been uncommonly clear, and we were enjoying the view, when suddenly clouds began to cover their tops. In a short time, we were enveloped in a dense fog, followed by heavy rain, which did not cease, till we reached Zwellendam about two P. M.

I immediately waited on the landdrost, Mr. Von Buissini, and presented the letter, written by Colonel Bird in the name of the Governor, and which, as a proof of the kind attention of his Excellency to promote every attempt to spread civilization among the Hottentots under his government, by means of Christian instruction, I beg leave to insert, especially as it proved the source of all

that ease and comfort, which we enjoyed during a journey of such length, attended frequently with great difficulties and dangers. The same letter was addressed to the landdrosts of the districts of Zwelldam, George, and Uitenhagen.

SIR,

I am directed by his Excellency, the Governor, to beg your attention to the bearer, the Rev. Mr. Latrobe.

Mr. Latrobe's object in visiting your drosty, is to ascertain, whether there is any unoccupied Government-land in your district, which would be suitable for establishing an institution of Hottentots under the superintendency of the Moravian Brethren. It is his Excellency's desire, therefore, that you may be pleased to afford to this gentleman the fullest information in your power on the subject, and his Excellency will esteem any civility you may show Mr. Latrobe, as a favour done to himself.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

C. BIRD.

*Colonial Office,
February 18, 1816.*

The landdrost, after perusing this letter, expressed his great readiness to lend every assistance in promoting an object, to which he had always shown the most favourable disposition, and was glad to be thus authorized to act consistently with his own inclinations, in affording every facility to our undertaking. He immediately proposed to give me a letter to the Veldcornets and others in his district, to be valid as far as George, requiring them to furnish us with two spans of oxen at every station, and with as many drivers, leaders, and guides, as we might want.

Though I not only felt grateful for such an indulgence, but was convinced, that we could not proceed far with our own oxen, as they already showed symptoms of great weariness, yet at first I was not

disposed to accept of the landdrost's generous offer, considering myself not entitled to such distinction, and disliking the idea of becoming burdensome to the farmers, by pressing their men and cattle into our service, perhaps with injury or inconvenience to themselves. On both these subjects, however, the landdrost satisfied my mind, particularly by stating, that the farmers received a sufficient consideration for services thus performed, and had no reason to complain, since the English Government had ruled the colony. It was our intention to have purchased a spann at this place, a measure which was now superseded; and as we could spare at least one of our Hottentots, old Christian Hector, was sent home with the spann we had hired at Gnadenthal. Mr. and Mrs. Von Buissini insisted upon our taking up our abode at their house, and treated us with every mark of kindness and hospitality.

The drosty is a substantial, spacious, well-furnished mansion, and the premises much improved by the present landdrost. The town or village lies scattered, and consists of several single houses or rows of buildings, connected with each other, without much regularity. The church is a neat plain structure, without a tower. The number of inhabitants is said to be about three hundred. The situation of Zwellendam is under the highest part of a range of lofty mountains, whose rocky summits assume all manner of singular shapes. Two peaks, like truncated cones, form their principal feature, and the kloofs and beds of torrents, with which their steep sides are furrowed, have an almost terrific appearance. Parallel to their foot runs a range of low round hills, some of which are rocky, others, clothed with verdure.

9th. The oxen required by the landdrost to be furnished for us, eighteen in number, were early at hand, and the drivers in haste to proceed. Having been advised to take our own spann with us as a reserve, we appointed Lebrecht Aris to the care of them; Jeremias to drive the baggage-waggon; Leonhard Paerl to take charge of the saddle-horses, and Marcus and Johannes to attend the lighter waggon.

About nine A. M. we left the landdrost's hospitable mansion, in

which we had felt ourselves quite at home. In Mr. Von Buissini, we found a friend, and a man of superior intellect and information. He speaks English fluently, as likewise German and other languages, and possesses a good library. Mrs. Buissini is a lady of most affable and benevolent character, and treated Sister Schmitt with great kindness. She also bestowed several necessary articles of provisions upon us, such as fowls, wheaten bread, and garden-fruits. At her request, Sister Schmitt visited a Hottentot maid-servant, who formerly belonged to the Groenekloof congregation, till her husband finding work in this place brought her hither. She was confined to her bed by a severe illness, and on seeing Sister Schmitt enter the room, burst into a flood of tears, exclaiming, "This, indeed, is in answer to my prayers, for I have cried incessantly unto the Lord, especially during my present illness, to grant me the favour, again to see one of my teachers."

