

deemed advisable to let the matter rest; and to summon the troops in the neighbourhood to attend the funeral of the unfortunate men, whose fate might operate as a check to its further progress.

It would seem, by the end which this same Van Roy was doomed to make, that, as our immortal poet has finely expressed it,

“ —— Even-handed justice
“ Returns th’ ingredients of our poison’d chalice
“ To our own lips.”

He, in the subsequent wars between the boors and Hottentots, was shot through the head in his own house: which was afterwards burnt to the ground; his property plundered and destroyed, and his family reduced to extreme poverty.

The sanguinary character of many of the African colonists may be owing, perhaps, in a certain degree, to the circumstance of their having been soldiers in German regiments serving abroad; where the least relaxation from a rigid system of discipline is followed up by the greatest severity of punishment. The soldier, having served out the time of his engagement, which at most is five years, is at liberty to demand his discharge. If he is able to read and write, however indifferently, he usually finds employment, as schoolmaster, in a boor’s family; if not qualified for such a situation, he either engages as a sort of servant, or hires himself to some butcher of the town, who sends him to the extremi-

ties of the colony to collect sheep and cattle. In all these situations he has the opportunity of making an intimate acquaintance with the boors, which generally leads to his marriage with one of their daughters. The parents of the girl spare him a few sheep and cattle to commence with, on condition of their receiving half the produce as interest, until he can repay the capital; he looks out for a *place*, as it is called, no matter where, whether within or without the limits of the colony, and builds for himself a hut; with his cattle are consigned to him, at the same time, and on the same terms, as he supposes, a few little Hottentot children to look after them; and on these little creatures, in the plenitude of his power, subject to no control, he exercises the same severity of punishment that his own irregularities had incurred when he was in the ranks.

From the barbarous treatment of the boors towards the Hottentots in their service, of which we had ourselves been witnesses in so many instances, it would have been an act of the greatest inhumanity to attempt to force these poor creatures back again upon their old masters; yet a very serious difficulty arose, how to dispose of them. Part of the troops, that composed the detachment under General Vandeleur, consisted of the strength of the Hottentot corps, otherwise called the Cape regiment. This body of men had been partly formed under the Dutch government, and, in fact, were the only serviceable troops that opposed the British forces in the pass of Muysenberg, where they acted with spirit, though unsupported. After the capitulation, General Sir James Craig found it expedient, for many reasons, to take them into the

British service, and to increase their numbers. He considered in the first place, that, from their rooted antipathy to the boors, they could always be employed as useful agents to quell any disturbances that might arise in the distant districts. He saw, also, that they were capable of being formed into excellent soldiers. In short, after an experience of near two years, the character he gave them was that of an orderly, tractable, and faithful body of men; ready on all occasions to obey the orders of their officers with cheerfulness and alacrity. And they have since shewn themselves highly deserving of the favorable testimony of Sir James Craig. During three years' service in the distant district of Graaf Reynet, in the course of which time they were required, by an unfortunate and unavoidable train of events, to act against their own countrymen and comrades, they never shrunk from their duty, and, if I recollect rightly, one single man only deserted in the whole corps.

A Hottentot is capable of strong attachments; with a readiness to acknowledge, he possesses the mind to feel, the force of a benevolent action. I never found that any little act of kindness or attention was thrown away upon a Hottentot; but, on the contrary, I have frequently had occasion to remark the joy that sparkled on his countenance, whenever an opportunity occurred to enable him to discharge his debt of gratitude. I give full credit to all that Monsieur Le Vaillant has said with regard to the fidelity and attachment he experienced from this race of men; of whom the natural character and disposition seem to approach nearer to those of the Hindûs than of any other nation.

We had little doubt that the greater number of the Hottentot men, who were assembled at the bay, after receiving favorable accounts from their comrades of the treatment they experienced in the British service, would enter as volunteers into this corps ; but what was to be done with the old people, the women and the children ? Klaas Stuurman found no difficulty in making a provision for them. " Restore," says he, " the country of which our fathers have been despoiled by the Dutch, and we have nothing more to ask." I endeavoured to convince him how little advantage they were likely to derive from the possession of a country, without any other property, or the means of deriving a subsistence from it : but he had the better of the argument. " We lived very contentedly," said he, " before these Dutch plunderers molested us ; and why should we not do so again, if left to ourselves ? Has not the *Groot Baas* (the Great Master) given plenty of grass-roots, and berries, and grasshoppers for our use ; and, till the Dutch destroyed them, abundance of wild animals to hunt ? And will they not return and multiply when these destroyers are gone ?" We prevailed, however, upon Klaas to deliver up their arms, and, in the mean time, to follow the troops until some arrangement could be made for their future welfare.

