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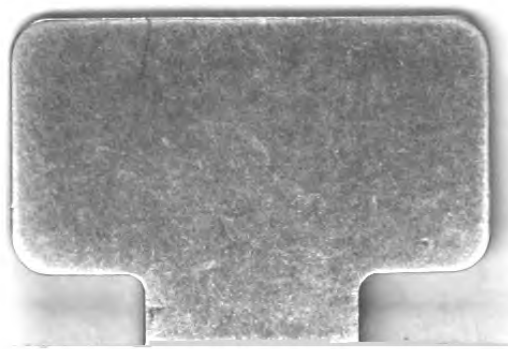
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THREE MONTHS' VISITATION
BY THE
BISHOP OF CAPETOWN
1855





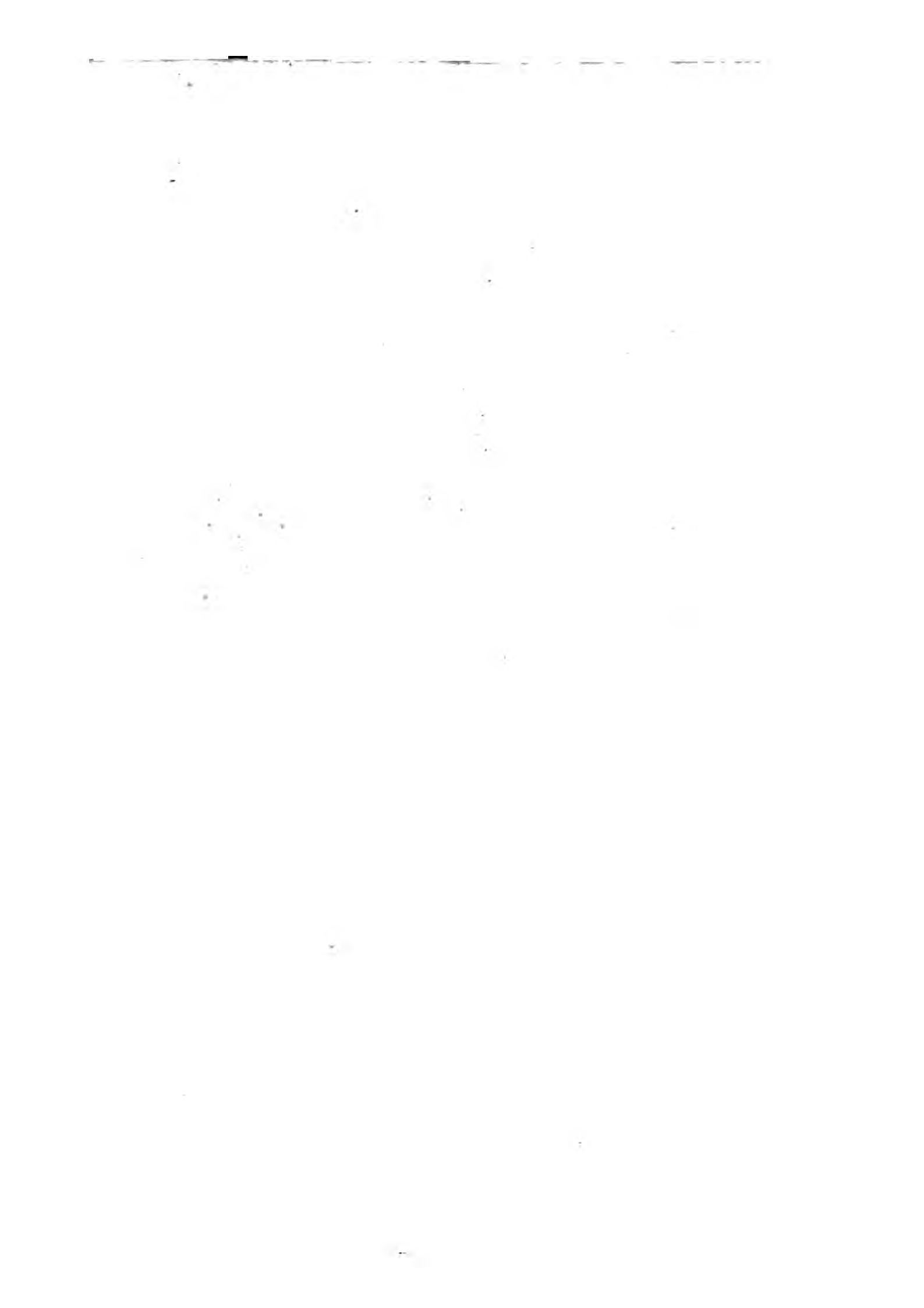
THREE MONTHS' VISITATION,

BY THE

BISHOP OF CAPE TOWN,

IN THE AUTUMN OF 1855.

LONDON
R. CLAY, PRINTER, BREAD STREET HILL.



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NEW HAVEN

THREE MONTHS' VISITATION,

BY THE

BISHOP OF CAPETOWN,

IN THE AUTUMN OF 1855 :

WITH

AN ACCOUNT OF HIS VOYAGE TO THE ISLAND

OF

TRISTAN D'ACUNHA,

IN MARCH, 1856.

WITH ORIGINAL SKETCHES BY MRS. GRAY,

PRINTED IN COLOURS.

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VISITATION JOURNAL.

I SHOULD be unwilling to commit the Journal of another Visitation Tour to the press, were it not for the desire which many members of the Church in England have to know what is the state and progress of the Church throughout the Empire,—and did I not feel that information was due to those warm and liberal supporters to whom it is impossible to write privately.

On former occasions publication seemed desirable, inasmuch as it enabled me not only to give general information about a country in which at the time a more than ordinary interest was felt; but also to lay before the Church a vast and almost untouched field of labour, and to make an appeal to her zeal, and love, and conscience, to enter upon it, and engage heartily in it. At the present time I have, comparatively speaking, little information to give. The country itself is better known. The wants and requirements of not the least interesting portions of it will, I

doubt not, be urged with greater force than I can hope to do, by my brother Bishops who are giving themselves to Christ's work in Graham's Town and Natal; and I have always felt that, in giving an account of the work of the Church in any country, one is very liable, insensibly and unintentionally, to convey wrong impressions as to its religious condition, inasmuch as the efforts of other Christian communities in it are of necessity less noticed than their magnitude deserves. For these reasons I should have preferred that in this Diocese we should have done our work—which is more than enough to absorb all our time and energies—in silence. The repeated calls, however, from home for more information as to what we are doing, and the recognition of the justice of the call on the part of those who maintain the work, lead me once more to lay before the Church the Journal of a three months' Visitation over a portion—it is but a portion—of my diminished Diocese. To any one who remembers the account given in former journals of the spiritual condition of the country I have travelled over, the perusal of the present volume will, I trust, bring the same comfort and encouragement which the actual looking upon the work accomplished during the last few years has brought to me; and the present condition of

the new villages which are on every side springing up, and the necessity there is for a more extended work among the Heathen, who are with increasing eagerness looking to us to take charge of them, and who are not yet half converted unto Christ, will be regarded, I hope and believe, as constituting a claim for continued and increased support on the part of the Church at home, without whose fostering care and love these poor sheep cannot be folded, or, feeble as they are when folded, be nurtured in the true faith of Christ, and the true life of God.

In sending forth this little volume, it may, perhaps, be both proper and acceptable to some, if I add a few words concerning those portions of the Diocese which are not included in the present Visitation — the Cape District, St. Helena, Namaqua Land.

The Cape District has, during the last two years, suffered greatly from the loss of Clergy. Nearly one-third of the Clergy of the Diocese have been lost to us since my return from England, altogether or for a time, by death, sickness, leave of absence, or preferment in England, and the Cape District has suffered from this loss more than any other. The misconduct, too, of one of the Clergy in this district has, in some degree, disturbed that harmony and good-will which

previously existed. The case, however, is, I am happy to say, a solitary one. Here, nevertheless, as elsewhere, notwithstanding these discouragements, the Church has made great progress during the last few years. In Capetown itself and its neighbouring parishes several new Schools have been founded, in which 1,300 children are receiving a Church education. Religious teachers for the coloured people have been fixed at Plumstead, Claremont, Papendorp; and in two of these very good congregations have been formed. Churches have been erected at Capetown (alas! unfinished for want of funds) at a cost of 3,000*l.*; Rondebosch, 4,500*l.*; Mowbray, 1,200*l.*; Claremont, 1,200*l.*; Stellenbosch, 800*l.*; and Wynberg has been enlarged. And all of these, or nearly all, are filled with devout congregations, and some already need enlargement. Our Mission work in Capetown is our weakest point. It has been impossible, during the absence of so many Clergy, to give that full amount of labour to it which it requires. A growing interest is, however, I am thankful to say, being felt in it.

In St. Helena, I fear we must confess, that we have lost ground. There has been one death there, and another Clergyman has been compelled to leave in a precarious state of health.

Their posts have been long vacant, and one is not yet filled up. The Baptists have taken advantage of our weakness, and we have, I fear, lost members. At nearly 1,800 miles' distance, with scarce any direct intercourse, and ships coming from the Island to the Cape only three or four times a-year, it is impossible for me adequately to discharge the office of a Bishop towards it. Why should it not have its own Bishop? I hope to visit it early next year, but this is very uncertain.

For Namaqua Land I am expecting daily a Clergyman. As the mines, however, are 200 miles apart, at least two Clergymen will be required for the proper discharge of spiritual duties towards the people. The heat of that barren land in summer,—the cold in winter,—the scattered nature of the population,—the unceasing labours of an itinerating life on horseback,—and the poorness of the accommodation, all serve to show that no ordinary man can adequately fulfil the office of the ministry there. I have not yet visited the mines, nor can I do so until I shall again have been to St. Helena.

If God spare me, I propose, after my return from thence, to proceed to them by land, taking in my way, as much as I am able to do, of the Malmesbury and Clanwilliam Districts which

I have never yet seen, and both of which contain a scattered English population. Eight years of my Episcopate, however, have passed away,—years of unceasing travelling, and yet I have never been able to traverse these regions. A thousand things may again intervene, as before, to change my views, or mar my endeavours, or I may be called to give account of my stewardship, even before I have surveyed it in all its length and breadth.

ON Thursday, the 23d of August, I started once more, after an interval of nearly five years, on visitation, intending to travel over the whole continental part of the Diocese, with the exception of the Namaqua Land Copper Mines. I reckon that this visitation will occupy just three months; and I hope to be able to reach certain places in the Diocese that I have not yet seen; to push forward the work of education in various places; to determine upon sites for two or three Missionary institutions or villages; and to press upon our people generally the necessity which exists for their making greater exertions than they have hitherto done towards the support of their own Clergymen. Englishmen, who have always been accustomed to regard their Church

as established,—and to consider that being established means being supported by the State, and costing them nothing,—find it very difficult to realize the fact that ours is, to a very great extent, a voluntary Church, and that, if they are to have spiritual ministrations, they must pay, and pay largely for them. The assaults upon ecclesiastical grants in our new Parliament are forcing this upon the thoughts of many. I trust that they may lead to increased efforts to put our Church upon such a footing, that when State aid is altogether withdrawn, she may be able to stand alone without leaning upon external support. This, however, will not be the case until the members of the Church learn more generally to consider that God claims for His worship and service a tenth of all that He has given to them. God helping, I mean to press this duty upon their attention more and more.

I was delayed one day longer than I intended in town, by a painful case of discipline. Up to the last moment I was engaged in hearing the defence of a brother Clergyman against the but too just complaints of his brethren. I was obliged to admonish and censure him severely. It was the more painful because he is a man of zeal and devotion. The whole case has been

published. I trust the result will be that men will be more guarded and careful as to what they allow themselves to say of others. This delay prevented my holding Services, as I had promised to do, at four o'clock at Houw Hoek, a hamlet in the parish of Caledon, where Monthly Services are held, and where I should rejoice to see a Schoolmaster placed, who might also conduct Services when the Clergyman is not present.

I travel on this Visitation, accompanied by my wife, in a light wagon, which I had built hoping that four horses would draw it. I find, however, that it requires six. At Eerste Rivier we passed the little Church which I had hoped to consecrate, but which is still not quite finished. We slept at the village of Somerset. Alas! we are doing nothing here. The Wesleyans take charge of the coloured people. The Dutch have their Church and Minister. The English at present are not in sufficient numbers to justify the appointment even of a Catechist. The whole expense of his maintenance would for years fall upon me. The fact that there is a small watering-place growing up in the neighbourhood of this pretty village, which is much frequented during the summer months, will probably compel me ere long to do something.

Friday, 24th.—The late rains had so completely ploughed up Sir Lowry Cole's Pass, that we found it difficult to get up it, and I congratulated myself that I had come with six horses. We accomplished, however, fifty miles in about nine hours, sleeping at my old friend Colonel Shaw's farm. On the following morning we drove into Caledon after breakfast, and were delighted to see our little Church, which is a neat early English building, standing up in the best situation in the village, and the most conspicuous object in it. The village itself is greatly increased since I last saw it. I went down to inspect the Church on my arrival, and found everything in excellent order. Unfortunately, the Church Committee had painted all the sittings, pulpit, and reading-desk, and the sittings had doors upon them. These little mistakes will, I hope, be remedied. In the vestry I found already a library of one hundred volumes, which are, I understand, a good deal read by the parishioners. At eleven o'clock the consecration of the Church took place. There was an attentive congregation. I preached. Afterwards the churchyard, and a burial-ground at some distance from the village, were consecrated. At three o'clock there was Afternoon Service. One adult was baptized after the

Second Lesson, and thirty-four were confirmed, several having been prevented from reaching the village by the swollen state of the rivers. All were very devout and attentive. In the afternoon, Mr. Wilshere, the Clergyman of the parish, with whom we were staying, invited a party of the parishioners to luncheon. In the evening we had the Churchwardens to dinner; when we talked over the present state of the parish, and the still remaining needs to be supplied. It appeared that there is still a debt of 200*l.* upon the Church, towards the liquidation of which 50*l.* are in hand; 50*l.* more will, it is hoped, be raised before the end of the year. The Church has cost altogether 1,200*l.* In England it certainly would have been built for 500*l.* When nearly finished, the roof was blown off; and there have been other difficulties to contend with, which have rendered its erection more costly than it otherwise would have been. It still needs a porch at the west end, and a wall round the churchyard, of which the foundations are already laid. The cost of these will be upwards of 100*l.* There seems no immediate prospect of raising funds for the erection of a parsonage-house, which I greatly regret. The Churchwardens presented me with a subscription-list, amounting to 100*l.*, towards the maintenance of

a Deacon-schoolmaster, to reside in Caledon, and take duty on Sundays at the outlying stations, or release Mr. Wilshere for that purpose. There are four such out-stations at this time, at distances varying from twenty to fifty miles from the Church. At the most distant, Services are at present held only once in three months. If a second Clergyman can be maintained, a better education than can now be had within the district may be afforded, and these outposts be perhaps each supplied with a Monthly Service. For the support of a Clergyman, who must keep at least one horse for this purpose, an income of 200*l.* a-year will be required. I have offered to give 50*l.* a-year towards this object, if the parishioners will raise 150*l.*, and take the responsibility upon themselves of guaranteeing the income. This, it was resolved, should be attempted to be carried out. Next, it was agreed that, if possible, we should endeavour to plant Schools, and erect School-chapels at the four chief Stations—Villiers Dorp, Houw Hoek, River Zonder End, and the Strand-veldt. Towards the support of Teachers at each of these I promised 20*l.* a-year; the Teachers' duties being to instruct all who might be willing to be instructed, both black and white; and, if qualified, to read Prayers and a Sermon on those

Sundays when the Clergyman was not able to be present. If these objects can all be carried out, as complete a supply of the means of grace, as we can hope to furnish in our present state, will have been provided. May God give His blessing to the effort!

On Sunday we had a full Church. I preached both morning and afternoon. In the morning forty-eight presented themselves at the Holy Communion. In the afternoon I confirmed two more, a father and his son, who had not been able to reach the village on the previous day. Of the thirty-six candidates twenty-one were males, a very unusual proportion. The only thing which disappointed me in these Services was the absence of the coloured people. None were present. Those in the village are under the instruction of a young man ordained by the founders of a new sect, called the Apostolic Union. He acts as Schoolmaster and religious instructor, and has got a School-chapel erected in the village. I believe him to be both earnest and useful. I called upon him, and upon the Dutch Minister, for a few minutes in the evening, as I was to leave early in the morning. The remainder of the evening was spent in conversing with the parishioners who had come from a distance.

Monday, 27th.— We started early in my wagon for the Strand-veldt. A cart had been sent on before to the foot of the mountain over which we had to pass. Here we left the wagon, which was to proceed on to Mr. Macfarlane's farm, which we were to reach on Wednesday evening. The road to the Strand is none of the best. It lies over a bare and bleak country, very thinly inhabited. The season of flowers is now, however, coming on, and we met with several very beautiful kinds. Before dark we arrived at Mr. Morris' farm, where Service is to be held to-morrow, and were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Morris very hospitably.

Tuesday, 28th.—About eleven o'clock a party of about sixty persons, of whom perhaps one-fourth were coloured, gathered about Mr. Morris' house, where notice had been given that Divine Service would be held. I offered the Prayers and preached; Mr. Wilshere read the Lessons, and baptized two children. The house was completely full. I spoke to the people assembled as plainly as I could about their duties and responsibilities, cut off as they are to so great an extent from the public means of grace, and urged them to exert themselves to make better provision for their own and their dependants' spiritual wants. After Service was over, we held

a kind of meeting in front of the house, at which it was resolved to attempt the erection of a School-chapel in a suitable locality, together with a Teacher's house ; and a committee was formed with a view to raise subscriptions, and to carry out the work to its completion. I promised to aid them, both in the erection of the building, and in the maintenance of the Teacher. It was arranged that the gentlemen who formed the committee should meet to-morrow with a view to fix upon a site.

At two o'clock we proceeded through a more pleasing country than that which we were leaving, to the Moravian Missionary Institution of Elim, which I had never yet visited. We arrived about an hour before dark, and were received most kindly by Mr. Nauhaus, the superior. With him we walked over the village, which consists of four streets of tolerable mud houses, a large Church, and the residences of the Missionaries. In this Institution there are about 1,300 inhabitants, all Hottentots, with the exception of a few Mozambiques. The situation is not picturesque, and far inferior to Genadendal. The farm consists of between 7,000 and 8,000 morgen, perhaps 15,000 acres, and is well adapted for sheep and horses. There are about 3,000 sheep on it; and not less than 300 horses

were lost by the fearful horse-sickness of the last few months, which destroyed so many thousand horses throughout the colony, and the nature and causes of which are not yet thoroughly understood. There are good gardens separated from the houses. I could not clearly gather from the brethren upon what this Institution depends for its support. Each householder has his garden. These, with the houses, they may dispose of, but only to other members of the Institution. They pay no rent; and it is only within the last year, during a visit of their Bishop from Europe, that it was arranged that each householder should contribute a certain sum towards the support of the Institution. Of the 3,000 sheep, only about 500 belong to the brethren. There is a shop upon the farm, and I inferred that it was upon this that the Institution mainly depended for its support.

At seven o'clock we had a frugal supper; after which we went to Church, where the Service consisted first of a psalm sung, then of several psalms read, and then of singing again. The Church looked full, and there were about 250 present. There is always a Service of some kind or other every evening. We retired before eight o'clock to our rooms.