The landdrost had mentioned the Settlement at Zuurbrack, belonging to the Missionary Society in London, about half a day's journey from Zwellendam, as worthy of our notice, and had given orders to our drivers to pass through that place, on our way to the next station at the Groot Vader's Bosch. They were civil, good-humoured people, and drove at a brisk rate, often at a sharp trot. The road was good, the weather pleasant, clear, and cool, and our party in excellent spirits. As we left Zwellendam, the views to the south became more extensive, and the mountains to the north assumed a milder character, till the view of the high range was intercepted by lower hills.

Farms are not numerous in this part of the country. We crossed several brooks, and regretted to see a good deal of water, that precious fructifying agent in this dry land, running to waste, though the valleys appeared capable of culture. But the land allotted to each farm occupies so large a tract of country, and labourers are so scarce, that some apology may be made for the inhabitants. Since the slave-trade has been abolished, and the slaves remaining in the colony are sold at an enormous price, particularly if they are

skilled in any art, the services of Hottentots are more wanted in the cultivation of the land. Thus they have been taught, better to know their own value, and will no longer submit to the treatment they formerly received. Being both by Dutch and English laws a free nation, they cannot be compelled to serve an unjust or tyrannical master, and it is solely owing to their natural indolence, that many of them remain in poverty and misery. The effect of Christian instruction contributes most towards raising them from the abject and wretched state, into which they had been plunged, by gradually changing their dispositions, and making them obedient, not only to the precepts of the Gospel, but to all those moral and civil obligations which it inculcates, as they are successively explained to them by their teachers.

About an English mile above a pleasant farm, called Rotterdam, we arrived at the Bueffeljagd's Revier. The bushes covering both banks near the ford consist chiefly of the mimosa. Having crossed the river, we turned to the left, out of the main road, under a hill, the ascent of which was covered with a profusion of large aloes. This was the first time we had seen this singular plant growing in such abundance.

The vale of the Zuurbrack is, at its entrance from the west, narrow and full of wood. The Bueffeljagd's Revier winds from side to side between steep banks, and must be forded twice, before the missionary Institution can be approached. A few Hottentot women, imitating the custom at Gnadenthal, came out to meet us, and walking alongside of the waggons, bid us welcome with a hymn. The valley widens near the settlement, and appears to be a spot well chosen for the purposes of such an institution. We were received by Mr. and Mrs. Seidentaden, her mother, and brother, and his assistant, Mr. Wimmer, with great kindness. After some conversation and refreshment, we proceeded to see Mr. Seidentaden's gardens, which are well laid out. After dinner, we walked with him through the Hottentot village, which at present consists of one row of huts on the north side of the valley. Some of

them we entered, and conversed with the inhabitants. They were friendly, and expressed their thankfulness for the instruction they receive, and for the zeal with which the missionaries endeavour to promote their temporal and spiritual welfare.

Mr. Seidenfaden is a man of an active, benevolent mind, and generous spirit. He has himself built a good substantial house, with a spacious hall, in which he meets his congregation, and keeps school with the children and young people. The Missionary Society in London, under whose direction he acts, have not as yet thought proper to build a church in this place, and the small sum he could raise for the purpose, proved quite inadequate to the undertaking. A beginning, however, was made on an eminence near the house, but his expectations failing, the work remains unfinished. He appears to deserve more encouragement, for the situation is such, that in time a considerable settlement might be formed.

After a pleasant stay of about four hours with this worthy family, we set out for the next station, accompanied by Mr. Seidenfaden and his brother-in-law on horseback, to direct us in crossing the river, the banks of which are so very steep, that all the skill of Hottentots in driving was required, to bring the waggons and oxen safely through the water. At one of the fords, an ox, becoming wild, disengaged himself from the yoke. But we were in a most romantic place, in which some detention was not unpleasant. While the Hottentots were pursuing the frightened beast, the waggons remaining stationary in the midst of the stream, we contemplated with delight the surrounding scenery. To the right, the water rushed forward between steep, woody banks, in the deep shade of overspreading trees, towards a range of low hills, enclosing the valley to the south. To the left, rose a dark, gloomy forest, ascending a deep kloof, between perpendicular rocks, and stretching along the foot of the mountains, whose tops were enveloped in black clouds, rendered more frowning, as contrasted with the splendour of a bright sun in the west, beautifully lighting up every part

of the valley, while the sides of the mountains were buried in shade. The river seemed to fly from the dark recesses of the kloof towards a milder region. Close by the ford lay the skeleton of an ox; wolves, jackals, and tygers, having feasted on its flesh, of which but little was left for Mr. Seidenfaden's large dog. This fine animal had accompanied us, and now improved the opportunity of making a meal of the remainder; for the dogs belonging to African farmers and Hottentots are not regularly fed, but live upon what they find. Having secured the wild ox, we proceeded, and soon took leave of our worthy friends, who returned to Zuurbrack, with our best wishes and prayers for God's blessing to rest upon their labours.