Proceeding on our march, along the banks of the Sunday River, and among the vast thickets that almost entirely covered this part of the country, we fell in with a prodigious number of Kaffers with their cattle, belonging, as they told us, to a powerful chief named *Congo*. This man was at the head of all the other emigrant chiefs who had fled from the

Kaffer country, eastward of the Great Fish River, on account of some enmity subsisting between them and their King *Gaika*, with whom I had, in vain, attempted, in company of the Landrost, to bring about a reconciliation two years before. As the position he now occupied not only encroached very much upon the territorial rights of the colony, but was also far within the line actually inhabited by the Dutch boors, we deemed it expedient to endeavour to prevail upon him to move towards the eastward; and for this purpose, we sent a messenger to request that he would give us the meeting. The answer brought back signified, that he did not care to come alone, and that he desired to know, if we had any objections to receive him at the head of a certain number of his people. The messenger being told he might bring with him any number of his attendants not exceeding thirty, he shortly made his appearance at the head of a party to that amount, each armed with a hassagay or spear.

On being told how necessary it was, for the sake of preserving tranquillity, that he should quit his present station among the boors, he replied with great firmness, that the ground he then stood upon was his own by inheritance, for that his father had been cheated out of it by a Dutch Landrost of Graaf Reynet; that, however, being desirous of remaining in friendship with the English, he would remove eastward in the course of three days; but that it was impossible for him to cross the Great Fish River, as there was a deadly hatred, or, as he expressed it, *there was blood between Gaika and himself*; and that *Gaika* was then much too powerful for him.

The decided tone in which he spoke, at the head of his small party, when surrounded by British troops ; his prepossessing countenance, and tall muscular figure, could not fail to excite a strong interest in his favor. An open and manly deportment, free from suspicion, fear, or embarrassment, seems to characterize the Kaffer chiefs. Though extremely good-humoured, benevolent, and hospitable, they are neither so pliant nor so passive as the Hottentot. The poorer sort are sometimes led to seek for service among the boors, and engage themselves for so many moons in consideration of so many head of cattle ; and they never suffer themselves to be duped out of their hire like the easy Hottentots. The conversation with Congo ended by recommending him to withdraw his people and their cattle from the banks of the Sunday River, to which he gave a kind of reluctant assent.

The whole of the party that accompanied this chief were tall, upright, and well made men ; affording a clear proof that animal food is by no means necessary to promote the growth of the human species ; or to add strength of fibre to the muscular parts of the body : on the contrary, reasoning from the general make and stature of the Dutch boors, who gorge themselves with animal food floating in fat, from morning till night, one would be apt to conclude, that so far from being necessary, it is not even conducive to strength of muscle ; but that its only tendency is to produce a laxity of the fibres, a sluggish habit of body, and extreme corpulency ; for the Dutch boors, though of a monstrous size, possess neither strength nor activity. Perhaps, indeed, these two qualities may be considered as correlatives, and that the de-

fect of the former may be more owing to a want of the latter than to the nature of their food. Those, perhaps, who have been accustomed to observe the peasantry on the north-west coast of Ireland, a tall, strong, and brawny race of men, subsisting on butter-milk and potatoes, will think it unnecessary to produce the Kaffers as instances of the above remark; it may serve, however, to shew that difference of climate has no power to alter the general principle, and that the same cause produces the same effect in the northern parts of Europe and in the southern corner of Africa.

Milk in a curdled state is the principal food of the Kaffers. To this they sometimes add a few gramineous roots, berries of various kinds, the seeds of the *Strelitzia Reginae*, and the pith of a large palm to which botanists have given the name of *Zamia*. I observed also large tuberous roots, each the size of a man's head, of a spongy substance and an austere pungent taste, but I was not able to trace the plant of which they were the roots. They rarely kill any of their cattle unless on particular occasions. They possess no other domestic animals to yield them food. In the whole Kaffer country there are neither sheep nor goats, pigs nor poultry. They cultivate no kind of grain nor vegetables on this side of the Great Fish River, and very little on the other side; but the Kaffer tribes, more to the westward, are very considerable horticulturists. The commissioners, sent out by the British government in the year 1801, to endeavour to procure a supply of draught oxen, found extensive fields of a species of *Holcus* near the city *Leetakoo*, the capital of a tribe of Kaffers called the *Booshooanas*, situate at the distance of sixteen

days' journey beyond the Orange River, in the direction of north-east from the Cape.