Wednesday, 29th.—After an early breakfast, we left the Institution, and travelled through a country which had no objects of interest except a few new flowers, to Breda's dorp, which is full three hours, or twenty miles, distant. The more I see of the Mission work and of the Institutions, in at least this western part of the colony, the more do I feel convinced that the day has gone by for establishments precisely of this character. The country is growing out of its heathen state. It is more than half converted and half civilized. That the Institutions, especially those under the charge of the excellent Moravian brethren, have been a very great protection and blessing to the coloured races, there can be no doubt. They have been the home, the shelter, the refuge of a people who would otherwise have been oppressed, and perhaps crushed. In them they have been gathered into a community and people, and nursed in faith and knowledge, and acquired both property and some degree of independence. But it seems to me that the existing system, which has brought them thus far, is not calculated, in the present state of things, either to advance their own welfare, or to promote the general progress and welfare of the colony. Under the existing system, it does not seem possible that the Hot-

tentot race can advance much further. In neither of the great Institutions in this district can they acquire absolute property in the soil; at Elim they are little more than tenants. At Genadendal they can only sell their cottages and erven, with consent of the Missionaries, to those who belong to the Institution. The effect of all this is that there are large masses of people thrown together of one race, one class, one degree of civilization, without any intermixture of men of a higher stamp of education or civilization. Both Institutions, especially Genadendal, where there are more than 3,000 people, appear to me to be too large for the good of the people themselves, and at the latter place I understand that they are too many for the land, which is getting worked out. I shall be very glad to see these, and all other Institutions, converted into villages, the property of the inhabitants, and to see many similar but smaller villages, each with their school and church, rising up in other parts of the district. This might, I believe, be accomplished by any one who had capital enough to purchase a farm, and to go without interest for a few years. In due course of time I believe such villages would support both school and teacher. Had I sufficient funds to make the experiment upon a large

scale, and fit men to teach the people, I would undertake the formation of such a Missionary village. I am told that one of the London Missionaries in the district of George is carrying out such a plan, and has given 4,000*l.* for the farm. I can conceive no plan more likely to rouse the coloured race to exertion than that of helping them thus to become proprietors of the soil. In a very few years they would pay back the whole purchase-money; and, with the prospects of independence before them, they would be in a more contented condition than they are now represented to be. That their present condition is not a healthy one I gather from a great variety of things which I have heard mentioned in different quarters, as I have passed through the district.

The village of Breda's-dorp is not unpleasantly situated on a rising ground, commanding a view of the distant sea. Not being on a high road, and there being no great supply of water, it is not likely soon to grow to any great size. There is a Dutch Church here, which was being greatly enlarged. A schoolmaster recently come out from Holland has an inferior Government school. Hearing that there were scarcely any English here, I had omitted on former journeys to visit this place, having so much more important and

pressing work before me. For the same reason, Mr. Wilshere had never yet seen it, lying as it does so much out of his ordinary beat, and fifty miles from Caledon. With him, however, I sought out, on our arrival, all the English families in the village, and found from a list given me by Mr. Danvers, who was in charge of Mr. Barry's store, that there are not less than eighty English people, of all ages, residing here. Several of these were "Juvenile Emigrants," sent out by the "Children's Friend Society," and married to coloured people. Of these emigrants, in passing, I may observe, that some have sunk into a low and degraded condition, little, if at all, better than that of the heathen, while others have succeeded well, and are in a thriving condition. One, at least, in this district is in possession of a fine farm. Having given no notice, it was impossible to gather the people together for Service during the two hours that we remained in the village. I promised the people, however, that Mr. Wilshere should ere long come over to them on a Sunday, if a place could be procured for him to hold Service in. They expressed themselves as very glad to hear of this, and Mr. Danvers promised to give the proper notice. I trust that when Mr. Glover leaves Capetown for his mission in the Lange

Kloof, he may be able to spend a Sunday at Caledon, and release Mr. Wilshere for this purpose. The situation of these people, many of whom have resided in the village for several years, and the greater number of whom are members of the Church, but who have never yet had the means of grace supplied to them in English, illustrates the condition of too many of our brethren still in this land, and the difficulty of providing them with means of grace. Had I sufficient funds to justify me in taking such a step, I should at once write home for a Catechist or Deacon-schoolmaster, who might support himself, partly by keeping a school, and who might both supply the English with ministrations, and act as Missionary to the coloured people. Of these latter there seems to be the usual proportion: they have, I am told, a place assigned them in the Dutch Church, but few attend, and I do not hear that any efforts are made for their instruction save through means of the Government School.

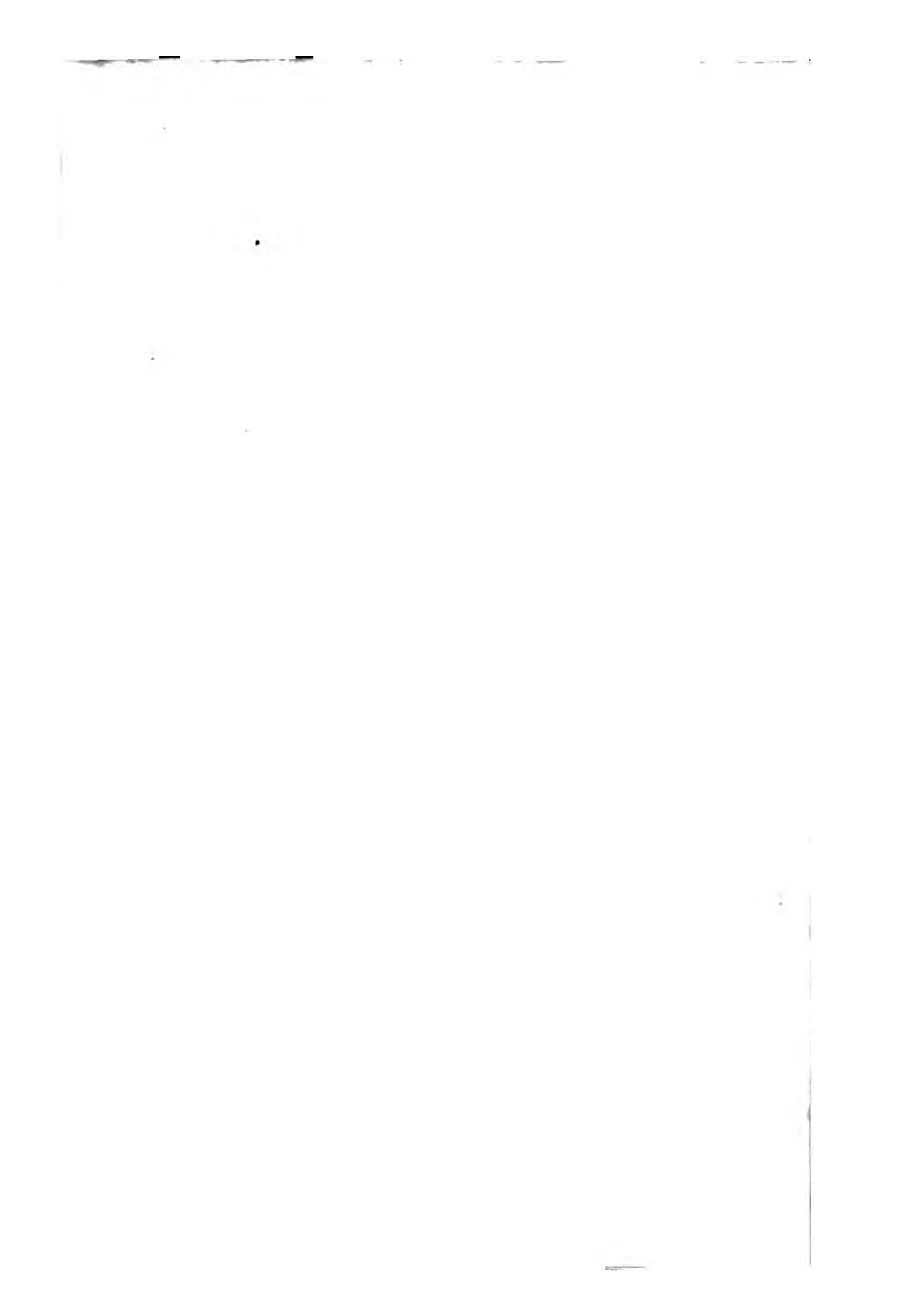
From this place we moved on to the village of Napier's-dorp, about two hours' distance, where we again outspanned. The village is prettily situated, on the side of a hill. It has a Dutch Church and School. The minister we had met at Breda's-dorp, at the house of the Clergyman

of that place, upon whom we called. There are but few houses in the village. We found only two Englishmen, both of whom had married Dutch wives, and the children could speak no other language than Dutch.

From this place we proceeded on three hours further to Mr. Macfarlane's farm, where my wagon had been for the last three days, and where we were to sleep. They received us most kindly, and regaled us sumptuously. After supper we had the whole household, including the coloured people and a few neighbours, in to prayers. I preached, or rather expounded a chapter to them; the room was quite full. Mr. Macfarlane afterwards promised to gather the people together on those Sundays when he could not get to Church, which is distant twenty miles, and hold Service, and endeavour to instruct the coloured people around him in the faith of Christ. All of them expressed a great desire to be taught. Mr. Wilshere occasionally holds Service here, but it is impossible for him, unaided, to attend properly to all these various outposts. Mr. Macfarlane expressed his intention of building a School-chapel near his house. I promised to contribute one-fourth of the expense.

Thursday, 30th.—After an early breakfast we

proceeded to Nether Court, a little more than three hours distant, where Divine Service was to be held at eleven o'clock. There were not so many persons present here as was expected; the attendance was only forty. I preached to them with reference to their duties and responsibilities as Christ's witnesses in this heathen land. After Service we held a meeting, at which it was resolved to attempt the erection of a School-chapel at a place about six miles distant. There are difficulties in the way, but a committee was formed with a view to raise subscriptions and carry out the plan. After Service we proceeded to the house of Mr. Vigne, a member of the Upper House, where we were to remain for the night. On arriving here, he informed me that, on the very day that I visited Elim, a Hottentot deputation came to him with a letter signed by between eighty and ninety heads of families at Elim, praying him to urge me to found an Institution for them, and take them under the Church's charge. The letter was written in very extraordinary Dutch, and was difficult to decipher. This is an illustration of the way in which the Missionary work is opening out in this land. I have long been anxious to do something for the coloured people in this district, but I should be very sorry to do any-



[The text in this section is extremely faint and illegible. It appears to be a large block of text, possibly a list or a series of paragraphs, but the characters are too light to be transcribed accurately.]

thing which might be construed into opposition to the United Brethren, and I have told Mr. Vigne that I should be unwilling to plant a village within twenty miles of either of their Institutions.

Friday, 31st.—Six hours' drive over the road I have so often traversed brought us to Swellendam. At some distance from the village I was met by the Minister and Churchwardens, and two other gentlemen, who came out to welcome me. We took up our quarters at Mr. Baker's, the Clergyman of the parish, who had, I fear, at much inconvenience to himself, made room for us. I was glad to find Mrs. Baker better than she of late has been. Their house is close to the Church, which we went to inspect immediately upon our arrival. The roof is now being put on, after having been once blown off and half destroyed. The Church is of stone, and of the Early English style, and is a correct and pretty building. Unfortunately, the west end, which was put up by inferior masons, is out of the perpendicular, and so badly built that it can never bear the weight of the belfry. At a meeting of the Church Committee next day I proposed that it should be taken down, and offered to assist the parishioners if they acted upon my recommendation. This Church has

been long in erection, and there have been many difficulties. It will have cost upwards of 1,000*l.* when completed. The whole of Saturday was taken up in writing letters upon an anxious subject, in receiving visitors, and in discussing the Church with the Committee. If the west end is to be pulled down, it will not, I fear, be ready for consecration upon my return. We had a party of the parishioners to dine in the evening.

Sunday, Sept. 2d.—At Service this morning in the Government School-room we had about one hundred present, and twenty communicants. I preached to them plainly and earnestly upon the present duties and responsibilities of the members of our Church, and our grounds for anxiety and joy. In the afternoon I attended the Sunday School, which supplies the only Church education there is in this whole district. It consists of about fifty children; I found several in the first class well instructed. In the evening I held a Confirmation; there were fifteen candidates, chiefly females. The room was crowded to excess. The Churchwardens said there were three hundred in it, and near one hundred outside, unable to find room. I preached no sermon, but endeavoured to make my address applicable to all present, Dutch as well as

English. Confirmations always excite a deep interest; many come to them merely as a spectacle,—others, I believe, for better reasons. We can, I think, scarcely overrate the importance of them to the life and growth of the Church. One who had been a Socinian, but has by God's mercy been led to the truth, after this Confirmation, expressed his desire to partake of this solemn rite.

Monday, 3d.—Great part of the day spent in returning visits and in writing letters. In the evening Mr. Baker had a large gathering of the parishioners. Two of the members of the Church Committee have been all round the village raising funds for pulling down and rebuilding the west gable. Before the day was closed they had obtained the requisite funds. Our work is, I fear, still but a feeble one in this district; the Church has had, and still has, many difficulties to contend with in it. Since I was last here not less than three new villages have sprung into existence. These have never yet been visited; I trust that I may be able to arrange to hold Services in them all on my return. There is always a small English population, frequently of a very loose character, in these new villages; and Mr. Barry told me to-day that he thinks there are not less than

fifty Englishmen on the farms at the back of the Swellendam mountain.

Tuesday, 4th.—To-day we proceeded to Port Beaufort, where Mr. T. Barry has built a School-chapel, in which he holds a Service every Lord's Day. There were nearly fifty people present at the Service which I held in the evening. Afterwards I visited a young woman dying of consumption, who was a Roman Catholic. On my former Visitation I had confirmed her brothers, but she declined to be confirmed. I found her in a very pleasing state of mind,—very humble, very earnest, and very anxious. She had long given up the practice of praying to the Blessed Virgin, and was addressing her prayers solely to God through Christ, in whom alone she put her trust.

Wednesday, 5th.—Before we had accomplished half of our day's journey we met Mr. Belson, the Clergyman of Riversdale, coming out to meet us with a son of Captain Rainier, and a few miles further on, the Captain himself and Mr. Becker,—the two zealous Churchwardens. We had some pleasant conversation about the parish and the work as we walked together for an hour. Arrived at Riversdale, we stopped at the Church, the walls of which are about half-way up. It is built of a dark blue, and very

hard stone, in courses, and hammer dressed, and is of the Early English style. Its cost will be at least 1,300*l.*, and it will hold less than two hundred people; such is the cost of building in this expensive country. It excites a good deal of interest in the village, and will, when completed, be a great ornament to it. My only regret is that all our churches in this land will be of the same style of architecture, and of the same character. Economy compels us to be contented with bell-turrets instead of towers, and Early English instead of Decorated or Norman buildings. I find the village much improved since I last was in it; it is nearly double its former size, and there are many excellent houses. Pre-eminent amongst others stands that of my friend Captain Rainier, who is the deservedly popular magistrate of the district, and who, before the appointment of a Clergyman, held Service regularly for a long time for the people. His house is like a good English Rectory, with gables like our old houses, and with rooms of an English character. It is a great step in advance in the way of civilization to have such a house erected in a remote country village in South Africa. After dinner I went over with Captain Rainier and Mr. Belson to the Night School held by the latter for the coloured races. There

were sixteen present, all unbaptized. Mr. Belson catechised them in Dutch, having learnt the language during the year that he has been in the colony. Next morning,—after conversing with a candidate for confirmation, who was most anxious to be permitted to partake of that holy rite, but for whom I thought a longer probation was needful, because until his conversion, which was of late occurrence, he had been both a drunkard and a blasphemer,—I went with our kind host and Mr. Belson to see the parishioners; visiting, however, in the first instance, the excellent minister of the Dutch Church, who has always shown a kind and conciliatory spirit, which has not always been adopted towards our infant Church. In the course of the day we visited also the Mission School, which has only just been established, but in which there are already nineteen pupils, who each pay a dollar (1s. 6d.) per month for their education. In the afternoon there was a party to dinner, including the Dutch minister; and in the evening I held a Confirmation in the Court-house, which is used as a temporary Church, and fitted up as reverentially as it is possible under the circumstances. There were nine candidates, who had been under training by Mr. Belson for nearly a year. The room was crowded with white and

coloured people, and there were many who could not obtain admittance. After Service we had some further conversation on the subject of schools; and Mr. Belson, who has come out without any promise of a stipend, to spend, as well as to be spent, in his Master's service, offered 200*l.* towards the erection of a parsonage house, upon a piece of ground recently purchased for that purpose. I promised to assist him to the extent of my power. As there is already a school, built through the zealous exertions of a Christian lady residing in the village, Mr. Belson will have, at no distant day, Church, School, and Parsonage.

Friday, 7th.—We left Riversdale at eight o'clock, after an early breakfast, for Mossel Bay, where I have recently stationed a Deacon-schoolmaster, and a house and School-chapel are in the course of erection. I have been much struck in this journey with the great improvement in the roads since my last Visitation. I began with a wagon and eight horses. I have now only six; with a little more improvement, I think I might venture upon a light cart and two horses. I have been most painfully struck, also, with the tokens of the dreadful scourge that has recently passed over this land, which the skeletons of dead horses strewed along the

road present. I know not how many thousands are said to have died of the horse-sickness. At our first outspan I fell in with an Englishman with whom I had some conversation. Upon pressing him on the subject of prayer, and the kind of life he was leading, he began by telling me that he was an Independent, and objected to forms; but, very much to his credit, resolved, before our conversation closed, to establish family prayer and a Sunday Service in his house, using some of the prayers in the Prayer-book, and to go into Riversdale, at least on the great festivals, to Church. He told me that he had an uncle an Independent Minister, and a cousin a Curate. There are many hundred Englishmen, scattered, like this man, up and down the country; living, I fear, in almost every case without God in the world. Many of these have been folded and brought to feel some anxiety about themselves, through the zealous ministrations of our increased staff of Clergy; and many more will, I trust, when all our parishes shall be formed, be brought to God by their means: meantime, they bring misery upon themselves, and discredit upon all Englishmen by the lives that too many of them lead. Our second outspan was at the Gouritz River. This—which is, I think, the most dangerous of all the South

African rivers—still remains unbridged. Till the last few days it has been very deep. We found the descent into it very steep, and thought it prudent to get out, and help to keep the wagon from falling over by holding it down with riems. Before we had got into the boat which was to ferry us over, we saw the wagon stuck fast in the middle of the river in a quicksand. After plunging violently for a time, the horses gave in, and I began, as I saw them droop, and sink deeper and deeper, to fear that we should lose them. We hurried over as fast as possible, and all rushed into the river, to assist in lifting the wagon out of the deep sand in which it was imbedded. Fortunately, there were several ox-wagons at the drift, so that we had a strong force of men to help us. With our united efforts we succeeded in getting the wagon through its difficulties, and in rescuing our horses from a watery grave. The man at the ferry told me that in one day this week he had carried over three wagons piecemeal in his rickety ferry-boat. Cape wagons are easily taken to pieces and put together again. We arrived at a farm at Stink River just before dusk. At first we thought we were to meet with but a cold reception. Gradually, however, we were kindly welcomed, and passed a quiet night in

a comfortable farm-house. Before ten o'clock on Saturday morning we arrived at Mossel Bay, and were heartily greeted by Mr. and Mrs. Sheard, with whom we lodged. Mr. Sheard was brought up at Battersea, and was for some time teacher of my parish school at Stockton. Mrs. Sheard was trained by me from childhood to be a teacher. I ordained him last Christmas. It was a great comfort to me to hear the magistrate of the place, and others of the parishioners, bear their testimony to the good already done by him. They told me that the moral condition of the village had been greatly improved since he came. His work is not light: he keeps school every day except Saturday, and has two full Services on Sunday.