Our road lay through the valley, and as long as it was light, we feasted our eyes on the delightful scenery, till we reached the farm of Mr. Van Ass, in Groot Vader's Bosch. This was the first boor's house, to which we had recourse for a night's lodging. When we produced the landdrost's order for Vorspann, Mr. Van Ass made many difficulties, complaining, that it put him to great inconvenience to harbour and forward us on our journey; that he had no beds, and could render us no assistance in providing supper; though there were ten or more slaves and Hottentot maids in his kitchen, unemployed. At length, he showed us into a room, where we might put down our mattresses, and even agreed, that Sister Schmitt might have the use of the kitchen-fire. Finding us satisfied with his arrangements, he brightened up a little, and entered into conversation with civility. As it turned out a wet night, our Hottentots slept in the tent.

10th. A thick fog covered the mountains, but while we were at breakfast, it cleared away, and presented to our view a charming landscape. Mr. Van Ass's premises seem formerly to have been kept in better order than they are at present. He is a bachelor, and his domestics appeared to be an idle crew. Sister Schmitt, having discovered, that several of the women professed to belong to the Zuurbrack congregation, though they very seldom went thither, represented to them, how much they had to answer for, when so fa-

vourable an opportunity was afforded them to hear the word of God for their salvation, if they made light of it, neglecting the means, and even dishonouring the cause of the Gospel by their lives and conversation. Her reproof, delivered with great mildness, seemed to make some impression upon them. On our leaving the place, several of them expressed a wish to have more conversation with her, as we slowly followed the waggons up the hill, and seemed much affected at taking leave.

The Groot Vader's Bosch is a forest retained by Government, the trees growing chiefly in the kloofs and vallies, which intersect the high range of mountains. As we proceeded, the appearance of the country grew less interesting. Very few farms are seen in the wide waste towards the south. Some kivits, or plovers, were the only birds, and a duyker (antelope) the only quadruped we saw, during several hours' ride. The low hills are covered with aloes, and the vales rich in bushes, chiefly of the mimosa kind.

At two o'clock, we reached Mr. Lombard's farm, on Duyvenhoek's Revier. This gentleman is a relation of Mr. Von Helsland, on Bock Revier. As he had been a commandant of the volunteer farmers, in the Caffre war, and was well acquainted with all the country about the Chamtoos and Klein Reviers, I showed him the list of Government-places I had received, through the kindness of the Colonial Secretary, which led him to give us some interesting information concerning the situation, nature of the soil, and present possession of these places, by which, in some measure, we were directed in our future inquiries. He seemed anxious to detain us, and finding in him a very intelligent and well-informed man, we would willingly have availed ourselves of his friendly invitation, had we not wished to make the best use of our time in the prosecution of our journey. For the services Mr. Lombard rendered to General Dundas in the Caffre war, he was presented with a very elegant gun. His farm is well built, and situated upon a rising ground, commanding a fine prospect across the river, towards the mountains. The walls of the hall, which is the common room of

the family, were decorated with French prints, more highly finished in their execution, than decent in their subjects. On taking leave, Mr. Lombard pressed us, on our return, to spend three or four days with him, when he would take us to the sea-coast, show us the surrounding country, hunt with Mr. Melville, and, as a *summum bonum*, treat us with oysters.

Both in approaching to, and leaving this farm, we had to cross the Duyvenhoek's Revier, which, by some partial rain on the hills, had acquired both depth and rapidity. The road to our next station was interesting only by a full view of the grand ridge of mountains, which here assumed a different character, appearing in detached parties, with a high peak towards the west, and a precipitous descent to the east.

About six in the evening, we arrived at Mr. Piet Du Preez's farm, where we met with a cordial reception. We found here a Mr. S. a smith by trade, who had formerly belonged to our Church, and resided in some of the settlements of the Brethren in Germany. He seemed much pleased to meet with countrymen in the Brethren, Schmitt and Stein. Two English dragoons were as much delighted to see three of *their* countrymen, but told us, that in consequence of the capture and punishment of five of the boors, engaged as principals in the late rebellion, the people in the Langekloof were ill-disposed towards the English, and very sulky. As the weather was fair, we wished to proceed another stage, but the family protested against it, the road being too bad for night-travelling. It was well we staid within doors, for unexpectedly a thick fog announced a change of weather.