The tribe of Congo appeared to be very prolific ; children, in swarms, issued from the thickets ; and such as were under the age of eight or nine years were perfectly naked ; they exhibited no appearances of being scantily fed, but, on the contrary, were plump and healthful.

Just the reverse was the condition of their dogs. These animals were the most lean and miserable looking creatures I ever beheld, and their numbers seemed little inferior to those of the children. It is a fortunate circumstance for the Kaffers, and equally so for the colonists, who are no less fond of dogs than the former, that, notwithstanding the heat of the climate, the canine madness, with its concomitant and remarkable symptom the hydrophobia or dread of water, is totally unknown. One of the greatest nuisances in Cape Town is the number of dogs that prowl about the streets (acknowledging no master) particularly by night, when they quit their dens and lurking places, in quest of the offals of butchers' shops. In this respect, however, they are of use, for the lazy Dutchman conceives he has done his part by casting them out of the slaughter-house into the street. Before the English brought in a garrison of five thousand men, the head, the heart, the liver, &c. were all included among the offals ; but an increase in the consumption having caused an increase in the price of butchers' meat, these parts of the animal have, of late, been sold as well as the carcase ; and the dogs have consequently less to clear away. Not

many years ago the wolves and hyenas descended from their dens in the Table Mountain, and disputed the spoil with the dogs : and even now they sometimes advance near enough to be scented by the dogs, when the town resounds with the hideous howlings of the latter the whole night long.

The circumstance of Southern Africa being free from the canine madness, and also from the small pox, would lead one to conclude that neither the one nor the other of these diseases was of spontaneous origin ; but that actual biting in the one case, and actual contact in the other, were necessary for their production. Whatever may have been the cause that first created those diseases, it should seem such cause has not yet existed here, or that the climate is unfavorable for its operation. Twice since the foundation of the colony the small pox has been brought into it, and both times has committed dreadful havock among the settlers. That such will always be the fatal effects, may readily be imagined, among so gross a people, unprepared for the reception of the disease, and ignorant how to treat it ; but it is not so easy to conceive in what manner they got rid of it. I believe it is now forty years since the last time it made its appearance. All the old Kaffers, I observed, were strongly marked with it ; the disease, as I observed in the second chapter, was brought among them by a ship that was stranded on their coast ; but I should conclude it has visited them since the time it was last brought into Cape Town, as the chief Congo, who could not, when we saw him, be above thirty years of age, was marked with the small pox. It is rather singular that a disease, which is supposed to have originated in the

northern parts of this continent, and from thence disseminated into every corner of the world, should neither be endemic in the southern extremity of the same continent, nor its contagious effects, when carried thither, of permanent duration.

I am aware that some modern authors have traced the origin of the small pox to Arabia, where it was common at the time of the flight from Mecca ; but I think Dr. Mead's opinion more probable, that, at a much earlier period, it prevailed, along with the plague, in Ethiopia and other inland countries of Northern Africa. For had a disease of so contagious a nature been endemic in Arabia, in the beginning of the seventh century, when the inhabitants of that country were the carriers of the eastern, and the conquerors of the western world, its baneful effects would sooner have been experienced in foreign nations. That the Saracens and Arabians were the means of dispersing it through the world, there can be little doubt. The Chinese, according to their own annals, had it from the latter in the tenth century ; and as Doctor Mead has observed, in the beginning of the twelfth century, it gained vast ground by means of the wars waged by a confederacy of the Christian powers against the Saracens for the recovery of the Holy Land : " This being," says the Doctor, " the only visible recompence of their religious expeditious, which they brought back to their respective countries." The Ethiopians being a race of people almost unknown, and shut out from all commerce with the rest of the world, will account for its long confinement to its native soil.

That canine madness is not owing to heat of climate, as we are apt to suppose in England, may be inferred from its non-existence in Egypt, in the islands of the East and the West Indies, and other tropical situations, as well as at the Cape of Good Hope.