After breakfast we went to look at the School-chapel and house: the latter is not yet quite completed; the former is an exceedingly neat building, with open roof, and with a portion railed and curtained off for a Chancel. It is very neatly and reverentially fitted up. The building will serve for a few years the double purpose of School and Chapel. When the congregation is large enough, and rich enough, we shall, I trust, have a good stone Church, similar to those rising up on every side. We have an excellent site for a Church already

secured; it commands a fine view of the Bay. Mossel Bay, or Aliwal, is a good deal increased since I was last here; it is gradually rising into a town. When the new road over Meiring's Pass into the interior, which is soon to be undertaken, shall be accomplished, it is expected that the trade will greatly increase. The growth of all these villages, however, is quite rapid enough for the well-being of the Church. As it is, the Church is the only body that cares for the English portion of the population. This consists, of course, not exclusively of Churchmen, but also of Presbyterians, Methodists, Independents, &c. These are, for the most part, being gradually drawn into the communion of the Church. Were the advance of the various villages more rapid, schisms and divisions would probably arise. As it is, we are spared this great evil, and men are being moulded and fashioned into one body and Church. In the afternoon I called on several of the parishioners, more especially the few communicants; and we walked along the charming grass walk to the point or promontory called St. Blaize, which will probably one day be the fashionable walk of a thriving seaport, and be studded with villas and cottages.

Sunday, 9th.—The Services of this day have been a great comfort and encouragement to me,

considering how short a time the work of the Church has been carried on here, Mr. Sheard having only been nine months in the place. In the morning I found thirty-three children in the Sunday School. At each Service the School-chapel was quite full with a very respectable and orderly congregation, many of whom knelt and repeated the responses audibly. At the Holy Communion there were ten who presented themselves to partake of the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. At the Confirmation there were eight candidates—five male and three females—most of whom seemed to feel very deeply the obligations and blessedness of that Service to which they were about once more to pledge themselves. Of these, as elsewhere, several were the children of Presbyterians and Wesleyans. I thought it best at each Service to address the congregations as plainly and simply as I could, without any written discourse.

Monday, 10th.—Examined Mr. Sheard's school. There were forty-two present. Already the most unpractised eye may discover the work of a superior teacher. I was pleased and surprised with the amount of the pupils' knowledge. It cannot but be, that in a few years, if he is spared to this place, a population will be growing up around him, both intelligent and religious, to

reward him for his labours. After the examination walked to St. Blaize Point, where I had a very enjoyable swim in a large natural basin among the rocks. On my return, I wandered back amongst the evergreen shrubs which line the coast down to the water's edge, and some of which are very beautiful ; some of them are aromatic, and one had a flower with a sweet and luscious scent, somewhat like the white daphne. In the afternoon I called, with Mr. Sheard, upon some of the poorer parishioners. All spoke very gratefully of their increased means of grace, and some are contributing very largely to the 100%. a-year which they guarantee towards Mr. Sheard's support. Afterwards, we held a meeting of the Building Committee. There is still a small debt upon the school ; half the offertories are to go to liquidate this ; the other half to the support of the ministry. We had a good deal of conversation about Government grants for educational purposes. I found the members of the Church fretting under the effect of the existing system. They say that its working here is to defeat the voluntary efforts of individuals who are striving to give a sound education to their children ; for there are two schools in the place, one belonging to the Dutch Church, and held in the vestry of

that Church ; the other belonging to the English, and held in a building erected by them, at a cost of 500*l*. The former of these has Government assistance, and received last quarter, it is said, 28*l*. The latter receives nothing ; but the people guarantee their teacher 100*l*., and take the fees as payment in part. The former, however, thus largely aided by Government, can afford to offer education to all classes for a mere trifle ; the latter is obliged to charge large fees. The effect of this is, that many children, who would receive their education in the school supported by the people, and pay for it, if there were not a rival school, nearly free, at hand, avail themselves of the free education, and thus diminish the resources of the people's own school, and render it more difficult to support it. I have recommended them to lay their grievances before the Superintendent-General of Education, who may be shortly expected on a tour of inspection, and urge him to put both schools on the same footing, which seems to be the only fair system in a place circumstanced like this, where the population is about equally divided. The fact that there are already forty-two children in Mr. Sheard's school, paying for their education, is a proof of the estimation in which his teaching is held.

In the evening several of the parishioners came to tea.

Tuesday, 11th.—Left for George, outspanned at the Great Brack River. There is something like a small village growing up here. I understood that there was a considerable increase in the coloured population in this neighbourhood; it is a good situation for a school. As we approached George, we met a party of gentlemen who had ridden out to welcome us. The village does not seem as much increased since I was last here as some others. We took up our quarters at my dear friend's the Archdeacon's, whose house is greatly improved, and which wears all the appearance of an English rectory.

The next morning after our arrival, it began, as usual, to rain. We congratulated ourselves, however, that with bad weather all around us, we had travelled thus far, upwards of three hundred miles, without a wet day. As the rain prevented people from calling, I employed myself in writing a sermon, which the great pressure of other work had prevented my doing, for this place. Thursday was spent chiefly in receiving people, and visiting the schools. Friday and Saturday in a similar manner. On Saturday evening I held a Confirmation, when ninety-five candidates presented themselves, a larger number

than the whole congregation consisted of on my first Visitation. The Church was crowded, and all seemed devout and attentive. The candidates appeared both to understand and feel their position. White and coloured were confirmed together; amongst the latter was an old woman, I am told, nearly one hundred years old; she trembled exceedingly, and I thought would fall. On Sunday morning we again had a crowded Church. I preached and endeavoured to stir up the people to do more for the advancement of Christ's kingdom in this still half-converted land. We had seventy-five communicants. In the afternoon we had a special Service in the School-chapel of the coloured people, consisting of the Communion Service and a sermon. I preached to them as simply as I could, in English, which I was told they could sufficiently understand. There was a very nice, orderly, and reverent congregation. After the sermon the Archdeacon and myself administered the Holy Communion to fifty members of the congregation in Dutch. It was the first time I had ever officiated in that language, and I fear my pronunciation is very defective. I feel ashamed that after some years' residence in this country, I should not be able to preach in Dutch. There is, however, some excuse. At home I never

hear the language spoken, and not very often in the country. I can read it tolerably, but I have been so overworked ever since I have been in this land, that I have never had time thoroughly to study it. It is one of the greatest trials of my life that I am obliged to cast aside books altogether. My life is spent in writing, in business, and in unceasing action, and there is always work left undone, and pressing upon me. The Dutch language is, I think, gradually disappearing, at least in the villages. In another generation it will nearly have died out in them, though it will probably linger for a much longer period in the more remote country districts. It will disappear more rapidly in some districts than in others; for in some there is a great desire on the part of the farmers to learn the English language: in others, there is a strong prejudice against it as a foreign language. Thus in many districts the schoolmasters are brought out from Holland, and understand but little English; in others, teachers are rejected who are not well acquainted with the English language. In the evening I preached again, and we had another large congregation. In the Sunday School I found about sixty present. The Services of last night and of this day have been very comforting and encouraging. When

I remember the sad state of things on my first arrival, and contrast them with the present vigorous growth and expansion, I cannot but bless God for what he hath wrought. Seven years ago there was a feeble, divided, listless handful of people,—no Church, or School, or Mission. Now there is a Church, built at a cost of 1,400*l.*, already too small for the worshippers who assemble in it, and needing enlargement. There are two Clergymen, and will, I trust, this week be three, by the Ordination of our zealous Missionary. There is a Mission Chapel, a School-house just erected; and we had yesterday 125 members of the Church at the Lord's Table. Under God, all this is owing to the faithfulness, zeal, labour, life, example, of my dear friend and brother, Archdeacon Welby. It has pleased God very greatly to bless his ministrations: and the people are, I think, conscious of their privileges, and thankful for them. It was very reluctantly, a short time since, when I felt I was about to lose the services of the Dean, that I asked him to fill the vacant post. The parishioners of George, however, rose up against his withdrawal, and prayed that they might not lose their minister. Their earnestness prevailed, and the Archdeacon expressed his desire to remain

with the people whom he loved and by whom he is loved.

The whole of this week has been wet, and has been employed in the examination of Mr. Niepoth, our Missionary Catechist, in conversing with the people in their own houses, and in getting through arrears of correspondence. We have had daily morning prayers, which, in spite of the weather, have been well attended. On Wednesday evening there is always a sermon, which, on this occasion, I preached. Mr. Niepoth has been labouring now about five years very diligently, as Catechist: he was formerly a member of the Dutch Church. He has about 300 coloured people, chiefly of the Hottentot race, under his charge, and with an assistant under him has the care of a school in which there are 190 pupils. His congregation, with some assistance from me, and from the *Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge*, have erected a School-chapel at a cost of 310*l.* Their offertory amounts to about 40*l.* a-year, which I think may be increased. At present I am giving 100*l.* a-year out of funds raised in England, for keeping up the School and Mission. The time has come, I think, when the people, in spite of their poverty, may do more for the maintenance of

their own work than they have hitherto done. They have, however, suffered greatly through the lung-sickness, which has swept off nearly all their cattle, and the horse-sickness, which has destroyed a very large proportion of the horses in the country. Wherever I go, I hear complaints of the suffering and ruin occasioned by these two scourges, but no district seems to have suffered more than this, which is almost entirely a cattle district. The lung-sickness is said to have been imported from Holland. The cattle die from it by thousands, and in great pain; when opened, their lungs are entirely gone. No sooner is one scourge removed from this land, than it appears to be visited by another. I do not think that it has been free from some general affliction of war or pestilence any year since I have known it.

On Friday evening we had a meeting of the parishioners, that I might have an opportunity of conversing with them on any matters interesting to them as Churchmen. The evening was wet, but there was a very fair attendance. The chief topic of conversation was the providing a stipend for a Curate and Schoolmaster. The Archdeacon was authorized to guarantee to Mr. Morris, who is prepared to fill the double office, an income of 60*l.* a-year, as Curate: this

sum is to be raised by subscription. The Minister and Churchwardens were authorized by the Parish to guarantee him, in like manner, 100*l.* a-year as Teacher, 30*l.* of which was to be for a house. This was to be met partly by the fees of the school; partly out of the offertory. All deficiencies in the income of the Teacher were to be made up from this latter source. The Minister and Churchwardens, in conjunction with the Teacher, were to fix the terms of the School. Some of the poorer Churchmen pleaded hard that their children might be admitted for 1*l.* a-year, which they said was all that they could afford to pay, where there were several children. This is, I think, a very important step. Mr. Morris is an earnest man, and a superior teacher, and can be ill spared from Capetown, which, however, is too hot for him in the summer months.

Sunday, 23d.—This day I ordained Mr. Niepoth. It is singular that on this same day the Bishop of Grahamstown is ordaining another member of the Dutch Church, formerly a Missionary of the London Society, who, with his whole congregation, has sought to be received into the communion of the Church. The Archdeacon, Dr. Andrews, Mr. Belson, and Mr. Fisk, all assisted at the Ordination. I have had great

satisfaction in ordaining Mr. Niepoth, who has laboured faithfully and zealously, as Catechist and Missionary. We had sixty-two communicants. The Archdeacon preached an admirable sermon on the Office of the Diaconate, showing that it was a spiritual office, and not merely for the temporal affairs of the Church; and dwelling forcibly and feelingly upon the duties of the Ministry. The Sunday was again very wet, and interfered with our evening congregation, when I preached. Mr. Belson has already sufficiently mastered the Dutch language to say prayers in St. Paul's Chapel for the coloured people, where Mr. Niepoth officiates.

Sept. 24th.—The weather having cleared up this morning, we determined to keep to our engagement, and proceed to the Knysna, though we were assured that the roads were almost impassable. This we found not to be the case, a strong wind in the night having considerably improved them. There was snow on the top of the mountain over George when we started—a very unusual thing so late in the spring; and we had a little hail as we rode along. A party on horseback accompanied us for a few miles. We shall be for the next sixteen days on horseback; and, unfortunately, it is the rainy season in these parts. We carry everything in



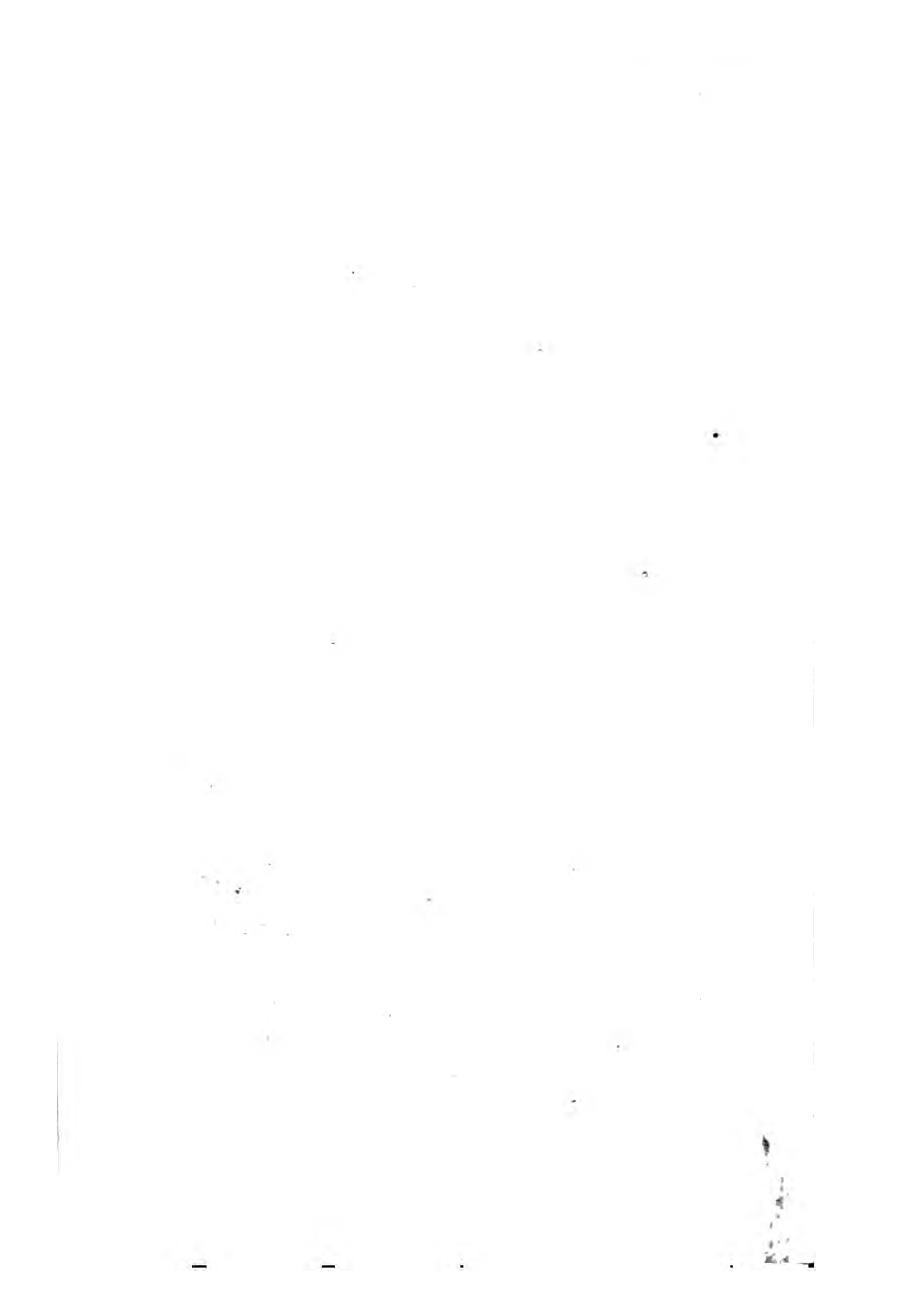
saddle-bags, which were immersed in the Great Zwart River and Ructe Vley, as we forded them, these rivers being deeper than I have ever known them. We had, however, a very pleasant ride, and were hospitably entertained at a worthy Dutch farmer's house, where we slept, and where I have always stopped in my journeys to the Knysna. Each time I visit this country, it strikes me as more and more beautiful. Nothing can be finer than the mountains, and the forests, and the rivers, and the lakes, and the sea, combined, as they often are, in one panoramic view. I deeply regret that this country, so suited to the English emigrant, is not filled with a larger population: it never appeared to me more destitute of life. This, of course, is owing to the horse and lung sickness, which have nearly emptied the country of its live stock. As an illustration of the havoc which these diseases have caused this year, I may mention that Mr. Meding, at whose house we slept, told me that 123 cattle and 60 horses had perished on his farm alone. Of the cattle, 60 belonged to a Fingo herd, who had lost all save one. There are several Fingos in this neighbourhood who are growing rich in cattle. They engage themselves as farm-servants, and receive cattle for wages. These are pastured

upon the farm, and they pay about fourpence per month a-head. In some places they are becoming profitable tenants in this way.

The following day was very beautiful, and we rode leisurely along, admiring the ever-varying scenery, and reached Mr. Duthie's beautiful residence on the banks of the Knysna lake about mid-day. The Archdeacon, who has come down with me to the Visitation of this parish, to give me the benefit of his counsel as to the steps to be taken, with a view to some better arrangement for the spiritual well-being of the coloured people of this district, was, unfortunately, attacked yesterday with violent rheumatic pains, and is far from well. After luncheon we went to inspect the beautiful little Norman Church, which has been erected chiefly at the cost of Mr. Duthie, and which, by general consent, is the most perfect Church as yet in the Diocese. It is of a beautiful stone, and the masonry is excellent, having been built by the same steady masons who have been employed for the last six years, building one Church after another. The cost has been about 900*l*. I had heard a good deal of the Church, but it exceeded my expectations. Some of the parishioners on this side of the river have been anxious for a division of the parish, and to have



KNYRNA LAKE



a Clergyman of their own, and a certain sum has been promised. Enough, however, could not be raised for the purpose, nor does the population require the superintendence of a second Clergyman, and I have no funds with which I could aid the effort; I trust, however, that we may be able to arrange for a Service in the Church nearly, if not quite, every Sunday.

Wednesday, 26th.—Soon after breakfast we crossed over the lake to Newhaven, having sent our horses twelve miles round by the ford. Mr. Duthie's sons manned our boat. After a pleasant sail of a couple of hours, we were met, on landing, by Dr. Andrews and two or three gentlemen, and rode up at once to the Parsonage, erected since I was here, in a beautiful situation commanding a view of the village which is slowly rising up at Newhaven, and which has a very picturesque appearance, and of the lake, with the little Church on the opposite shore, at Belvidere. Dr. Andrews is in great affliction, having very recently lost his wife, and having other troubles to distress him. After resting awhile, we went down to inspect the very pretty decorated Church which has been erected here at a cost of 800*l*. It is but the chancel of a future Church, for the facilitating of the erection of which the chancel arch has been

inserted, and the west end only bricked up. The rest of the Church is built of stone, some portion of which has, unfortunately, proved to be of a perishable nature, which gives to the building an appearance of age. Everything about it is very neat and in good order, and, happily, both these Churches are free from debt. In the evening there was Divine Service, and I preached to an attentive congregation of white and coloured persons.

Thursday, 27th.—In spite of a threatening morning, we determined to keep our engagement, and ride on to Plettenberg Bay, distant about twenty miles, or, according to the reckoning of the country, four hours. Unfortunately, the Archdeacon still continued to suffer so much, that he was unable to proceed with us, and we left him in bed. We had a pleasant though showery ride, and arrived at Mr. Newdigate's farm, Buccleugh, just before a violent storm passed over it. In my way, I called at Major Harker's, who had, on a former Visitation, entertained me hospitably. I found the old man much enfeebled by illness, and he seemed grateful for the words of pastoral advice which I was enabled to give him.