From the banks of the Sunday River to head-quarters in Bruyntjes Hoogté, little occurred that was worthy of notice. The observation I formerly made, that men and other animals in Southern Africa appear to increase in their bulk, in proportion to the elevation of the country of which they are inhabitants, was forcibly exemplified in our journey from the Zuure Veldt to Bruyntjes Hoogté. On the plains of the former, stretching along the sea-coast, seldom subject to long drought, and well covered with grass, the cattle are generally lean and of a diminutive size, and sheep can scarcely exist. On the heights of the latter, where half the surface of the ground is naked, and the grass found only here and there in tufts, they have the finest oxen, without exception, in the whole colony, and sheep equal to those of the snowy mountains. Nor are these heights less favourable to the growth of the human species. There is scarcely a family in which some part of it has not arrived to a very unusual size. But of all the monstrous beings I ever beheld, in the shape of a human creature, was a woman of the name of *Van Vooren*. So vast was her bulk that, although in perfect health, free from rheumatic or other local complaints, and under forty years of age, she had not been able to walk for the last twelve years of her life; nor, what was still more extraordinary, to raise herself to a sitting posture upon the bed without the help of a stick, tied by the

middle with a string, and suspended from the roof. Her arm, above the elbow, measured 23 Dutch inches, or $23\frac{1}{2}$ English, in circumference. Yet, in this helpless and deplorable situation, Mademoiselle, for she was an unmarried lady, contrived to fulfil the end of her creation, by bringing into the world a fine healthy child, the father of which was said, but whether by way of joke I cannot pretend to say, to be an English officer. The fate, however, of this extraordinary person, as I have since been informed, was attended with very melancholy circumstances. In the subsequent wars between the boors and the Hottentots, the house in which she lived was attacked and set on fire. All the rest of the family effected their escape, except this unfortunate creature, whom they found it impossible, on account of her size, to get through the door, and were therefore under the necessity of leaving to perish in the flames.

Having collected the forces that had been stationed along the banks of the Great Fish River, we set out upon our return to Algoa Bay. On approaching the Sunday River, and perceiving that the Kaffers had made no preparations for departing, it was thought advisable to renew the message to their chief Congo. In the mean time the troops and the waggons proceeded on their march. After waiting some time, the messenger returned without being able to speak to the chief. Whatever reluctance Congo had discovered to quit the station he had taken up among the colonists, it never entered into our calculations that he would be rash and imprudent enough to commence an attack against a large body of regular troops. Such, however, was the step he chose to take, at the insti-

gation, as we afterwards found, of some of the rebel boors, who had fled amongst his people, in preference of appearing before the General in Bruyntjes Hoogté. Just as we came up with the main body a sudden alarm was raised in the rear. A Hottentot driver of one of the waggons was killed by a hassagai that had been thrown at him by some person posted in ambush. Kaffers began to appear in great numbers on all the heights, collecting, apparently, with a view to attack us; and several were observed close upon us lurking in the bushes. Being at this awkward juncture in a narrow defile, choaked almost with brushwood, and surrounded with Kaffers, we found it necessary to discharge two or three rounds of grape from two field-pieces, in order to clear the thickets.

The situation of the country became more and more embarrassing. It was a point that required some management to prevent a junction between the Kaffers, urged by the rebel boors to this act of aggression, and the dissatisfied Hottentots, that were every where flying from the persecutions of their masters. To get the latter down to the plains near Algoa Bay, as speedily as possible, was the most advisable measure; accordingly, accompanied by a few dragoons, I took charge of the Hottentots and their cattle, and we pursued our journey to the southward; whilst the General marched back into the Zuure Veldt, in order to pick up a party of infantry that had been stationed there, with a view of cutting off a retreat of the boors into the Kaffer country.