Mr. Newdigate is married, has built a new house, and has a family around him, since I





last was here. The morning after our arrival being fine, we visited the site of the Church, and the neat temporary School-chapel, and the burial-ground, which commands a view of the beautiful valley beneath it, with the bay and the mountains beyond. We found the English labourers busied in giving the finishing-strokes to the fence which they have just been putting round their churchyard, in which there are already several graves, and which I have promised to consecrate. Afterwards I called upon the villagers, and we then mounted our horses, and proceeded to Captain Sinclair's and the Residency. On the beach I was met, as before, by a party of the coloured people, who came out to welcome me with singing of psalms. When they had finished these, they gave me their greetings, and expressed the great desire they had to be gathered into a community on land, which they hoped I should be able to procure for them. I requested them to elect three or four of their number to converse with me fully and freely on the subject. I then proceeded to Captain Sinclair's, where Divine Service is now held, and who had prepared dinner for us; and from thence to the old Residency, which was formerly our Church, School, Parsonage,—and which I had endeavoured to purchase for

the coloured people, but was outbid by a Cape merchant, who has suffered the whole building to fall into, I fear, irrecoverable ruin. The roof had fallen in, the floors of some of the rooms were torn up, and some of the walls had fallen down. There was not, I think, one pane unbroken in the whole of the large pile of building, and the birds were flitting about it in all directions. Thus has the spirit of the world marred a good work which was being carried on. Had not the possibility of this land becoming valuable twenty years hence tempted a wealthy house to resolve upon securing it at any cost, I should have purchased this property, and located our poor coloured brethren upon it, and had them under continued instruction. Now they are scattered far and wide, and I see not how they can be again gathered. They urge me to purchase for them a piece of Government ground, with forest, about twenty miles distant, and fix them on it, and let them gradually purchase it for themselves ; but I tell them that this would involve the necessity of another Deacon-schoolmaster, and that I have not the funds for this, nor have they. After more than an hour's conversation with their delegates, I could come to no conclusion as to what was best to be done. The day cleared up

sufficiently for us to admire the beautiful bay, with its distant mountains. There was one ship riding at anchor, waiting for a cargo of wood. Dr. Andrews had to take a funeral of a coloured child, and I and —— rode over to Lady Wood, a small farm of Mr. Newdigate's, which he proposes to give as the residence of the Clergyman-schoolmaster, whom I hope to send here shortly after my return to the Cape. We reached Buccleugh at sunset. On Saturday I held a Confirmation in the little wooden School-chapel. The day was wet, and a few were absent; but I confirmed forty-eight, the greater number of whom were coloured people, baptized within the last few years. Some of them were very old. There were also, at this Service, four adults baptized after the Second Lesson. After Service I had another conversation with the four delegates appointed by the coloured people to confer with me. We talked over a great many places, but it was impossible to decide upon anything. I told them, however, that if I could meet with a suitable farm on which they could be located with advantage to themselves, and where there was a prospect of my being able to provide them with means of grace, I would, if I found it at all feasible, purchase it in their behalf. This was all I could do, and the

poor fellows seemed grateful for this. With so many other works on hand, I scarcely seem justified in risking anything to raise these poor people up to competency and independence; yet they have always conducted themselves so well, have taken for years such pains to attend and profit by our Services, and are now in so unsettled and unsatisfactory a state, that I feel anxious to help them if possible. Not only are these, the descendants of the ancient inhabitants of the soil, without an inch of land whereon to set their foot, but they are thoroughly kept down by the system under which they are living. They are for the most part wood-cutters, but they are scarce ever paid for anything in money. A few traders purchase all their wood, and pay them in goods, upon which they put their own price. Those with whom they deal they allow, I am told, if not encourage, to get into debt with them, and by this means keep them under their control.

Sunday, 30th.—In spite of a wet morning, we had a larger congregation than the little Church could contain. Before Service I consecrated the churchyard, which the people were very anxious about, and in which they took a great interest. I preached, and afterwards administered the Holy Communion to seventeen, of whom one-

half were coloured people. Several of the communicants, especially of the Hottentots, seemed to feel a great deal, and wept aloud. Immediately after Morning Service we rode to Captain Sinclair's, in whose house Monthly Service is at present held. His room, capable of holding about seventy, was crowded, chiefly with the coloured people. I again preached to them as simply and plainly as I could, from Rom. x. 9, 10. The singing was very pleasing, and the people very attentive. Their imperfect knowledge, however, of the English language, makes these Services less useful to them than they otherwise would be. Dr. Andrews is quite able to officiate in Dutch ; but as the congregation is always made up of English and coloured people, he thinks it better to train the latter to the use of the English language, of which they are gradually acquiring more perfect knowledge. It was dark before we reached home. I have been much pleased with the Services of the day, and feel that we must, if possible, do something more for these poor people, who look confidently to us to help them. May God grant that the Deacon-schoolmaster whom I am expecting for this district may prove a faithful and zealous man, who will care for their souls, and labour to teach them and their children the things that belong unto their peace !

October 1st.—We had a warm day's ride back to Newhaven. Next morning was spent in receiving the parishioners. In the afternoon we rode out to call upon one or two families, and to see the mouth of the harbour, which is narrow, and where the cliffs are about 400 feet high.

On Wednesday the 3d I consecrated the pretty little church at Newhaven, with its ample churchyard, which was neatly fenced and planted. Everything about the Church was in perfect order. The congregation filled the Church. I preached, and spoke to the congregation of the responsibilities arising out of their abundant means of grace, contrasting their present condition with what it was until the last few years; and pressed upon them the necessity of doing more than they have hitherto done towards the support of their minister. After Service we held a meeting of the parishioners of the three chapelries of this parish. It was agreed that one churchwarden should be elected on Easter Monday in every year for each chapelry; that the parishioners should all, if possible, communicate at Newhaven on Easter-day; that Newhaven and Belvidere, which have now each of them their Church, should have Services, if possible, every Lord's Day; and that they should contribute equal proportions to the support of the ministry. A boat is to be

sent over every Sunday for the Clergyman. If parties are not willing to undertake to bring the Clergyman over permanently, as a service of love, the expense is to be borne jointly by each side of the lake. The great difficulties of time and weather seemed to some to render it almost impossible to hold Divine Service continually on the same day on each side of the lake, and a proposition was made to have instead double service at each village once a fortnight. To the majority, however, with myself, it seemed of so much importance to keep up the worship of God in each place every Lord's Day, that we determined to make the attempt. Plettenberg Bay is to be visited once in six weeks by the Priest for Holy Communion. Once in three months the Deacon is to come to this side of the parish to supply the Priest's services, and once in three months the Archdeacon is to ride down from George for this purpose. If this scheme can be thoroughly carried out, each part of the parish will have its regular Sunday Services, and all the chapelries will have the Holy Communion at least once in six weeks. The Deacon, however, could only receive it four times a year. I pressed upon the parishioners the subject of increased support for their minister. A very good spirit prevailed, and all expressed themselves

anxious to fulfil their obligations in this respect. They urged, however, that, owing to the fact of very little money being in circulation in this district, their money-offerings must always fall short. It was said that many who really had no money would readily give timber, and others sheep and oxen. Lists were prepared for fresh subscriptions for this purpose, which are to be sent in to me before I leave the parish. We discussed also the propriety of the parishioners doing something additional to recompense their Clergyman (formerly a physician) for medical services, which have now been rendered by him to them for some years wholly without remuneration. Arrangements were made for accomplishing this, and for raising a fund greatly needed by the Clergyman of this parish, where living is very expensive, and who has recently been left a widower with seven young children.

This is my forty-sixth birthday. God be praised, notwithstanding my long and severe illness, I am still in full vigour; still able to go through a great amount of bodily labour without fatigue. In no part of my life have I had more to do, or greater anxieties, than since my return from England. Before this year is closed I trust our vacant posts, which have been the chief

cause of my anxiety, will be filled up. The last post brought news of the death of Mrs. Newman, the Dean's wife, just after he had resigned on account of her state of health. I trust that we may yet have him amongst us. His loss will be severely felt by me, and by his whole flock. May God give me grace, if spared to bear the office of a Bishop another year, to fulfil its duties, whether through evil report or through good report, faithfully and unflinchingly, with a single eye to Him and to His glory, without fearing the face of man, and without heeding the reproaches of the enemies of the Church, or of false brethren. May He, too, pardon all my infirmities, forgive my many shortcomings, and give me in richer measure those gifts and graces which are needful for the efficient discharge of the duties of my high office. Looking back upon the past year, I feel that there is much for which I need to humble myself before my God, much for which I need to implore a merciful judgment. May the love of Christ constrain me henceforth to live day by day more to Him and to His service.

Thursday, 4th.—Rode up to Mr. Barrington's place, at Portland, to-day, where I held a Confirmation in consequence of the sickness of one of the candidates, and the distance which all the

rest would have to walk to Newhaven. Eight were confirmed, four white and four coloured. One of the Englishmen had been an Irvingite, and spoke to me at my last Visitation about being received to communion. In these country parts, the Church is happily absorbing all the English religionists, whatever may have been their former profession, and it will, I trust, continue to do so; for in no other village except George, that I have yet visited, are there any ministrations for the English save those of the English Church. Of the coloured people, I had baptized two on former visitations; I was glad to hear that they were walking worthy of their Christian profession. At Portland a wooden school-room has just been completed. Here Dr. Andrews will occasionally hold Services, and here a Sunday School is regularly kept, and some of the prayers of the Church read, by an intelligent Hottentot, who has rendered this service, without any remuneration, for the last four years. I have promised him 10*l.* a-year, beginning from last January, and I hope to supply him with some simple tracts to read to the people in Dutch. We have been very anxious to found a day-school here, but are not able to do so without Government assistance, which has been declined. In our way up to Portland we

visited Mr. Darnell's beautiful farm at Westford on the banks of the Knysna. The forest here is magnificent. We crossed the river, and rode into it for some distance. The timber, chiefly yellow wood, is some of the largest I have ever seen. I do not suppose that a painter could find anywhere a finer study for his pencil than here. The trees are all very old, and their forms very picturesque. Over most of them the monkey-ladder, or wild grape, has shot up and covered them with its brilliant green foliage; and creepers of various kinds hang about them, sometimes forming quite a wall of evergreen, sometimes suspended in very beautiful festoons. Beyond this forest the mountain rises up, and every here and there its crags and rocks peep out, and add greatly to the effect.

Friday, 5th. — After an early breakfast, we rode down to Belvidere for the consecration of its beautiful little Norman Church. We arrived about twelve o'clock, and soon joined the parishioners, who were already, white and coloured, gathered round the Church. I consecrated the burial-ground first. Here, as elsewhere, the whole congregation followed in procession round the ground, repeating the alternate verses of the Psalms. The Church was quite full. I preached. The offertory was for Com-

munion plate, for which nearly 30*l.* is now in hand. We had twenty communicants. After Service a large party had an early dinner at Mr. Duthie's, and in the evening we crossed over the lake to Dr. Andrews' residence. I have offered here, as at other places, to assist those who are willing to endow Churches with some portion of the funds raised by me when last in England, and as yet unexpended; but I tell all, that after the close of the year 1856, I do not expect to be in a condition to make such an offer, as my funds are very rapidly vanishing. As it will be long, however, before a parish like this can altogether maintain its ministry, it is most important to obtain endowments, and to induce people to exert themselves to raise them.

Saturday, 6th.—Held a Confirmation, at which sixteen candidates presented themselves. We had again a full congregation, and many appeared to feel during this Service a good deal. In the evening we took tea with one of the parishioners.

On Sunday morning Service was held at Newhaven. The Church was again crowded. I preached. At the Holy Communion there were thirty-five. Amongst these there were some not only of English and Dutch blood, but Indian and Mahomedan, Kafir, Fingo, Hot-

tentot, Negro. In this country one feels, more than at home, how the Church of Christ knits men of all races and languages into one body and brotherhood. It has been one of my greatest comforts in this Visitation, more than on former occasions, to realize the Communion of Saints; to have real communion with believers of various races, through the precious body and blood of Christ, which joins us all in one. May all in this land, in God's good time, be united in one body, and may we all be more and more moulded and fashioned into the likeness of Him who bought us with His blood! As we draw nearer to Him we shall draw nearer to each other.

Immediately after Service we proceeded with a large party across the lake, and reached Belvidere Church by four o'clock. Here another congregation, chiefly of the English labourers and coloured people, was awaiting us. I again preached to them upon our Lord's invitation to "come unto Him." After Service several of the English labourers expressed a wish to meet me, to hear what they were to give towards the support of their minister, and to settle about the hours of Service. They expressed themselves very properly, and very gratefully, for their increased means of grace. Some of them live at

a distance of nine miles. They said they would gladly walk that distance to enjoy the opportunity of public worship. Singularly enough, they wished to have Morning Service at half-past nine, meaning to start at five o'clock, and walk in the cool of the day. I am told that the coloured people, Fingo and Hottentot, are quite as willing as their white brethren, to contribute to the support of the ministry. We slept at Mr. Duthie's, at whose hospitable house my horses had been for the last few days. I retired to rest rather exhausted by all the Services of this week, which have, however, been of a very interesting and satisfactory character.

Monday, 8th.—The Archdeacon, —, and myself, started this morning at half-past six on horseback, on our return to George. A party accompanied us for some way. We determined, as it was a lovely day, with a cool breeze blowing in our faces, and our horses were fresh, to ride through in one day instead of two, which is the usual time, and which we had calculated upon. The rivers were low—the lights and shadows upon the mountains very beautiful. We rode over hill and dale, through forests and rivers, briskly, and enjoyed our ride greatly. We were just eleven hours on horseback. I calculate that the distance is not in reality more than fifty miles,



GEORGE

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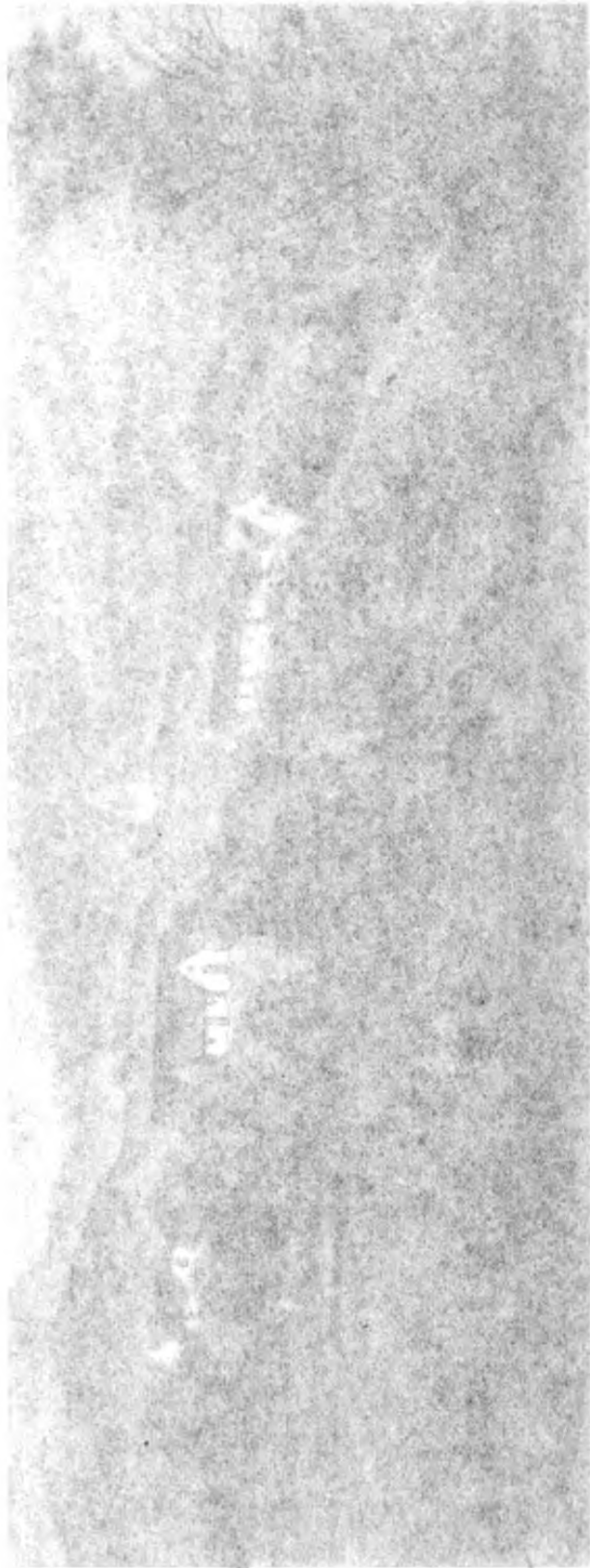
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though the rugged nature of the country, and the utterly neglected roads, make it appear more. By pushing on we got another unbroken day in George, which gave me time for replying to the most pressing of the many letters which I found on my table.

Tuesday, 9th.—After breakfast I visited and examined the coloured Mission School, in which I found one hundred children. I was much pleased with the tone of the school, but thought it a little deficient in mental activity. It is, however, suffering greatly from a want of books. In the evening I consecrated the burial-ground of the coloured people. They took a great interest in the Service, and were there in considerable numbers. The next day was spent in writing, and in examining the Girls' European School, which I found in good order. The first class seemed to me quite equal to a first class in a good National School in England. In the evening I preached once more to a full congregation in the Church.

Thursday, 11th.—After Morning Prayer in Church, and breakfast, we proceeded once more on our way to Schoonberg, which is still part of the parish of George, lying at the mouth, as it were, of the Lange Kloof. There we have had a Deacon-schoolmaster for some time, but have

been obliged to abandon regular Services for more than a year, in consequence of the loss of so many Clergy since my return from England. I propose to consecrate the Church which has been erected there by the zeal of P. B. Richardson, Esq.; to hold a Confirmation, and spend Sunday there; and to judge for myself what prospect there is of our being able to found a real and extensive Mission amongst the coloured people in this important district. For this special work one of my most devoted Clergymen, who has acquired the Dutch language, has offered himself, and I have an earnest schoolmaster, born in the colony, in training in Capetown; but before re-establishing the work on a more extensive scale than before, I must see clearly that there is a fair promise of success, and that in a pecuniary point of view it will meet with all the support to which I think it entitled. The breaking up of the London Missionary Society's work at Avon River, seems to be a call for us to do something to supply their place. The object, however, will be to found a Missionary village rather than an Institution, and to mingle Europeans with the coloured races, allowing both to rent, in the first place, and afterwards purchase, erven in it. For this, more land will be required than we at present



possess. I have, however, purchased a quarter of a farm with a view to give it a start. May God give His blessing to our undertaking, and guide us to a right conclusion as to what we are to undertake for His name's sake! We had a fine day for walking up the famous Montagu Pass, and enjoyed its wild and magnificent scenery greatly. S—— took only one sketch, having taken six on former occasions. The ascent, I observe, is much steeper than that of the Bain's Kloof. We called in our way at the farm of a member of our Church, and reached Mr. Richardson's a little before dark. His place seems greatly improved since I was last here.

Monday, 15th.—I am now about to proceed over the mountains, and through the Karroo, for Beaufort. Previously to doing so, let me record the results of my visit here; my impression of the work; and the conclusion to which I have come respecting it. Our Services, which have been five in number, have been most encouraging. The Church has been full on every occasion—sometimes crowded. The coloured people have come in from the neighbouring farms to attend them, and do, I believe, sincerely desire to be Christians. Several upon this place have, I am happy to hear, lived consistently and devoutly for several years, having family worship in their

houses, and influencing, by their lives and example, the surrounding heathen. The Archdeacon and Mr. Richardson laboured very diligently to prepare the candidates (who have been under instruction for some time) for Confirmation. On Friday evening we held Divine Service, and one adult, the wife of a consistent member of our Church, living at a distance, was baptized. She had been in a great measure instructed by her husband. On Saturday morning I consecrated the Church, which is an exceedingly well built early English Church, and very neatly and correctly fitted up. I preached. The offertory was for the windows, which Mr. Richardson is determined shall all be of painted glass, but which are at present only calico. He has undertaken to be responsible for 80*l.* for this purpose. The open roof, and the sittings of this Church, are particularly good. I am sure we do not overestimate the importance of real Churches built after the fashion of our English Churches. They are creative of reverence and devotion, and I have seen enough in this land of the effects of slovenly and dirty buildings upon the converts, to make me anxious to guard against such evils. In the evening I held the Confirmation, at which twenty-six of our members renewed their vows, and were, I doubt not, strengthened to fulfil

them, for several of them seemed to feel very deeply.

On Sunday morning the Church was crowded, and I preached as simply as I could from Rev. iii. 21, "To him that overcometh," &c. There were forty-four at the Holy Communion. In the afternoon the Archdeacon preached from Eph. iv. 22, "Put off the old man," &c. In the evening the confirmed came together to Mr. Richardson's house. We spoke with them all, one by one, in private; and at prayers I spoke to them again, calling upon them to remember that they had now dedicated themselves anew to Christ and His service. Altogether these Services have been very comforting and encouraging. The only drawback has been that we have felt that there are some who have not been able fully to comprehend all that we have said to them. This difficulty of language meets us at every turn, and will increasingly so; for if our Clergy were able always to officiate in Dutch, there would be some of the congregation to whom the Services would be unintelligible. This must, I suppose, be the case wherever the language is in a transition state. Here, I trust, Services will hereafter be held in both languages. The conclusion to which I have come as to the work here, and our future operations, is this, that there

is already quite enough to employ the energies of a devoted man ; that if land can be procured for the formation of a village of the coloured people, a very considerable work may be carried on. We have hitherto failed in procuring this land. Seeing, however, the refreshing zeal of Mr. Richardson, and his determination to do all in his power for the benefit of the people round about him, I am prepared at Christmas to send both Clergyman and Schoolmaster here. Towards the support of the Clergyman Mr. Richardson undertakes to give 25*l.* a-year, and a very prettily situated house, with some garden and arable land attached to it. Others in the neighbourhood will, I trust, do something. Mr. Richardson's offer cannot be considered as worth less than 50*l.* a-year. We parted with our kind friends here early on Monday morning. They gathered round us to bid us a hearty farewell.

Our route hence lay northwards through the Camminassie and Oliphant's River districts to Meiring's Poort, and from thence to Beaufort. This village, lying as it does 200 miles from any other, in the middle of the Karroo, is, with the exception of St. Helena, and now the Namaqua Land Copper Mines, the most inaccessible part of the Diocese. I am to drive in my wagon to Meiring's Pass—ride through it—and the good

people of Beaufort have undertaken to send a wagon to meet me on the other side of the Pass. I hope to return another way—by Prince Albert and the Seven Weeks Poort. Meantime S—— will return to George with the Archdeacon, and meet me a fortnight afterwards at the Berlin Missionary station of Zoar, in the district of Riversdale.

On leaving the Lange Kloof, the character of the country altogether changes. It looks like the Karroo, only it is more hilly and broken. We found the roads in a very bad state. Occasionally we had some difficulty in getting the wagon over them, and at night we found it had received some damage. The country was covered with mesembryanthemums, pink, white, and yellow; and with other flowers, amongst which was a bush with a quadrangular pink and white bladder flower, which was exceedingly pretty; and a white trailing geranium, the flower of which was much larger than the common wild one. We outspanned for an hour at the farm of Sandta, which is the only endowment of the Archdeaconry of George, but which, though consisting of upwards of 6000 acres, and capable of bearing nearly 3000 sheep, has hitherto produced no revenue. There being no running water, there is no place for a homestead; until fresh land is

purchased for this, I fear it will remain unproductive. A dam has been constructed with a view to remedy the deficiency, but muddy and stagnant water for half the year offers no great temptation even to an African tenant. We arrived, after a long and weary journey, at Mr. Wm. Guest's, whose farm lies in the fertile valley of the Oliphant's River. On approaching it, we saw to our right a Mission station of the London Society, called Dysals Kraal, prettily situated, but, as I understand, in a declining state. We were courteously received by Mr. Guest and his pleasing family. He is the son of an excellent Churchman in George, and his wife is the daughter of one of our most zealous Churchmen in the Diocese, who in his old age has come to reside near his daughter. Yet Mr. Guest and his family are in communion with the Dutch Church, of which he is a Deacon or Churchwarden, and which he joined in days when the Church of England was unhappily doing little or nothing in this land.

On the following morning we prepared to visit soon after daylight the famous Cango Caves, about four hours distant; but at six o'clock an ox-wagon made its appearance, containing an anxious mother and her three daughters, who had been unable, in consequence of the serious

illness of one of the daughters, who was still a great invalid, to go to George for the Confirmation. They had started the previous day at noon, and, having passed the night in the veldt, were on their way to Oudtshoorn, where they understood that I should hold Service. After the Archdeacon had examined the young women, with whom their mother had evidently taken great pains, I confirmed them. They have, alas! like too many in this country, a drunken father, and they are living at a great distance from all outward means of grace. Notwithstanding this delay, we succeeded in getting off by about eight o'clock, in Mr. Guest's cart, drawn by my horses, and drove to Schoorman's Poort, up the beautiful and fertile valley of the Cango. Here we mounted horses which Mr. Guest had sent on for us, and rode through the Poort for two hours, to the valley where the caves are situated, crossing the river thirty-two times (and the same number in returning). The day was very warm, but we enjoyed the ride greatly, the scenery through the Poort being very fine. Notice had been given of our intention to visit the caves, but no preparation was made, and some time was lost in repairing the ladder by which we were to descend into them, and in collecting men and torches. We spent about three hours in them, and did

not reach Mr. Guest's again till eight o'clock in the evening. In consequence of the lateness of the hour, I was not able, as I had fully intended to do, to visit Oudtshoorn, a newly established village and magistracy, lying a short distance off our road, or to see Colonel Armstrong, the magistrate, who reads Divine Service every Lord's Day for the few English inhabitants of the village. This was a great disappointment to me, and I was vexed with myself for having mismanaged the matter; but it was too late to apply a remedy.

With the caves I was a little disappointed, perhaps from having heard so very much about them. The descent into them is effected by a ladder about thirty-five feet long. The great chamber struck me as very fine, both on account of its extent and the huge pillars of stalactite which were scattered about in every direction. It is said to be about forty feet in height. Another hall, which we did not see, is seventy feet high. The caves are of limestone, and the sides are almost invariably clothed with the substance which has oozed out of the roof, and which has formed itself into a great variety of fantastic forms and shapes, sometimes assuming the appearance of great folds of curtains, sometimes that of net-work, sometimes of niches,

canopies, or fountains. We were not able to penetrate to some of the chambers, owing to the wet and slippery nature of the ground, and the quantity of water which had accumulated in some of the passages during the late rains. Indeed I am not aware that any one has ever thoroughly examined them. I believe no fossil remains have been found in them. I am told, however, that in many of the caves in this neighbourhood there are remains of rude Bushman drawings, showing that this country once belonged to them. It is to me a great gratification to find the coloured people, by their own exertions, obtaining possession of the soil of their forefathers. In this very neighbourhood twenty-eight of them have given 4,000*l.* for a farm.

Next morning, S—— and I drove in the cart to Mr. Meiring's; the Archdeacon, and Mr. Guest, who resolved to accompany me through the pass, being on horseback. Our route lay up the Oliphant's River, with which I was agreeably surprised, and which is one of the most beautiful and fertile spots that I have seen in the Colony. We encountered here my old friend the Mimosa, in rich profusion. In some places it gave the country the appearance of an English park. After a warm ride of about three hours, over as bad a road as any in the country,

we arrived at Mr. Meiring's farm, which lies just at the entrance of the pass that goes by his name, and which probably may be the next great road undertaken, with a view to open out the whole wool-growing district of Beaufort to the sea. We were most hospitably entertained by Mr. Meiring, who is an elder of the Dutch Church. Nothing could be more kind, gentle, and courteous, than his manner. He not only feasted us, but, hearing of our intended journey, had sent his men to improve the worst parts of the pass, and supplied us with horses, placing us and them under the charge of his son. When I inquired what we were indebted to him, he refused to take any remuneration, only expressing a hope that I would visit him again. Here I parted with S—— for a fortnight. We had scarcely got well into the pass before a heavy thunder-storm, which had for some time been gathering around us, burst over our heads, and we were in a few minutes drenched. The thunder, rolling from crag to crag, sounded very impressively, and added to the interest of our ride. The scenery is, in every part of the pass, fine; in some portions of it, magnificent. Towards the upper part the mountains approach very closely to each other, and the over-hanging perpendicular cliffs cannot be less than 3,000

feet high. The strata are very irregular, and testify to the force of the convulsion which has cleft the vast masses of rock which constitute this great mountain, asunder. If a road should ever be made through this Poort, it will probably be one of the finest in the country, for the rise need only be very gentle and gradual; but, judging from what I have seen, I should think it would be a very expensive one; for evidently there must be great walls built up in many places where a passage cannot be cut through the rock, and where the torrent rolls close to its base. I have seen more baboons in this pass than in any other part of the country. They kept barking at us continually. We did not arrive at the farm which lies on the other side of the mountain till after dark, the ride having occupied four hours, three of which were spent in the actual pass of the Zwart-berg, and the fourth in following the course of the river through the spur which branches off from the mountain. We were glad enough, on reaching the farm, to find that the wagon from Beaufort had already arrived; and that Mr. Maynard, who had been spending the greater part of the day in the pass, looking out for us, was there to welcome us. Having all torn our clothes (of which I have but a scanty supply for the next

fortnight in a single pair of saddlebags), and being still wet, we were thankful to get under shelter, and dry ourselves. Our accommodation was none of the best. The worthy farmer, however, gave us up his children's room, which had three dirty beds in it, upon which we lay down, but found but little rest. Previously to our very frugal supper, our host invited us to family prayer. It began with a very heavy Psalm. Mr. Maynard next read a chapter out of the New Testament. There was then another Psalm—all sitting; after which, our host, standing, offered up an extempore prayer, which he delivered with much simplicity and unction. I endeavoured afterwards to have some little religious conversation with him, as I was struck with his seriousness. He spoke a good deal about the weakness of the flesh, and the need of grace. I should have felt much pleased with what I saw and heard, had not his manner and appearance forced upon me the conviction that he was giving way to drink, which his recourse to "sopies," more than once during our stay, confirmed, and which I afterwards learnt was the case. He treated us very kindly, and would take but small remuneration for his hospitality. Next morning, shortly after daylight, I took leave of the Archdeacon, Mr. Guest, and

Mr. P. Meiring, and plunged, with Mr. Maynard, into the dreary waste of the Karroo. Our route for the first hour or two lay still amongst the small spurs of the mountains, but we soon found ourselves amidst the stones and dwarf bushes of that land which illustrates, more than any other that I have seen, the force of that awful saying, "Cursed is the ground for thy sake." We passed the night in the veldt. I have now been so long accustomed to the luxuries of civilized life, that I did not relish, as I have done on former visitations, the freedom from restraints and the simplicity of our present primitive mode of living. A short day's journey on the morrow brought us to Beaufort, having passed only about half-a-dozen houses during nearly 100 miles' journey over the barren desert. The day was oppressively warm, and we were obliged to leave one of our horses on the road, in a state of great exhaustion. Thinking it would die, I gave it some brandy, which the men would insist upon pouring up its nostril. This seemed to intoxicate it. It was too ill either to eat or drink, but next morning was brought into the village apparently well again. The only horse I have ever lost was in the Karroo, on my way to Beaufort. It is a miserable thing to see a poor beast driven to death in

your service. There is less regard, however, for animal life or comfort in this land than in any country I have visited.

I have had, during our journey, more opportunity than on former occasions, of conversing freely with Mr. Maynard, and have been much pleased with the simplicity, kindliness, and earnestness of his character; as well as with the thoughtfulness and soundness of his mind and views. Like many of our Clergy in this land, separated as they are from each other by long distances, and with few opportunities of refreshing intercourse with those like-minded with themselves, he complains of great occasional depression of spirits. The fact, too, that for the last two years he has lost some of the most devout and devoted members of the Church by death or departure to other districts of the Colony—and that, consequently, his congregation is less than it was—seems somewhat to have disheartened him. He confesses, however, that there is much to comfort and encourage him in the zeal and liberality of several that are still spared to him.

After thoroughly cleaning ourselves, we went out to look at the Church. It has suffered in an architectural point of view, from the plans not having been strictly adhered to. The pitch of

the roof has been lowered, the western windows elongated, the length of the building diminished, and the buttresses dispensed with. Still it is a neat, well-built, substantial, if not quite correct, early English Church, and superior to many built only a few years back in England. It put me very much in mind of some of the little churches in our Yorkshire dales. The parishioners are now very sorry that they did not adhere closely to the plans furnished them. A correct chancel—which will, I hope, one day be added—will greatly improve the Church. Its present cost has been 900*l*. The whole of the following day was occupied with receiving visits from the parishioners, and with English letters.

Monday, Oct. 29th.—I must now take a review of my Visitation at Beaufort. I have been here ten days, and have endeavoured during that time to see all the parishioners, and to converse on religious subjects with as many as possible. We have had seven Services, and the Church full on nearly every occasion. On Sunday, the 21st, I consecrated the Church in the morning, and administered the Holy Communion. There were, I am grieved to say, but few communicants. I preached both morning and evening. On Monday morning I held a

Confirmation, having previously examined and conversed with all the candidates. There were but seven, but they were all of them, I hope, in earnest, and some very devout. All Tuesday was spent in writing letters and in visiting the people. Wednesday, in the same employments, and in examining candidates for baptism. In the evening we had Service. I preached, and seven children, all coloured, were baptized. On Thursday Dr. Philcox drove us to the mountain, which we ascended on foot, and had from the summit a very extensive view. We not only saw the Zwart-berg mountains, distant about ninety miles, very distinctly; but we saw them, I think, for 100 miles in length, stretching down to where they almost disappear, and turn towards Uitenhage. The Karroo looked like a great sea. Scarcely a house was to be seen upon it. It is one huge, barren, stony plain, for several hundred miles. Here and there, where there is a fountain, there is a small homestead. But the desolation of the land may be gathered from the fact that there are farms of from thirty to fifty thousand acres. Still a large number of sheep—I am told, not less than a million—are maintained by the scrubby bush, which, as I drove along the desolate waste towards the mountain, put me very much in mind

of the small tufts of dwarf hair on a Hottentot's head—little patches with great spaces between them. If any one doubts that this is the land of Ham, a look at the Karroo would, I think, convince the most sceptical. This was all Bushman's country. On my road to Prince Albert, I am told there is a place where the last remnant of that unhappy race in this district was slaughtered to the number of 150, in 1815. Their bones are still said to be visible. In this neighbourhood, too, I understand there are living the sons of a farmer, who had a large and valuable tract of land, and was renowned for extirpating great numbers of Bushmen. The gentleman who was my informant told me that the son had described to him how his father succeeded. He clothed himself with a woollen dress, impervious to their arrows, covering all his person except his eyes. He then approached their kraals at dawn of day, and knocked them on the head as they came out of their huts. Not an acre of that land is now in the possession of his children. It is gone, one knoweth not how. I have heard of several similar cases in this land. Doubtless there is a God that judgeth the earth.

In the evening of this day we held a meeting of the parishioners to examine into the Church

building accounts, and to talk over other parish matters. Here, as elsewhere, English, Scotch, and Irish, to whatever religious communion they may have formerly belonged, meet together for common prayer, unite in praise and worship, and take an interest in the work of the Church, subscribing to it liberally. We had Churchmen, Presbyterians, Independents, at this meeting. We were, however, unable accurately to make out what the actual financial position of the Church was, owing to the fact that one zealous member, to whom the parishioners believed themselves largely indebted, was absent. It appeared, however, that the liabilities were about 100*l.*; and subscriptions still due, above 40*l.* As this small sum may be easily paid off, through means of the offertory, nobody seemed to think it worth while to trouble themselves much about it. The Church, however, is not yet seated. As our discussion on this subject served to illustrate the system in operation in this Diocese, and the sort of difficulties which beset us, I will give an outline of it here. Some proposed, as there were no Church funds for the purpose, that each head of a family should put in a pew (or open sitting, for we have no pews) at his own cost. I pointed out the inevitable result of this—that the pews would

be regarded more or less as a property. This was disclaimed, but the proposal was set aside. A parishioner had indeed, in the morning of this day, expressed a desire to put in one; but said, that he should insist upon keeping it locked up, and excluding all others. It was resolved that the work should be done, and done at once, by a fresh subscription. Then came the delicate question of appropriation of sittings. I stated the parochial law in England. As the churchwardens seemed to shrink from its application, I suggested that the parishioners should be left to shake into their places without any apportionment. This I believe to be practically the very best mode to pursue. Declare your Church free and open to all. Leave all who come to worship there to sit and kneel where they can find a place. This system succeeds admirably in two of certainly not the least crowded Churches of the Diocese. Theoretically, it may seem that difficulties would arise. Practically, we have found none wherever it has been tried. Ultimately it was resolved that the churchwardens should apportion the sittings; but it was understood that the parishioners should privately draw lots. As apportionment is according to the parochial law of England, I had not a word to say against it. Not a single person

lifted up a voice in favour of pew-rents. All, I believe, prefer the offertory, which has worked very well in this parish; for, independently of contributions to the Church, and upwards of 50*l.* towards the Minister's stipend, the offertory will have, I believe, amounted to 50*l.* this year, which, considering the small number of the English, is, I think, satisfactory.

On Friday, I had some interesting conversations with one or two of the parishioners. In the evening, I preached, and baptized three coloured people—all, I believe, well prepared. The master of one of them told me that she had taught his children nearly all they knew of religion—the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Church Catechism. What a sad confession! A Christian master owns that his children have imbibed their instruction in the faith of Christ from a Heathen servant! The condition of the Heathen in this village has engaged much of my thoughts. So far as I am able to judge, they are in a worse moral and spiritual state than the coloured people of any other village in the Colony. They are more idle and more drunken than any others that I am acquainted with. In this view I find that others who have seen other parts of the country concur. The chief cause of this, doubt-

less, is, that they have not had so much done for them as others have had. The fact, too, that spirits and wine cannot be sold in less quantities than five gallons, does, it is thought, increase the drunkenness it was meant to check. For the coloured people club together to purchase the five gallons, and retire to the neighbouring mimosa bushes, and drink themselves drunk, and continue to drink till their cask is consumed, not being willing to trust each other with the keeping of it. At present there is neither School nor Missionary for them. For short periods, the Dutch Church, the Apostolic Union (a new sect), and the Lutherans, have had teachers here; but each in turn has abandoned the work, for various reasons, which it might be invidious, and would certainly be useless, to detail. There is a chapel erected, at a cost of about 300*l.*, and mortgaged for 200*l.*; but there is now no teacher, nor, as I understand, any likelihood of one being appointed; and yet in no village have I met with a greater number of inhabitants who have expressed an interest in the coloured people, and declared their readiness to help to rescue them from their present deplorable condition. Seeing such a state of things, I have urged Mr. Maynard to open a night-school for two nights in the week, and have invited some of the parishioners to aid

him in the work of teaching. This they have cheerfully undertaken to do. Some have pressed me to send a Missionary here, promising to exert themselves to raise funds for his maintenance, and making liberal offers themselves. I have almost come to the conclusion that their present state is a call from God to me to make some venture in their behalf. May He guide me to a right conclusion in the matter. There are difficulties in the way, besides those of a pecuniary kind; but this alone is a serious consideration. Since I have been out on this Visitation, I have committed myself to an additional expenditure of 300*l.* a-year; and yet the greater portion of the subscriptions promised to me in England for a period of five years will fail me two years hence. I do not, however, fear to take up a real work, even though I do not see my way clearly to its support for any length of time. I feel satisfied that it is only needful to lay the difficulties in carrying on a real work for Christ before the Church in England, to secure support for it. It is difficult, however, to know always how we ought to undertake a work,—when to decline. Hitherto, looking back upon the past, I see no reason to regret having undertaken a single work to which I have committed myself, in all South Africa.