Whether it happened that, in passing through the woods, we had picked up some of the cattle belonging to the Kaffers, or

that they had a design upon those of the Hottentots that were driven before us, is not certain ; but on our arrival, towards the evening, at Zwart Kop's River, a number of the Kaffers were observed lurking among the thickets. About the middle of the night, the centinel, which we had placed by way of precaution, gave the alarm of an enemy. Upon this a serjeant of dragoons observing something move in the dark, rushed into the bushes, and, firing his pistol, brought a man to the ground. It was a young well-looking Kaffer about six feet high. He made great efforts to remain on his feet, but weakened by loss of blood, he was soon unable to stand without support. On examining his wound, we found the ball had entered just below the shoulder blade, and passed through the right breast. With some difficulty we contrived to stop the hemorrhage, and to bind up the wound, after washing it well with milk and water. From the distortions of countenance, and the large drops of sweat that ran over his body, it was very evident that he suffered a violent degree of pain ; but he neither vented a sigh nor a groan, nor could he be prevailed upon to open his lips, although spoken to in his own language by a Hottentot interpreter. We caused him to be carried into a clean straw hut, and milk in a curdled state to be brought to him, but he refused it. At an early hour in the morning I went to the hut to inquire after the patient's health, but he was gone. The *coffray*, or infidel, at the point of death, thought it safer to crawl into the woods, than to remain in the hands of Christians.

From Zwart Kop's River we proceeded to a plain that is contiguous to Algoa Bay, where, to our great astonishment, we found the whole of the boors and their families assembled,

who had been plundered by the Hottentots, with their cattle and waggons and the remains of their property, waiting our arrival ; in order, as they said, to claim protection against the heathens. It was a painful situation to be thus placed between two parties, each claiming protection, and each vowing vengeance against the other, without possessing the means of keeping them asunder. My whole strength consisted in about a dozen dragoons ; the Hottentots, great and small, amounted to upwards of five hundred ; and the boors, with their families, to about one hundred and fifty. Fortunately the Rattlesnake was still in the bay, and I obtained from Captain Gooch twenty armed seamen ; and, the more effectually to keep the contending parties in order, I caused a swivel gun to be mounted on a post immediately between the boors and the Hottentots.

In this state, after many days of anxiety, in which none passed without quarrels and bickerings between the boors and Hottentots, I received a letter from General Vandeleur, stating, that the Kaffers, instigated by the rebel boors, had been led to the bold measure of attacking his camp near Bosjesman's River, for the sake, as he supposed, of obtaining a supply of gunpowder ; that the latter had kept up a pretty brisk fire from behind the bushes, but that the Kaffers, finding it useless to oppose their long missile weapons against musquetry, retired for a moment but soon appeared again, rushing forward upon the open plain, with the iron part only of the Hasagai in their hands. That, however, after several rounds of grape from the field-pieces, and the fire of the infantry, by which numbers were killed, they retreated into the thickets.

These people soon perceived of how much greater advantage was a short weapon to a muscular arm, than a long missile spear, whose slow motion through the air makes it easily to be avoided. The blade of the Roman sword, which once conquered the world, was only about fifteen inches long, and such a sword would, perhaps, at this awful moment, be well suited for the nervous arm and the bold and invincible spirit of a Briton.

The same letter gave an account of an unfortunate affair that happened to Lieutenant Chumney and twenty men of the 81st regiment. This officer had been detached towards the sea-coast, and was returning to the camp at Bosjesman's River, when his party was surprized among the thickets by a large party of Kaffers, who attacked them hand to hand with the iron part of their Hassagais, the wooden shaft being previously broken off. This young officer defended himself bravely till sixteen of his party were killed. The remaining four, with a Dutch boor, got into a waggon that accompanied the detachment, and arrived safe at the camp. Poor Chumney was on horseback, and when the waggon set out had three Hassagais sticking in his body. Finding himself mortally wounded, and perceiving that the whole aim of the enemy was directed towards him, he made a sign to the waggon to drive off; and turning his horse, he set off in a contrary direction, pursued by the whole body of Kaffers; affording thus an opportunity for the small remains of his party to save their lives by flight.

In this situation of affairs the rebel boors, associated with the Kaffers, contrived to circulate a report among the Hot-

tentots at Algoa Bay, that it was the intention of the English to put them on board ship, and to send them to the Cape. Such an idea created no small degree of alarm among these poor creatures; and I observed on the following morning, that a great number had stolen away in the night; and, as we afterwards found, had joined the Kaffers. This malicious and ill-judged conduct of the boors was the cause of all the subsequent misfortunes that befel themselves and their countrymen, and ultimately brought on their own destruction. For it not only defeated our intention of carrying into effect such arrangements as were likely to have reconciled the two parties to each other; but it was, likewise, the means of bringing together an united force of Kaffers and Hottentots, whose first step was to drive all the boors out of their society, to plunder them of the rest of their cattle, set fire to their houses, and put several of them to death. Having cleared the whole of the lower part of Graaf Reynet, they advanced into the district of Zwellendam. Their whole hatred was levelled against the boors. English dragoons, travelling alone with dispatches, have frequently been met by large parties of these plunderers, and suffered to pass without molestation. Even a house, which they discovered at Plettenberg's Bay to belong to an English gentleman, they left undisturbed, whilst all the rest that fell in their way were burnt to the ground.