But I do regret not having done several things which I should have done had the means been at my disposal. I have lost opportunities, by shrinking from incurring fresh risks—even at times when to some I have appeared to hazard too much, and have incurred reproaches from kind friends for it. My position, however, unfettered by Societies, and left to act for myself upon my own responsibility, and with certain funds at my disposal, has undoubtedly tended largely to the extension of the Gospel in this land. If I had been obliged to consult a Board, distant some eight thousand miles, before I undertook any work, I have no hesitation in saying that half the work that has been accomplished in this land never would have been attempted. The mere correspondence necessary to secure the consent of others, at a distance, to one's plans, would have worn out my energies, and consumed my time, and prevented me from undertaking great works. I am, therefore, very thankful that the inability or unwillingness of Societies to give large help, compelled me to throw myself, by personal appeal for the support of our work, upon the Church at home. It nobly responded to the call, and did thereby, I believe, advance greatly the cause of true religion in this land.

Amidst all discouragements, and trials, and difficulties, it is a great comfort to look at the daily increasing operations of the Church in South Africa, and compare them with what they were a few years ago. Taking the country *as a whole*, the Church of England is now, I think, doing more than any other religious body in the land. In this western part, indeed, the Dutch are the great preponderating body; and new Dutch villages, followed by Churches and Clergy, are springing up. In the East, the Wesleyans, aided very largely by their Society, are doing great things; in Natal, the Americans are strong and vigorous; and in other parts, smaller societies, especially the Rhenish, and Paris, and London Societies, have interesting and important Missions. But the Dutch are doing little in Natal or the East; the Wesleyans little in Natal or the West; the Americans nothing in the East or West. Whereas the Church of England is energizing, I trust, vigorously everywhere. What will be the state of things half a century hence? Would that I could hope that we should all be united in one communion! There does not, however, seem much prospect of this. There is very small appearance of the drawing together of the gaping rents.

Saturday was again spent among the parish-

ioners, and in calling upon the Dutch Minister, and upon Mr. Solomon, Adam Kok's Missionary, who is returning from Capetown to his field of labour. Adam Kok is now, with five thousand followers, an independent Chief in the Orange River Free State, and trembling for his independence, which indeed it seems impossible that he should long maintain. Already disputes have arisen between himself and some of the Boers settled in this country. Mr. Solomon tells me that the Chief and his people have determined to support, by their own voluntary gifts, both Missionary and Schoolmaster; they have promised 300*l.* a-year for this purpose.

On Sunday, the 28th, we had good congregations again. I preached both morning and evening. We had a larger number at the Holy Communion. In the afternoon I administered the Holy Communion to a sick person.

On Monday, the 29th, left early for Prince Albert, distant about ninety miles. I came to Beaufort, and I leave it in a wagon supplied to me gratuitously by the parishioners, who will have sent for me, going and returning, very nearly five hundred miles. Six parishioners supply me with my six horses; another provides the wagon, another the forage, others the drivers, and others an abundant supply of pro-

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vision. I value their kindness at a far higher rate than the actual cost, because it is indicative of good will, and is a return to primitive and Scriptural customs. I leave our little flock in the wilderness with much satisfaction: and I trust that it may please God to increase their number, and to give success to His word and ministry amongst them. Before I departed, several of the parishioners came to take leave. Amongst them the same old lady whom I found with her Bible and Prayer-book before her, on my first Visitation, seven years ago, and who then told me that she had been thirty-six years in the Colony without seeing the face of a Minister of her Church. Yesterday, she joined with her grand-daughter, whom I have just confirmed, in her first Communion. She told me that it was the fiftieth anniversary of her own first Communion, when she, too, partook of it with her grandmother. She is thus the connecting link uniting five generations of her family in the Church. She told me also that she, and a pious old lady, belonging to the Dutch Communion, had been uniting their prayers this morning for God's blessing upon the Episcopal Church (as many call it) in this land. There are two new villages in this wide district—Victoria and Frazerburg—which I have not visited, as there

are scarcely any members of our Church in them, and they are each about 100 miles distant in opposite directions. There are also two Mission stations far to the north (one 180 miles distant)—Amandel-boom and Skiet Fontein—both under the charge of the Rhenish Society. I should have been glad to have visited these, as one of them, at least, is said to be an interesting Mission; but it is impossible, or almost impossible, for me to do so—at least on this occasion. There was little to give interest or variety to our hot and monotonous drive through the Karroo. We intended to pass the night in the veldt; but as I and another of our party were unable to sleep at all, I thought it would be better to push on through the night, as soon as the moon rose. We started again, then, at one o'clock. I walked on with Mr. Maynard, and took the wrong road. After walking for nearly an hour, I felt sure that we had lost our way, or that the men were drinking. We, therefore, retraced our steps, and soon after heard a gun fired to recal us, and then saw a bush lighted on the top of a small hill, as a guide. We were thankful to find ourselves in the wagon again. We travelled through the night, and all through the next day, stopping occasionally for an hour to rest the horses, till seven o'clock in the evening, when we reached

Prince Albert, after a drive of ninety miles, over a very stony, and for great part of the way, hilly road; and through a most dreary and monotonous country, whose sameness was only varied by the sight of a few ostriches, pows, and partridges. The day was intensely hot, and I had some fear lest our horses should have knocked up, but they brought us through, though some of them, poor things, seemed very weary. We were greeted on our arrival by Mr. Borchards, the excellent magistrate, who had ridden out to meet us, and were most hospitably received by Mrs. Honeyborne, a communicant of our Church, whose son keeps a store in the village. This village is about thirteen years old, and is very beautifully situated at the foot of the Zwart-berg mountain, and is watered by abundant streams flowing forth from the mountain, or rather from a valley which runs up into it, and opens out in various directions; and in which, I am told, are situated some of the most rich and picturesque farms in South Africa, which I greatly regret my limited time did not enable me to see. Here, however, are to be found all the fruits of South Africa in great perfection; and here, too, are produced some of the best wines of the country. Nearly the whole of Wednesday was spent in receiving

visits from our few people who reside in the village, in calling upon them, and in receiving visits from the Dutch Minister and several of his congregation, who kindly placed the Church at my disposal for our Services. This is one of those places which altogether puzzles me as to how I should act. The population is only about four hundred, though increasing daily. In it there is but a mere sprinkling of English Church people, though these are very anxious for means of grace. There is a Dutch Church and Minister, and there is at least outward visible unity. There are, perhaps, about 150 coloured people, and the greater number of them unbaptized. There is no school for them, but the Minister of the Dutch Church has a few under catechetical instruction. What ought we to do here? Is it God's will, considering the vast field lying open before us in various quarters, and the narrowness of our means, and the paucity of our labourers, that we should endeavour to plant our Church here?—and if so, when? Should we do it now, or wait till the English population is increased? If we wait, our neglected people one by one fall away from us, and the work must always be begun at a disadvantage. If we begin it now, it is impossible that the people on the spot should maintain it. It must

be supported largely for some years by England. Daily and earnestly do I ask, amidst my doubts and difficulties, the question,—“ Lord, what wouldst Thou have me to do ? ” Could I be certain what God’s will was, I should not hesitate for a moment. There can be no doubt but that our own members,—five of whom have been confirmed on this Visitation,—have some claims upon us, and that the Heathen are not adequately provided for. Does the condition of both constitute a claim upon me, under all circumstances, and with my narrow means, to resolve upon placing in this village a Catechist-schoolmaster, whose work might be to care for the souls of both races ? This is my problem : I have not yet found its solution.

We had three candidates for Confirmation, in addition to the two who had come over to Beaufort. Two of these had been prepared about two months ago, at Worcester, where they were then residing. Mr. Maynard undertook to examine and prepare the third, so far as time would admit. In the evening we held Divine Service. There was a large congregation of Dutch people, and some coloured. Very few, I fear, could understand our Service. It always makes me uncomfortable when I feel that the greater part of the congregation in God’s house come as to a

sight; there seems such an unreality about the whole thing. I briefly addressed the candidates, and preached extempore. We had eight communicants. I trust that Mr. Maynard may hereafter be able to visit this village once in three months. That may be the commencement of more regular Services. If I should be able to place a Missionary at Beaufort in Deacon's orders, he might occasionally take both Services, and release Mr. Maynard for occasional Services both here and at Victoria.

November 1st.—Finding on my arrival here that, instead of being six or seven hours distant from Seven Weeks Poort, I am twelve, I have been puzzled what to do. Mr. Honeyborne, however, with whom I am staying, relieved me from my difficulties. He undertook to lend and borrow a span of horses and a wagon, and soon after daylight this morning I started; he and the doctor of the village (a perfect Jehu in his way) kindly volunteering to drive me. I have been much pleased with my visit to Prince Albert, and have been most sumptuously entertained. Indeed I have been obliged more than once to remonstrate with good Mrs. Honeyborne for pampering me with delicacies, and to tell her that if I am to be treated as she would treat me, the Diocese will be passing canons, as in the

Church of old, restraining the cost and the frequency of Episcopal Visitations. She will not, however, be checked, and says I have come a long way to minister to my few sheep here, and that it is not a great matter, therefore, if I reap their worldly things. She seems much pleased with the village, and has no desire to return to her native Ireland, seeing that God has blessed her children abundantly in this land. One of her three sons is now on "tocht." This is a very common and profitable mode of doing business. Enterprising men from various parts of the Colony purchase, it may be, three or four wagons and spans of oxen, and load them with a great variety of articles of British manufacture. I am told that a wagon-load is frequently worth 500*l*. Thus equipped, they travel into the far interior, even to the Trans-Vaal Republic, and the Orange River Free State, which latter is our new Dutch Republic—in other words, the Sovereignty; which I have ever thought we most unwisely abandoned, and which has cost us, I understand, before we could surrender it, some 60,000*l*. by way of compensation to those who have exchanged our rule for one which they like less, and under which they think that their property is depreciated in value. In these journeys, which frequently last nine months,

traders barter their goods for sheep and oxen, and at last sell their wagons, returning on foot or horseback with large droves of cattle. Such a life must be wearing and exhausting: it tends, however, to keep up a healthy communication between the old country, and, what I suppose we must call, the daughter states, and to preserve them from that barbarism into which they, in spite of all, bid fair to sink.

Our road to-day lay for the few first hours at the foot of the Zwart-berg range, over a stony Karroo. The noise made by our wagon as we drove rather sharply over the never-ending stones, I can only compare to the unceasing fire of musketry at a review, close to one's ear. I have more than once congratulated myself that I did not allow S—— to accompany me during this journey through the desert. None but a person who could endure some degree of hardship could go through it. She would undoubtedly have been knocked up. The heat of this day has been intense: the ground burnt my feet, through strong shoes, as I walked, and my hand could scarcely bear the heat when I put it upon the ground. We did not see a house the whole way. Here and there, I am told, there are farms among the mountains, and behind the lowest range; but I did not see any of them. Mr.

Honeyborne told me of one, very beautifully situated, which can only be reached on foot or on horseback. All the produce is brought out on pack-oxen. We were warned that we could not get the wagon beyond a certain place; the Hottentot guide neglected to tell us when we arrived at it, so we went driving on till the horses were unable to draw the wagon further: they stuck half-way up a steep pitch. Instead of flogging our exhausted animals, we resolved to outspan, and to endeavour to turn the wagon by backing it into a small recess at the bottom of the hill. This we successfully accomplished without upsetting it or breaking anything. We then sent the Hottentot back with the horses to the last water. With these operations two hours were consumed, and I thought it then too late to proceed, as night was drawing on, and farmers do not like strangers to arrive after sunset. Mr. Honeyborne, however, urging me to proceed, we gave a few handfuls of forage to our jaded horses, and I and the Hottentot mounted two, and made the best of our way to De Kok's farm at the mouth of the Seven Weeks Poort Pass, where Mr. Barry, of Swellendam, had very kindly ordered horses to be in waiting for me. We had not gone many yards before we congratulated ourselves that our wagon stuck

where it did. Had we proceeded a little further, we should have got, I believe, into inextricable difficulties. We soon found ourselves fairly involved in the mountains, and I enjoyed the scenery much. Dusk, however, in this country soon succeeded by darkness, and ere long we could hardly trace our way. Happily my Hottentot knew it well; and it was occasionally lighted up by flashes of lightning, which came out of a great bank of cloud which was gathering at our backs, and bade fair to give us a drenching. The lightning, however, only left us at times in a deeper darkness, and served to show us that we were traversing a difficult, and in some places a very dangerous, path, with deep ravines beneath us, into which we might at any time have rolled. As my horse had been at work all day with scarce any food, and was twenty years old, and nearly blind in the darkness, I thought it more prudent to walk up the mountain. In due time we reached the top of it, and our descent was easy. About nine o'clock we reached Mr. Le Grange's farm. He was standing at his door, and bade us welcome. As Mr. De Kok's place was some distance further on, I resolved to accept of his hospitality, which was so readily and kindly offered; and was most agreeably surprised to find a clean

room with an excellent bed provided for me, and a most luxurious supper of chickens and eggs already cooked. For a time I could not understand how this was; but in the house I found a man who had passed us early on the road, and had doubtless given notice of our arrival. Nothing could exceed the kindness of the good farmer, and I passed a most pleasant night after an exhausting day, and was only awakened by his singing his morning hymn at five o'clock. About eight I started on the horse kindly provided for me by Mr. Solmes, who keeps a winkel on the Mission Station at Zoar, and would take no remuneration for his trouble. As he brought two saddles, it required a little management to dispose of mine, which I had brought with me that I might be prepared at any moment, if I found myself in a difficulty, to purchase a horse from some farmer, and ride on my way with all my chattels; for I have not more than one stout horse would carry, though my robes, consecration deeds, and a supply of services for the congregation, together with books for Divine Service, are included—all of which are stowed away in a little valise and two small saddle-bags. I enjoyed my ride much through the Seven Weeks Poort, though at times very warm. The atmosphere is, however, on

the whole much cooler than on the Karroo side of the mountain. The scenery is in some places very fine, though not, I think, equal to Meiring's Poort. There is less difficulty in riding through this, and I think it would cost much less to make a road through it than through Meiring's Pass, both because there is evidently at no time any great body of water there, and because the mountains are not so perpendicular, and have more debris at their base, over which the road may be carried. There will, I think, be less need of bridges and walled embankments than in the other Pass: but it appears to me that the chief expense in this case will be, not in making the road through the Pass, but in the approach to it by Bosch Luis (bush louse) Kloof, through which I passed last night. I think that I would sooner have to make the road through the Kloof than through the approach to it. Before we had got through the Pass, we were met by the Superintendent of the Berlin Missions in this country, Mr. Schultaz, and Mr. Meyforth, one of the two Missionaries on the Station, who kindly rode out to meet me. We soon came upon the Mission Station. I was glad to see a neat and ecclesiastical-looking Chapel, with buttresses, and good but simple dwelling-houses, and large tracts of land under cultivation. Shortly after

my arrival, S—— and Captain Rainier made their appearance in a cart with hired horses, two of mine having fallen ill, and one being left on the road—they could not tell me whether dead or alive. While at Zoar I had a good deal of conversation with the Missionaries about the state of religion in Germany, and about their Missions in this land. The Berlin Society is supported chiefly by the strict Lutherans; the Rhenish both by Lutherans and Reformed. The teaching of the Missionaries of the former is strictly Lutheran on the subject of the Sacraments; they adhere closely to the Confession of Augsburg. The teaching of the latter is, I believe, rather that of the Reformed, though they employ both strict Lutherans and Reformed. I should suppose, however, that the Heidelberg Catechism would represent their religious views. The differences of religious opinion in Prussia have, as with ourselves, their reflection in this land. At this time, on this very Station, it exhibits itself. One of the Missionaries, now absent, insists upon the decorations of the church with candlesticks and crucifix, being the same as is common with the churches of their communion in Europe. The others disapprove, and the thing is unpopular in this land. The Society supports the cause of strict conformity;

but the matter is not yet settled. There are 1000 people on this Station. They are for the most part poor, owing to the low rate of wages in this district. The magistrate tells me that four dollars, or six shillings a month with brandy, is a usual price. The people, therefore, cannot live, and are in debt both to the farmers, and to the highly respectable person who keeps a winkel (shop) on the Station. One of the Missionaries told me that he thought the inhabitants owed 600*l.* to the winkel, and at least that sum to the farmers. Once in debt, the labouring-man is the slave of the employer. It is so here. The coloured people borrow money of the farmers; the farmers lend it on condition that they work out the debt; while working it out they borrow more, and are thus always in debt. Under these circumstances, the creditor has them under his control, and fixes his own prices.

As I could not reach Riversdale by Sunday, I made my arrangements so as to accept of the hospitality of the brethren till Monday. I had thus an opportunity of witnessing the Sunday Services. With these I was much pleased. At present the Liturgy of the United Church in Prussia (the King of Prussia's Liturgy) is used. But the strict Lutheran Liturgy—not yet, I

believe, used to any extent in Germany—is soon to be introduced into all the Berlin Mission Stations, in which at present no uniformity exists. In the Service here, there were several hymns sung, and there was a good deal of chanting. Worship began by a general confession, during which the whole congregation knelt: there were several other written prayers, and an extempore one after the sermon. There was an Epistle and Gospel, and the Creed was confessed. There was a baptism during the Service; the questions to the sponsors were nearly the same as in our Service: both minister and sponsors laid their hands upon the children while repeating the words which relate that our Lord did this. The form of reception, “We receive this child,” &c., and the signing of the Cross, were omitted, though the same Missionaries were in the habit of using the words at other Stations. The sermon, preached with great fervour and earnestness, lasted an hour; the text was, “I am not ashamed,” &c. It happened to be the day on which the Lutherans commemorate the Reformation—the first Sunday after 31st of October, on which day Luther first posted his thesis on the door of the Church at Wittenberg. The sermon bore on the subject. The preacher gave a history of the gradual decline of the

Church from primitive purity; of its dark state; of the rise of Luther; and then spoke of the nature of the Gospel and its message of reconciliation; and of not being ashamed of the Gospel of Christ. The people seemed to listen very attentively, and apparently to understand more than I should have given them credit for doing. The Service lasted in the morning two hours and a half. There were about 400 present. In the evening there was no Liturgy, but a very long sermon, singing, and extempore prayer. The sermon was on Justification by Faith without works, as the leading principle of Luther and of the Reformation. We had again a great deal of the history of Luther. I thought the sermon altogether above the people. The Church was again nearly full. On the Friday evening, I attended the Night School, at which about sixty adults were present. A class of about thirty read the Scriptures very nicely, and answered well the questions put to them. Others were in different stages of advancement. On Saturday I again rode through the Poort with S—— and Captain Rainier, who wished to see it. On Monday we left the Institution after breakfast. Previously, however, to doing so, I took a walk with Mr. Meyforth to see some of the richest and best cultivated gardens, occupy-

ing about one hundred acres of land, which had been hidden from our view by a low hill. With the Institution I was on the whole much pleased. It has evidently done, and is still doing, much good. In such establishments, I have no doubt that the remark often made is perfectly true, that the coloured people are rising to a higher state of education than many of the neighbouring farmers, their employers, who have very scanty means for the education of their children. The chief defect at Zoar which struck me was the miserable character of the houses, or rather huts, of the people. They are inferior to those on almost any other long established Institution that I have seen. As I passed by the buildings of the old Institution, about a mile from the new buildings, I went into the school, where there were seventy children present under a coloured teacher. He examined them very nicely, on the Creation of the World, the Fall of Man, &c., and their singing was very good. We stayed for the night at a Dutch farmer's, about a mile out of Ladismith. Captain Rainier went with me to look up all the English we could find. We visited about ten families, nearly all members of our Church. Most of these are living without any means of grace; some were in the habit of reading the Holy Scriptures with their

families, and praying with them; others were giving way to intoxication; and three were living unmarried with coloured women. Two of them wished to be married, but could get no one to marry them; another was married, but was still unbaptized. Her case interested me a good deal; she had been taught to read at an Institution. A short time ago she was at Riversdale for three weeks, and attended Mr. Belson's school. On leaving he gave her the Church Catechism in Dutch to learn. Though only a fortnight had passed, she had learned the greater part of it, and repeated it most accurately. She had a sister in the room, who cannot read, and who is living unmarried with a Kafir, still a Heathen. Her father and mother, both living close by, are Heathens, but wish to become Christians, and there is no one to teach any of them. I was spoken to by several in the course of the day about a school for the coloured people, who once were permitted, but are now forbidden, to attend the only school in the place. They told me that there are upwards of sixty children without any education, and that the parents themselves did, while allowed to do so, attend school, and are still most anxious for instruction. This is another place, where, if I had the means, I would plant a Mission-school for the coloured

people. In a few years' time their number will be doubled and trebled. The village was not begun four years ago.

On Tuesday we held Divine Service in a new and empty store belonging to Mr. Ziervogel, a Lutheran, the Dutch Church not having been offered for the occasion. Mr. Belson rode up from Riversdale, to assist me in it. There was a very excellent congregation of English, Dutch, and coloured people. Several of the Dutch, who had attended our Services elsewhere, had Prayer-books, and repeated the responses well. After Service, we drove through a beautiful valley to Mr. Ziervogel's, who keeps a store about nine miles from the village. He entertained us most hospitably, and pressed me very warmly about a school for the coloured people, offering to give land, or, if his land did not suit, to buy some, and give it. He offered also money for a building, and said that the people would raise a subscription, and memorialize me on the subject.

On Wednesday we had a long drive of sixty miles to Riversdale. Great part of the country is of Karroo character, but far superior in point of scenery to the Great Karroo. We walked over the Platte Kloof, a pass through the range of mountains which separates this district from

Riversdale, and enjoyed our walk much, the day being deliciously cool. The pass may be greatly improved at a small expense.

My time at Riversdale has, as usual, been employed in working up arrears of correspondence. On Friday we held a Parish Meeting, chiefly to stir up the parishioners to fresh exertions towards finishing their Church, maintaining their Minister, and aiding him in the erection of his parsonage. 1,600*l.* has been spent upon the Church and School within the last two years. When the Parsonage and Church shall be completed, the whole amount will not be short of 2,000*l.* I took care to make the parishioners understand that Mr. Belson has come out without any promise of a stipend from me, and that the only income named to him was 50*l.* a-year, which they had authorised me to offer. I believe very few knew that he came out to spend, as well as to be spent, amongst them. On Saturday evening I held a Confirmation, when two candidates, who were not able to come in from the country when I was last here, were confirmed. On Sunday we had the usual Services in the Court-house. I preached on each occasion. There is a Sunday School, morning and evening, at which the usual attendance is sixty, and in which Captain

Rainier and his family are regular teachers. In the afternoon Captain Rainier always gives religious instruction to the prisoners in the gaol.

Monday, 12th.—My face is again turned homewards. Mr. Belson accompanies us in the wagon to Swellendam, to be present at the consecration of the Church, which is at length finished. I am obliged to leave one horse still sick at Riversdale, and to proceed with four. He has now been ill a fortnight, merely from eating a little barley. It was barley that killed the only horse I have yet lost in Africa. This horse was affected first by great swelling in his body and limbs, and now he is hardly able to walk when first coming out of the stable. He moves as if he had had a stroke of paralysis. About three hours and a half from Riversdale we crossed the Duivenhoks River at the spot which is just fixed upon as the site of a new village. There are not less, I think, than a dozen such villages just springing up in my Diocese. As the manner in which villages are usually founded is illustrative of the social and religious condition of the country, and of the difficulties which beset us in extending our Church in this land, and providing for our people's spiritual wants, I give some account of

it. A farm is usually purchased by the churchwardens of an overgrown Dutch parish, in a situation well suited, from an abundant supply of water, and for other reasons, for a large population. It is then surveyed, and laid out for a village. 5,000*l.* is often given for the farm. In this case that sum is given for half a farm. A day is fixed for the sale of erven, or lots; not unfrequently 8,000*l.* or 9,000*l.* is obtained—enough to pay for the farm and build a Church and Parsonage. Upon each lot, or erf, a land-tax of ten shillings per annum is fixed. In some cases this produces 120*l.* a-year, by way of endowment. At Duivenhoks River the purchase-money realized on the day of sale was 10,300*l.*, leaving 4,000*l.* for Church and Parsonage, in addition to an annual tax of ten shillings on each erf, amounting to nearly 200*l.* a-year. The facts that the Dutch are the chief possessors of the soil—that they form the bulk of the community, and have religious unity amongst themselves—enable them to extend their Church in this way at the cost of the public. So greatly does property increase in value in villages, that before many years are over, the erven are worth double the price the original purchasers gave for them. We are not able in this way to found our Church through-

out the country. The population does not belong to us, and it is the combination of Church and village—worldly convenience and increased spiritual means—that leads all the farmers round about to interest themselves in the matter, and give high prices for erven. All that we can do is to attempt to plant our Church in each village, when the necessities of our poor emigrant population shall seem to call for a Clergyman or Catechist, or when the condition of the coloured people claims our sympathy and exertions. Under these circumstances, the first planting of our Church in the new villages of this land must ever be costly. It must, at least for some years, be maintained chiefly at the expense of the Mother Church. It is utterly impossible that it should, in the first instance, be self-supporting, except to a very limited extent.

In my way to Swellendam, I spent two or three hours at the Zuurbraak Missionary Institution. The affairs of that Institution are now in a somewhat painful situation. The diminution of the funds of the London Society, coupled with their desire to make their work in this land self-supporting to a greater extent than it has hitherto been, has led them to withdraw, almost or altogether, the pecuniary aid

which they have hitherto for many years freely given. In most of their Stations the people have, in consequence, come forward to maintain both their School and religious Teacher. In this Institution they have promised 200*l.*, the whole cost being 270*l.* Whether they will be able or willing to make this payment from year to year, remains yet to be seen. There are 1,100 souls on the Institution, and they occupy a farm of 10,000 acres, belonging to Government. This change in the relation of the Institution to the Society is one source of present disquietude. Another and graver subject of anxiety, is the fact that the residents upon the Institution are much divided in feeling, and some of them altogether alienated from the Missionary, and repudiating even the Gospel itself—refusing to attend Church, or have their children baptized, or to send them to school. I endeavoured to ascertain the cause of this unhappy state of things (which cannot, I believe, in any way be attributed to the Missionary, who is an excellent man), and learnt as follows. About A.D. 1808, it appears that a party of about thirty Hottentots, under a chief, were residing on this spot. Whether the land had belonged to their forefathers or not, I did not hear. At that time they received from the

Land-rost of Swellendam a written permission to occupy the land. This they regarded as equivalent to a grant, which, of course, it was not, though regarded as such by them from that time to the present. Afterwards, a Missionary was sent to them, and an Institution sprung up, around which gradually a large population gathered. At first no objection seems to have been made to this by the original possessors. About ten years ago, however, they began to express dissatisfaction, which has been continually growing since, and has been increased by visits from the Kat River Hottentots. The matter has been long before the Government, but has not hitherto been settled. I suggested to the Missionary that perhaps the difficulty might be got over, and the dissentients reconciled, if, when making the land over in freehold to the present residents upon it, the Government were to give a double portion to each of the descendants of the original possessors, who now feel themselves aggrieved. The Missionary told me that he thought it was the general impression of the Missionaries that the pure Hottentot race would never rise high in the scale of civilisation. In this Institution, and in others, they are completely outstripped by the Negro apprentices and the bastards. The Institution is very

beautifully situated in a fertile valley just under the mountain, by the banks of the Buffel Jagts River, whose abundant waters, however, are not made available for the purposes of irrigation. We reached Swellendam early in the afternoon.

Nov. 14th.—At eleven o'clock in the morning I consecrated the Church of this parish, which has been a long time in the course of erection, and been thrown back by a variety of circumstances. It is now, however, satisfactorily completed, and is one of the most correct and ecclesiastical buildings in the Diocese. The stone is of a very pleasing colour, but it is feared that it will prove perishable. We had a congregation which filled the Church to overflowing. I preached. The Minister of the Dutch Church, with many of his congregation, were present; also the Missionary of the London Society from Zuurbraak. After the Church was consecrated, we all proceeded on foot to the consecration of the burial-ground, about half a mile distant. We then returned to partake of a cold collation, and to be present at a dinner given by the Minister and parishioners to the children of the Sunday School—sixty in number. This was succeeded by the distribution of prizes, and a few words to the children from myself. After this we had a parish meeting,

which lasted two hours. Then a large dinner party at Mr. Barry's, of whose hospitality I am now partaking; and a still larger evening party: and this, to me, very exhausting day, was concluded by an hour's discussion concerning Educational Grants, with the Superintendent General of Education, whom I had observed in Church, and who is now commencing an inspection of all the Schools of the Colony, for the information of Parliament at its next meeting. At our parish meeting it appeared that the Church had already cost 1,050*l.*, and will require at least an additional 100*l.* to complete satisfactorily the internal fittings. A new subscription was opened for surrounding the Church and churchyard with a wall, and for paying off a debt which still hangs over the Church. I brought under the notice of the parishioners the fact that their contributions towards the support of the Ministry had fallen far short of what had been promised to me, and that I could not any longer allow their Minister to draw upon me for his stipend, if their quarterly remittances were not much larger than they had hitherto been. This was promised for the future; but it was stated that some individuals present had contributed 100*l.* to the Church, others 70*l.*, others 30*l.* I admitted that they had had great

difficulties to contend with, but thought they might have done, and ought to have done, more for their Minister. I told them that in future all that I could do for them would be to contribute 50*l.* a-year for the next three years; that after that all my subscriptions would cease, and that I would pledge myself to nothing more. Upon this it was observed that if they could not then relieve my funds from any payment to them, they were not deserving of a Minister. At the close of these proceedings the parishioners brought under my notice some scruples which several of them had respecting the surplice and weekly offertory. I replied fully to their remarks, and I believe satisfied them. I told them that in planting the Church in this land I had felt it my solemn obligation to take the Prayer-book, and that only, for my guide in all things relating to the discipline, services, and worship of the Church; that if I once departed from the written law of the Church, I felt that I should have no ground to stand upon in the administration of the discipline of my Diocese; and that if I took the tastes or wishes of individuals, whether Clergy or Laity, for my guide, I should have no fixed rule, no law, no uniformity, in my Diocese; and should myself set the example of violating

the laws which I was sent to administer ; in which case I could not call upon others to abide by the plain-written laws of the Church, whatever extravagance they might be guilty of, on one side or other : that in a country where the Church was a mere Voluntary Society, as in this land, our only safety lay in abiding by the written law : that whatever irregularities in practice might have crept in, I believed the surplice was the only vestment recognised by the Church in her canons and rubrics ; and added, that without the surplice, except the Clergy went through repeated changes of dress, we could not have the weekly offertory : that nearly all admitted that in an unendowed Church the latter was essential : that their difficulties had been in a great measure occasioned by adhering from the first to a subscription list, instead of the offertory, which had proved a delusion and a snare, and had led to a violation of their engagements with me, they not having been able to collect more than one-half of the subscriptions pledged to me : that besides all this, the use of two dresses was in this Diocese in many cases impracticable, there being in this very parish four villages which required to be visited from time to time ; and in the next parish not less than six stations, all of them

distant from thirty to fifty miles from the parish Church, and accessible only on horseback : that to compel a Clergyman, great part of whose life was spent on horseback, to carry two dresses about with him wherever he went, or to furnish himself with half-a-dozen gowns, was a tyranny which no man would submit to. We parted all the better satisfied, I hope, for our free and friendly discussion, and with a determination on the part of the parishioners, I trust, to stand by their Church's laws, and to turn a deaf ear to the taunts and twittings of the enemies of the Church, who here, as elsewhere, would weaken her by endeavouring to sow dissension amongst her members.

By six o'clock in the morning we were again *en route*. One of the parishioners kindly lent me a horse to supply the place of that which I had been obliged to leave behind. We were abundantly supplied, by the kindness of our host, with chicken, ham, and cake. The day was oppressively warm ; and the horses, which have of late been losing condition, seemed to feel it greatly. We had appointed a Service at the new village of Montagu, distant about forty miles, at three o'clock, but were not able to reach it till five. I then proceeded immediately with the Service. We had about forty present.

Of these only about ten were English; two of them candidates for Confirmation. After Service I had some conversation with them. They consist for the most part of young men who are living as tutors in Dutch farmers' houses—a miserable position to be filled, as is sometimes the case here, by young men well connected and well educated, but who have left their families and home, not unfrequently through some quarrel or dispute with other members of it. I have met with three such to-day. One was intended, I was told by others, for the Ministry.

After a short and feverish night, we were off again at daybreak on our way to Worcester, having appointed to hold Service at eight o'clock at Robertson, a new village distant about twenty miles. Our route lay for the first hour through Cogman's Kloof, by which we came last night. The road is intolerably bad, and in a discreditable state, even for this country. The scenery in one part of it is very fine—the rocks and mountains being of a very wild, bold character, and rich in colouring. The strata were most curiously twisted. S——, as usual, sketched some of the finest points. The day was again most oppressive. The thermometer was 80° at five o'clock in the morning. At one time

it was upwards of 100° in the shade. We breakfasted at Mr. Van Zyl's, the kind farmer at whose house I have slept on former Visitations, and on whose farm a flourishing village is now springing up. I held Service in the half-finished Dutch Church, built out of the sale of erven, and preached from the pulpit just given by the ladies of the parish, and which cost 200*l*. The pulpit is the great object of attraction in the Dutch Churches. It is usually an immense structure. The Churches are generally built in the form of a Greek Cross, the pulpit occupying what we should call the Chancel. The Holy Communion is frequently administered in the Vestry. I had about a dozen English and a few Dutch at our Service. Two young people desired to be confirmed. One had been for some time under preparation by Mr. Baker; the other had lately been baptized by him. She had lately come from England, but, through carelessness of her parents, had never been baptized. Both seemed in earnest, and I confirmed them. I was glad to find, both here and at Montagu, our people had their Bibles and Prayer-books, and that they made all the responses aloud. Our Service over, I had a long conversation with those who were present, and endeavoured to induce them to

meet together on a Sunday, and offer up some of the prayers of our Church, and read the Scriptures, till some better arrangement could be made for them. All expressed a desire for joint worship, and some seemed very anxious about it; but they felt very diffident about reading aloud, and I am afraid that they will not follow my advice. These occasional Visitation Services are, I am persuaded, of much use. They are not without their effect in stirring up our people to a greater attention to spiritual things, and it serves to show them that, though unable to make provision for regular Services amongst them, they are not altogether overlooked, but that their Church cares for them. Those with whom I conversed to-day told me that in these parts there are a good many scattered English, who, from having no one in past years to look after them, have given up their own Church, and joined in communion with the Dutch. This village will, I think, one day rise to some importance. It is well situated in a fertile and abundantly watered valley. Already there are a great many houses in the course of erection. In point of beauty of situation, it is not equal to Montagu, which lies at the opening of a fine pass, and is surrounded by picturesque mountains. We did not reach

Worcester till eight o'clock, having completed a journey of fifty miles in one of the hottest days I have ever travelled in—the air being like a furnace. The thermometer has been 103° in the shade at Worcester. The last part of the road is a mixture of stones and heavy sand. Our horses were in some places hardly able to drag the wagon through. There is no Clergyman at present stationed at Worcester. Mr. Glover has, however, come up to finish the preparation of the candidates for Confirmation, who had been under Mr. Gorham's instruction during the last holidays at the College. Since I was last here, the churchwarden has been reading the prayers of the Church every Sunday. He has a congregation of from thirty to forty. On Saturday I held a Confirmation: there were fifteen candidates. The Parsonage-house is gradually rising up. The Church is at a standstill: nothing more can be done to this till a Clergyman arrives. It is two years and a half since Mr. Martine left, and his place is not yet supplied; he was much respected here. Had he remained, our Church in this village would have been in a very different condition to what it now is. During this whole day I felt very unwell; at night I grew worse, and did not sleep at all. In the morning, I was obliged to send for the

Doctor. The heat (which still continues), the work, and want of sleep, and the irregular meals, of the last week, have upset me. It was with difficulty that I got through the Sermons and Holy Communion on Sunday. We had good congregations, and there were fifteen communicants.

Monday, 16th.—Started at six o'clock, in a cart for Villier's-dorp, where I have promised to hold Service this evening. I had intended to have gone that way in my wagon; but, in order to spare my horses, I have resolved to hire a cart, and return to-morrow to Worcester, and thus proceed to Paarl by Baine's Kloof, instead of the Fransche Hoek Pass. It was well I did so, for the road was very heavy with soft sand, and would, I think, have quite knocked up my already jaded horses. At a farm where we outspanned, I met with a young woman (almost a solitary instance in my travels), who not only seemed to be under deep religious impressions, but to have her whole soul fixed upon spiritual things. I had hardly entered the house when she observed that she felt much pain that she could not speak my language, but that in Heaven there was but one tongue. She then spoke of our Lord, and of his indwelling in his members, in a very earnest and yet humble way.

Her favourite chapter was one which has ever appeared to me amongst the most beautiful—the 17th of St. John. She dwelt upon this very touchingly. She said that from ten years old she had found her chief joy in such subjects. We arrived in Villier's-dorp, at Mr. Brett's, about three. Mr. Wilshere came about two hours afterwards from Caledon, having been eight hours in the saddle, and gone round a considerable distance to bring in two Scotch Presbyterians to our Service—they being anxious to be confirmed. At six o'clock, I held a Confirmation in the Dutch Church, and both addressed the candidates and preached to a mixed congregation of Dutch and English. There were about twenty-five English present. Next morning there was a marriage at eight o'clock. As I drew up at the Church to pick up Mr. Wilshere, who was to proceed a few miles with me in Mr. Brett's cart, I found a really large mixed congregation, who were in full expectation of another Service. I could not leave them without uniting in prayer with them, and speaking to them from God's Word; so we sent back the cart for an hour, and in five minutes I was robed and in Church. We had short prayers, and I preached to them for twenty minutes extempore. Just within the hour we were enabled to

proceed. Mr. Brett, who has long held Service in his own house both for English and coloured people, is very anxious to get a School-chapel erected, and a Catechist-schoolmaster placed in the village for English and Heathen. I trust that this may one day be accomplished, but at present it is scarcely possible. A great portion of the expense must fall upon me, and I am ill able to bear it. If we succeed in getting a Deacon-schoolmaster at Caledon, for which there is already a guaranteed income of 100*l.* a year, this place may perhaps be visited by a Clergyman once in six weeks. Until then it is scarcely possible. We arrived at Worcester about sunset, visiting on our way several English families, and a kind of Mission-school, kept by a Wesleyan trader, in which there were upwards of twenty children, in a room fitted up for a School and Chapel. I found that there were at least twenty Englishmen wholly uncared for in this single valley.