The same house, however, was afterwards plundered by a party of boors who had been collected by the magistrates of Zwellendam to clear the district of the Kaffers and Hottentots. These unprincipled men, either out of revenge, or from

an irresistible impulse to mischief, broke open the house, carried away clothing and every thing that was portable, drank all the wine and spirits they could find, and made themselves completely intoxicated. Yet the very men who committed those enormities were, at that moment, under the impression that their dearest connections (if it were possible any thing could be dear to such men), their wives, and children, were massacred by the enemy, into whose hands they knew them to have fallen. They had been met, it seems, a few days before, in a narrow pass by a party of Kaffers and Hottentots, and, as usual, on perceiving the enemy, mounted their horses and galloped away as fast as they could, leaving their wives and children and waggons in the possession of the robbers.

No outrage nor injury were offered to the prisoners, but, on the contrary, as on all similar occasions, they were treated with respect. They even dispatched a Hottentot after the fugitive boors to say, that if they chose to ransom their wives and children for a small quantity of powder and lead, and a dozen head of cattle, they should instantly be delivered up. It is natural to suppose that, under such circumstances, the ties of kindred affection would have superseded all considerations of prudence, and have stifled resentment; and that a proposal, which held out such easy terms for the recovery of their wives and children, would have been seized with avidity. This, however, was not the case. An African boor has no such feelings; his passions, uncontrolled by the powers of reason or reflection, are always predominant. One of the party, recognising the Hottentot, thus sent to them,

to have once been in his service, and recollecting he was now standing before them in the shape of an enemy, and defenceless, fired at once with rage and revenge, snatched up his musquet in his hand, and shot him dead upon the spot. Intelligence of this atrocious act was speedily conveyed, by the companion of the deceased, to the Kaffers and Hottentots; and it was reported, and believed, that they had in consequence put all the women and children to death. And under this impression, as I have just observed, the husbands and fathers of these women and children broke open Mr. Callender's house, and were dancing, in a state of intoxication, upon the green. The prisoners, however, were given up, notwithstanding the murder of the messenger; for they disdained, as they told them, to take away the lives of the innocent; but that they should soon find an opportunity of avenging the death of their countryman upon their husbands, together with the many injuries and oppressions under which they had so long been laboring.

It is painful to dwell on subjects that disgrace human nature, but as the atrocities of the African colonists have hitherto escaped the punishment of the law, all that can be done is to expose them to the horror and detestation of mankind. The following act stated officially to government by Mr. Vander Kemp, a missionary in Graaf Reynet, is enough to make one shudder at the name of a Cape boor. This zealous and intelligent man, on finding the Kaffers were not disposed to profit by his instructions, established himself under the sanction of government near the Sunday River, in order to try his success with the more tractable Hottentots.

His little village soon became an asylum for the poor fugitives, who, after their skirmishes with the boors, had concealed themselves among the rocks and thickets. They now fled to Mr. Vander Kemp as to a place of security, and to one on whom, being, as they considered him to be, in the service of the British government, they could place unbounded confidence. Among others, one poor fellow with his wife and child, in his way to the asylum, called at a boor's house in Langé Kloof of the name of Van Roy, a relation of the man who shot the three deserters, to ask for a little milk for his wife and child, who were nearly exhausted with hunger. The unfeeling monster seized the man, and bringing a loaded musquet, ordered a Hottentot in his service to shoot him; the Hottentot obstinately persisting to refuse, the exasperated boor snatched the gun and shot his own servant dead upon the spot, and then caused the other Hottentot with his wife and child to be murdered! If, observes Mr. Vander Kemp, atrocious deeds like these are to pass with impunity, the unfortunate Hottentots, not knowing whom to trust, will be driven to desperation, and a general insurrection will be the consequence.

It is, indeed, much less surprising that this nation should, at length, be roused to a spirit of vengeance, than that it should so long and so patiently have endured every species of injury. As pretended friends, and masters, the boors have always treated them with injustice and oppression; as enemies, with barbarous inhumanity. In their expeditions against the Bosjesmans, of which I have spoken at large in a former chapter, their chief aim is to murder the men, and

make the children slaves. I cannot convey a better idea in what manner they have been accustomed to conduct their hostile expeditions against the Kaffers, than by inserting a few articles of the instructions, proposed by the Landrost of one of the districts, to be given to the commandant.

“ Article 1st. No unnecessary cruelty to be exercised on
“ the prisoners, on pain of exemplary punishment.

“ Article 2d. The women and children, and *especially*
“ those of the Kaffers, that may happen to fall into the hands
“ of the *Commando*, are not to be mal-treated, nor the child-
“ ren taken away; but, on the contrary, to be safely re-
“ turned by a proper person to their respective families,
“ after the *late example shewn by the Kaffers* at Plettenberg’s
“ Bay.” (This alludes to the circumstances I have already
related.)

“ Article 3d. On the conquest of any kraal (village) the
“ huts are not to be set on fire, as usual; as there is every
“ reason for supposing that, *to this practice alone*, the
“ burning and plundering of our farm-houses are to be
“ ascribed.

“ Article 4th. *The dead carcasses of the enemy are not to be*
“ *violated*, as has usually been the practice of the evil-dis-
“ posed part of the *Commandos*, by *cutting them with knives*,
“ *lashing them with waggon whips*, and *hacking them with*
“ *stones*; as such conduct tends only to exasperate the enemy,
“ and induces them to commit murder.

“ Article 5th. It is not, perhaps, advisable for the boors,
“ *in the first instance*, to take away the cattle of the Kaffers ;
“ because, by doing this, the enemy will always be tempted
“ to hover round the *Commando* in order to watch a favor-
“ able opportunity to retake them ; besides, to guard a con-
“ siderable number of cattle, by requiring many men,
“ weakens the *Commando* ; they ought therefore to confine
“ their operations to the pursuit of the enemy, and to expel
“ them the country, by which *the whole of their cattle will, of*
“ *course, fall into the hands of the boors.*”

This curious production concludes by observing that,
“ although all the above points have been repeatedly urged
“ to the Commandants, it will avail nothing unless they be
“ enforced by the government.” He might have added,
that, removed as they were out of the reach and inspection
of government, no recommendation nor orders would be at-
tended to by men who were so completely under the do-
minion of their brutal passions. I should not have ventured
to give the fourth article of these extraordinary instructions
as authentic, had it not appeared before me as an official
document. The British government was much too mild and
moderate for a set of men of so odious a character as their
own countryman has here described them, in the articles of
his instructions. Such men will never become civilized until
they are “ ruled with a rod of iron.” The most lenient
measures, replete with every indulgence, have been tried
without success. Not one sentiment of gratitude ever escaped
them for a full pardon of all their offences, and the remission
of a large debt ; on the contrary, rebellion raised its head in

the same moment that indulgence was extended. So conscious, indeed, are they of their wickedness, that, whenever they escape punishment, they conclude that the government no longer possesses the power of inflicting it, and that it spares them only because it is convenient to let them alone. Yet to what a wretched condition might they be reduced, by forbidding them all access to the Cape, and depriving them of gunpowder.

However desirable it might have been to apprehend and punish the rebels, who had instigated the Kaffers to acts of hostility against the British troops, yet it was by no means advisable, in order to obtain that point, to wage an unequal contest with savages in the midst of impenetrable thickets, whose destruction would have added little lustre to the British arms, and been advantageous only to the very people who had urged them on. General Vandeleur, therefore, very prudently withdrew his forces, and marched them down to Algoa Bay, where part of them were embarked on board the *Rattlesnake*, and the rest intended to proceed to the Cape by easy marches. Subsequent events, however, delayed their departure, and rendered the presence of troops necessary at Algoa Bay until the evacuation of the colony.

Having delivered over the remaining Hottentots, on the return of the General, and finding I could be of no further use, I set out for the Cape, where, after a journey of sixteen days, performed with two horses, I arrived on the 8th of June.

Little occurred on the homeward journey that was worthy of observation, unless it was the visible change that had taken place in the behaviour of the people of Zwellendam. While the boors of Graaf Reynet were still in arms, the inhabitants of this neighbouring district appeared to be wavering, but on hearing of their complete reduction, they now pretended to condemn their conduct. Whatever the real sentiments of the colonists might be with regard to the British government, this was not their last attempt to effect their avaricious designs on the cattle of the Kaffers, by commencing hostilities against the magistrates and the small force left in Graaf Reynet for their protection. But these disturbances were merely local, and had plunder only for their object. All the other districts remained quiet; and long before the intelligence of a general peace had reached this country, the people were so much reconciled to the British government, as neither to expect nor wish for a return of their own.

In fact there is no natural tie between the Cape and the United Provinces. The greater part of the colonists, being the descendants of soldiers in German regiments, composed of Prussians, Hanoverians, Flemings, and Poles, and of French refugees who took shelter here after the revocation of the edict of Nantz, have neither knowledge of, nor family connections in, the states of the Batavian republic; nor have they any distinct idea of *Vaderland*, a word, however, that is constantly in their mouths. All they know is, that the Cape belonged to a company of merchants; that this company was

their sovereign ; and that they used to see a flag with three broad horizontal stripes, red, white, and blue, flying upon the castle, instead of the *Spinnekop*, or spider legs, as they called the British ensign. A few years more would therefore, in all probability, have rendered them, or the greater part of them, very indifferent as to the government under which they were to remain.

Some little rejoicing might, however, naturally be supposed to take place on seeing once again the same flag hoisted on the castle walls, which they had always been accustomed to look at ; and they would have shewn themselves a very worthless and despicable people not to have testified their feelings of joy on such an occasion. These rejoicings, however, were neither general nor tumultuous, nor of long duration ; they were chiefly confined within the castle walls. The recollection of the miserable condition of the colony at the capture, and the general prosperity that had rapidly succeeded it, seemed forcibly to have operated at this moment. From a state of poverty, and almost general bankruptcy, they were now grown individually rich. Instead of near half a million sterling, that for the last seven years had annually been expended in the colony by the army, the navy, and English settlers, they now began to consider that half of this sum might annually be taken out of their pockets for the maintenance of their future garrison. Little care, indeed, was taken to conceal that such would probably be the event, under the present exhausted state of the finances of the Batavian government.

lined with spectators ; not drawn together for the sake of expressing a boisterous joy usual on such occasions, but to take a melancholy farewell of their best friends. As General Dundas passed along with the Commissary General de Mist and the Governor Jansens, a dead silence prevailed ; not a word nor a murmur was heard. And the friendly and affectionate leave the Commanders in Chief of the two garrisons took of each other, after the delicate and trying situation in which, for the two last months, they had been placed, in consequence of the order from England countermanding the restoration of the settlement, was highly honorable to their feelings, both as men and officers. Few places, I believe, have been ceded by one power to another with more regularity and less commotion, than what happened at the restoration of the Cape of Good Hope, by General Dundas on the part of his Majesty's Government, to the representatives of the Batavian Republic.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

to prevent his becoming troublesome, recommended him to accept of a high appointment at the Cape of Good Hope, where, I understand, he arrived within a month after the evacuation, not as plain Mr. G——, late of the English East India Company's service, but as *Monsieur Le G——, Conseiller privé en intime de la République Batave auprès du Gouverneur et Conseil au Cap de Bonne Esperance.*

It also appeared, from the conduct of the three commissioners that were sent out to arrange certain points with the British government, that French interest was likely to predominate at the Cape. These gentlemen, though calling themselves Dutch, made a hard struggle, but without success, that the minutes of their joint transactions and correspondence with the commissioners that were appointed on the part of the British government, should be kept in the French language. In short, every step that was taken by the new government clearly evinced that, although the Batavian flag might be suffered to fly, French influence was likely to prevail. Long, indeed, before the peace, it was become pretty evident that Holland was not in a condition to make any successful struggle in defence of her integrity or existence, and that an incorporation with Belgium, and becoming a department of France, would, in all probability, be the final *Euthanasia* of their *High Mightinesses*, the United Provinces.

These and other considerations produced a gloominess and melancholy on the minds of the better disposed part of the colonists that bordered on despondency. When the day of evacuation arrived, the castle and the road to the wharf were



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