On Wednesday the 21st, we left Worcester again at five in the morning, for the Paarl, and enjoyed the fresh breeze which played around us, after the intolerable heat of the last few days. We breakfasted at the old convict station at Darling Bridge, at the foot of Bain's Kloof Pass, which now does duty as an inn. The scenery

of this Pass, though very fine, is not equal to that of Montagu Pass, near George, but the road is both wider and better engineered. Our horses trotted over nearly the whole of it. It was made entirely by convict labour : at present it is much broken up by the dry weather. As the day advanced it again became very warm. We arrived at Wellington a little after twelve ; our School-chapel there, intended as a place of worship and a school, both for white and black, is in the course of erection, but has not advanced so far as I had expected. At Wellington I left my horses, and proceeded to the Paarl in our Mission-cart, which Mr. Mæser, the Chaplain at the convict station, brought over for me. I had but a few hours at the Paarl for my several engagements. These consisted of a Confirmation, which I held in the evening (the second this year), and which was attended by a large congregation ; and in conversing with three persons who were not unlikely to be employed in Mission work. One of these was the son of a Clergyman, but was now keeping a shop in the Paarl ; he came out to farm in Natal, tempted by Mr. Byrne's large promises. In this he was disappointed, like many others ; but he has learnt the Zulu language, takes an interest in the people, is a religious man, and, with his wife, is very

anxious to return and teach them, without any assurance beyond that of a bare maintenance; and with an understanding that he is to do any work the Bishop may assign him—even, if need be, to handle the plough, or keep a shop. As he is thriving in business at the Paarl, and can, therefore, scarcely be influenced by any worldly motive, I am disposed to recommend him for Mission work in my dear brother's Diocese. Another candidate was a young man whom I confirmed in the evening, brought up by parents who have successively been followers of Lady Huntingdon, Wesley, the Independents, Quakers; who was originally intended by his father for the Ministry of the English Church, then sent to study surgery and medicine in London; who came out here upon some dispute with his father, and is now maintaining himself by means of a chemist's shop. He is anxious to give up worldly occupations, and take any post of usefulness amongst the coloured people. Mr. Inglis speaks very highly of him. He is to read "Hooker," and "Pearson," and other works, and I have held out prospects of employing him hereafter as a Catechist-schoolmaster. I was very much pleased with him; he seems quite in earnest, and is both a gentleman and an educated man. Our little Church here is fast rising up

to completion, and will, I trust, ere long be too small for the congregation. The coloured people in the Paarl, amounting to not less than 3,000, are not half cared for. I inspected and examined, in the course of the afternoon, our Mission School in the Lower Paarl: I found fifty children in it; there are nearly ninety on the books, but, being harvest-time, the School is now thin. A few months ago, not one of these could read. I heard them read very fairly in English, and they read better in Dutch; their writing would do credit to any school. Services are held in this building every Sunday. There has been a good deal of opposition, though, till we began the work, scarcely anything had ever been done for these poor people. God's blessing is, however, I trust, resting upon the zealous labours of the devoted young man who is acting as Catechist-schoolmaster. In the evening, we were joined by a gentleman who has taken a great interest in the condition of the coloured people at Malmsbury, and who arrived by omnibus from Capetown, with a view to accompany us to that village.

After breakfast next morning, we proceeded on our way to Malmsbury, returning to Wellington in the Mission-cart. We found our wagon waiting at the bridge. On outspanning,

after a three hours' drive, I found one of my poor leaders ill, or, as I believe, knocked up with his work ; he lay down and stretched himself out, as if he were about to die, refusing either to eat or drink. I left him at a farm, with one of my men, and another horse, and he came on in the cool of the evening to Malmsbury, where I hired fresh horses, and determined to send two of my own home. We found a very comfortable little inn in the village. After conversing with the Civil Commissioner, we drove out in a hired cart to the Missionary Institution at Oliphant's Fontein, with a view to meet the coloured people residing upon it. It is unfortunately the middle of harvest, and many of them were absent, reaping the crops on the neighbouring farms. Our arrival, however, was soon known, and messages were sent to those who were near enough, to meet us at eight o'clock on the following morning. We contented ourselves, therefore, with talking matters over with two of the men who had hitherto acted as deacons, or churchwardens, and surveying the farm, garden, and buildings, all of which were better than I anticipated. It may not be uninteresting if I make a few remarks upon the circumstances of these people, and my connexion with them ; and the plans which I

propose to adopt for their benefit. About four years ago, an individual purchased the farm, intending to establish a Missionary Institution, of which he was to become the Teacher. His purpose was to form a village upon it. In order to do this, he marked out erven, or plots of ground, for gardens, and invited, or permitted, the coloured people to occupy them, with the option of becoming purchasers at a certain fixed rate. Unforeseen difficulties arose, and from one cause or another the purchaser became bankrupt before he could make legal transfer of the erven which had been allotted, and for which considerable sums had been paid by the coloured people. Altogether, during the last few years, they have paid nearly 800*l.*, including the stipend of their Teacher. These facts were brought under my notice just previously to my starting on Visitation, and excited a good deal of interest in my mind for the people who were thus making laudable exertions for their own improvement, and who, after all their efforts, had not only lost a considerable sum of money, but were in great danger of having the farm sold, with their houses and crops upon it, and themselves thrown, at a moment's notice, in a state of utter destitution, upon the world. I resolved, therefore, upon becoming the purchaser, and Mr. W—— acted

as my agent in the matter. It has been purchased for about 800*l.* during my absence from Capetown; and my present meeting with the people was with a view to give them an opportunity of expressing their wishes, and to lay before them the plans I proposed for their welfare, and the terms upon which they might become, in the first instance, the tenants, and ultimately, the proprietors, of the soil. The farm consists of about 2,600 acres of land; a very large portion of it is under cultivation, and I was glad to see that the poor people had reaped and stacked their crops. There are some good houses, but the greater number are mere pon-tocks, or straw-huts. The Teacher's residence is a large, ill-built, Dutch farm-house: a very poor building serves for School and Chapel. After taking a good survey of the whole, we returned to Malmsbury, which is about three miles distant, and met the people again, according to engagement, on the morrow, at eight o'clock. About eighty were present in the school-room. Mr. W—— was spokesman. He told the people for me why I had purchased the property, and what were the conditions upon which they might remain upon it, and it might ultimately become their own. My conditions were that they should in the first place pay the

interest of the purchase-money by way of rent; that they should next pay the sums fixed by the former owner for the erven; that when the whole were sold, and the purchase-money repaid, and a sufficient sum in hand for the expenses of survey, &c., I would transfer the erven to them, with probably no other condition attached to them, than that there should never be canteens upon them. Sobriety and good conduct were also conditions of their remaining. If any became drunkards, or sold brandy upon the farm, or committed other grievous offences, they would be dismissed, but would have any money they had paid towards the purchase of erven returned to them. All were very anxious for the appointment of a religious Teacher as soon as possible, saying that, without a white man to be over them, they could not live in peace; that Sunday was now unobserved; that all were growing careless; that their children were running about wild, and losing the little they had learnt. I told them that, in consideration of the great losses which they had sustained, I proposed to keep them a Teacher for three years free of all cost, which would save them 60*l.* a-year; that he would educate their children— one hundred at least in number; but that, at the end of three years, I should require them to

contribute as they had formerly done. For this they expressed themselves as very grateful, and one of their number stood up in the name of the rest to thank me for saving them from ruin. They said that the grown-up members of the Institution had been nearly 300; a very large number of these have, however, left; others, they said, would be anxious to come so soon as they found that the place was secure to them. They asked if they could now build their houses safely. I assured them that they could; and urged them to build good four-room houses, telling them that they could never look for much improvement while young people of both sexes were brought up together as at present. I found from Mr. W—— that parties had been endeavouring to arouse their religious prejudices against the Church, but, as far as I could see, without making any great impression upon them. At the close of the meeting, we endeavoured to settle some small disputes, and offered to receive their first contributions towards the rent, or purchase of erven. They said that, until harvest was over, and they were paid by the Boers, they would not have much money; about thirty of them, however, paid down nearly 20*l.*; they asked for no receipt. I was hardly prepared for so much confidence after the recent losses.

they have sustained. All monies are to be invested in the Savings' Bank, in the names of Mr. W—— and myself, and two members of the Institution, whom we called upon the people to elect on this occasion. At present the farm is vested in myself—not in the See. When the people shall have purchased it, I shall transfer the several portions to each owner, retaining only, in the name of the See, the house, Church, School, garden, &c., with a joint right of pasturage, for religious purposes. May God give His blessing to the work which we have this day commenced! May it tend to His glory, and to the temporal and spiritual good of these poor people! It is of great importance that I should place a Teacher amongst them at once. I have in view one, whom I hope I may be able to send—at least until a permanent arrangement can be made. They expressed their readiness to send a wagon for him, and they showed also that they were grateful for what had been done for them, by repairing the thatch over what they called the “pastorie,” and making everything about it clean and tidy. There are, I believe, 180 good gardens upon the place. I left the Institution well satisfied that I had taken a right step in purchasing it for these people, and with good hopes for the future. We are to

draw up written rules for its government, embodying all the principles I have laid down, and place copies of them in the hands of those whom they have chosen for their churchwardens. I could not make out how many of them were baptized. The whole expense of establishing this work ought not to be more than 70*l.* a-year for the first three years, with perhaps a few other incidental expenses, and a small addition to the Teacher's stipend afterwards. It may be the means of instructing in the faith of Christ, if it succeeds, a population of 700 or 800 souls. I should be very glad to multiply these Missionary villages, based upon self-supporting principles, all over the country. The coloured people are, I think, eager for them, and they appear to me admirably adapted for their moral and social improvement.

By about twelve o'clock, we were able to proceed on our way to Capetown. It was a great relief to me to think that the work of this Visitation, which has just occupied three months, and which of late, owing to the great heat of the weather, has proved very exhausting, is now ended. I was sorry to leave Malmsbury without holding Service for the few English in it; but I had no place wherein to meet for worship, nor any one to give notice to the people

in the neighbourhood : nor did I know how far my time would have been at my disposal. This whole district, with its scattered English population, is the most thoroughly neglected part of my Diocese. For years I have been able to do nothing for Malmsbury, D'Urban, Tulbagh ; and I have never even visited Clan William, Piket-berg, Saldanha and St. Helena Bays—in all of which places there is a scattered English population. If I can, I must endeavour, ere long, to make a tour over it ; but, before I can do so, St. Helena, and Namaqua Land, claim my attention ; and if I should be spared so long, I shall not have visited, and returned from these most inaccessible portions of my Diocese, for another year. About two hours and a half brought us to Droog Vley farm, lately purchased by the sons of one of our best Churchmen. We remained here for a couple of hours, and I baptized three English children, for whom the masters of the house stood sponsors. Upon this farm alone I find there are about eighty souls. For them no Service has hitherto been held. I urged the Messrs. E—— to assemble their dependants every Sunday, and offer up some of the prayers of the Church, and give catechetical instruction. This they have on their former farm been in the habit of doing, and cheerfully

and readily undertook to do the same here, beginning next Sunday. One other member of the Church, at least, in this district, is doing the same thing; and I passed, without knowing it, the farm of another member of the Church, where the daughter had long been in the habit of instructing the coloured people, and where, only a few days ago, several adults prepared by her were baptized by the Clergyman of Stellenbosch. By sunset we reached D'Urban, within seventeen miles from home. Being a moonlight night, we had some intention of pushing on, but my men thought that our horses were too tired. The next morning we started at five o'clock, and were home to a nine o'clock breakfast. We found our children, God be praised, all well, and had a happy meeting.

This whole Visitation has been to me one of deep interest and encouragement. Amidst very great difficulties, a considerable work has been accomplished. In many districts the Church is, I trust, firmly rooted and established. There is no place, save Worcester, where the English are congregated together in any numbers, where there is not already a Clergyman, a Church, and, in many instances, a School. And in those places where their numbers are too few to justify the erection of a Church, and the appointment of a

Clergyman, there is a fair prospect of our being able to plant School-chapels, and Deacon-school-masters, for a combined work amongst the English and the Heathen—if only we can raise the funds necessary for such a purpose. In other districts, where there are no English, the coloured people are very anxious that a purely Missionary work should be undertaken for their good. There is, I believe, a growing desire, in many quarters, for the ministration of the English Church. When I remember what the condition of the Church over the whole country was on my first Visitation, and look at it now, I cannot but feel very thankful to God, who has done so much for us. It is a great comfort, too, to think that, throughout that large portion of the Diocese over which I have travelled, a good hearty Church spirit, and a growing religious feeling, prevail. The aims of those who have unceasingly exerted themselves by anonymous writings in the public prints to injure the Church, are seen through. Their assaults have led, in many cases, to a more diligent study of the principles and doctrines of the Church of England, through her own recognised formularies; and thereby to increased knowledge and faith, and a firmer attachment to the Church. The seven years we have passed through have been anxious, and, to me, exhaust-

ing years ; but, if it please God to bless the work of His servants in future times as largely as in the past, there need be no fear but that the true faith of Christ will have a firm hold upon the mind and conscience of this land ; and that multitudes, who, alas ! have still but a faint knowledge of the one true God and Jesus Christ whom He hath sent, will rejoice in the full light of the Gospel, and truly know, to their great joy, Him, whom to know is life eternal. May God grant it for Christ's sake !

Almost immediately after my return home, I engaged in a series of Confirmations for Capetown and the parishes in its neighbourhood. It is my desire, if possible, to hold these annually, and in each parish church, that the relatives and sponsors may have an opportunity of attending ; and the whole parishioners, if they will, become witnesses of the public profession of the younger members of the Church. The numbers confirmed were greater than last year, although there had not been a Confirmation for two years before that. One-third of the candidates were, I think, generally coloured people.

I fixed the hour for the Service at five o'clock, in order that the parishioners might be able to attend. I was glad to find that very many availed themselves of the opportunity. The Churches were in almost every case full.

On the fourth Sunday in Advent, I held an Ordination, when the Rev. H. Herbert was ordained Priest; Mr. A. Wood and Mr. Morris, Deacons. Just previously to this, the Rev. H. A. Douglas arrived from England as successor at St. George's to Dr. Newman, whose loss the Church here has had to deplore, but who is again anxious to return, now that it has pleased God to take unto Himself his invalid wife—for whose sake he left us. I am not without hope that I shall be able to make a satisfactory arrangement for his return. Mr. Douglas is, I think, admirably adapted for his new post. His powers as a preacher are considerable. His thorough knowledge of the working of a parish; his judgment, moderation, activity,—all seem to qualify him for the very important situation which he is called to fill. His arrival is a very great relief to me; for, for nearly two years, Capetown has been without its own proper Minister, and we have been obliged to get our Churches served as best we could. The Clergy who have been officiating in them deserve my

cordial thanks for the brotherly way in which they have laboured together during the last two years, taking cheerfully such posts as have been assigned them, and showing no signs of any contention amongst themselves, as to which of them should be the greatest. The arrival of Mr. Douglas enables me to fix them in their posts, which have for some time not only been unfixed, but have been continually changed, as the needs of the Church required, and sets me free for other work ; for, during the absence of the Dean, I have felt it my duty to be at St. George's, when it was possible, every Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead have also arrived : they are intended for Namaqua Land. The prospects of the Mining Companies are not so good as they seemed to be a year ago. There are, however, several hundred persons employed there, and likely to continue so ; and, therefore, there is ample occupation for him and for his wife, who seems prepared to share all his toils and deprivations, and to be a fellow-helper in his work.

The closing days of the year were taken up with School examinations and School feasts, and Christmas dinners to our coloured people ; so that since our return we have scarcely had

a single unoccupied day. Our least agreeable occupation was a fruitless contest with a terrible and destructive bush-fire, which, through the carelessness of a neighbour, about three miles off, led to the burning of a great portion of our plantations, and threatened the destruction of our house. In little more than an hour, the fire had traversed a distance of two miles, and enveloped our woods. It was in vain to resist it, or meet fire with fire. At one time it nearly surrounded our house, and was burning at once over a tract of country three miles in length. It spread over about 200 out of 350 acres of our land, and did much damage also to the properties of our neighbours. We were very thankful that our house and other buildings were spared: but our loss has been considerable. The day was very windy. Our poor coloured people worked very heartily—women as well as men; and towards the close of the day we had a large concourse of people from Capetown and the neighbouring villages. Capetown, and even the shipping in the bay, was, as I was told, covered with smoke and ashes during the day.

On St. Paul's day, I consecrated the little church of Eerste Rivier, which has been some time in building. Early in January we held

our second Missionary Meeting in the state room at Government House. Sir G. Grey gave some interesting accounts of Missions in British Kaffraria, Natal, and New Zealand. I gave an account of my Visitation.

APPENDIX.

BISHOP'S COURT,
April 5th, 1856.

MY DEAR HAWKINS,—You will be glad to receive some account of a visit which I have recently paid to Tristan d'Acunha. I sit down, therefore, to give you a brief history of it, which you can, if not too late, publish with my Journal lately sent home to the Society, as it may be interesting to others. I made an effort on my first voyage to the Cape, just eight years ago, to visit the island, feeling much for the spiritual condition of its inhabitants. I was not, however, able to carry my wish into effect. Since the arrival of its devoted minister, I have been still more desirous to take any opportunity that might present itself of fulfilling my original intention, that I might strengthen Mr. Taylor's hands, and comfort him in a work which has ever seemed to me as full of trial and privation as any in whatever part of the world. His own repeated entreaties, which reached me through various channels—that I would, if possible, pay him a visit,—and a desire to make his little flock partakers of the full ministrations of the Church, led me to feel that

I ought not to omit any opportunity of becoming a fellow-helper in his work. Eight years have passed away without there being the least opening for any communication with him. At length, however, rumours having reached me from different quarters that the islanders were already suffering, partially from want of food, and were likely soon, through their increasing numbers, to outgrow the narrow dimensions of their island home, and to be reduced to great distress, I spoke to Sir George Grey on the subject. He at once took it up with that zeal which impels him to engage in every good work, and both requested the Commodore to send a ship to offer to bring the islanders to the Cape, and agreed on the part of the Cape Government to bear the expense of their passage.

Though absorbed with my own work at the time, I felt that it was my duty not to lose an opportunity which might not again present itself, and that I should ever hereafter reproach myself, if the inhabitants did not come away, or even only partially availed themselves of Sir G. Grey's kind and liberal offer; and their minister, perplexed as to the course which he ought to pursue, were deprived of the comfort which my counsel would have afforded him. At one time I had hoped that the ship might have first taken me to St. Helena, which does not lie so much out of the course as it appears to do on the map. I should thus have accomplished two works at one time, and have visited a portion of my Diocese which I have not seen for four years. I found, however, that it could not be arranged except

at a cost which I was not able to bear. I was, therefore, obliged to abandon the idea, and leave St. Helena for a second voyage this year, if I can find time, and summon courage to beat my way back in the small cattle craft, which afford the only means for returning from that, to me, most inconvenient island, and which are frequently six weeks performing the voyage.

It was ultimately arranged that the *Frolic*, brig-of-war, should, in the first instance, be sent to ascertain the condition and wishes of the islanders, and that, if necessary, a larger vessel should be despatched at a later period to bring them off. On the 27th of February, therefore, I sailed with Captain Nolloth in the *Frolic*, from Table Bay. I found him a most intelligent and able officer, and a man of sound and high Christian principle. He did everything to make me comfortable during our somewhat tedious voyage of thirty-seven days, and met my views most cheerfully as to religious services. We had short daily prayers, with a psalm every morning, for the ship's company on deck, and on the Sunday two full Services. The island lies just 1,500 miles to the west of the Cape, and about the same distance to the south of St. Helena, the three places forming almost an equilateral triangle. We had light and baffling winds, and did not reach it till the twentieth morning. Mr. Taylor and a party of the islanders were on the beach to welcome us as we landed—a work of no little difficulty, owing to the surf. He at once recognised me, having heard me preach in London eight years before. I need not say that he was over-

joyed at seeing us, and hearing the object for which the ship had been sent ; for the reports which had reached us were quite true. The only habitable patch of land on this small mountain island, is a narrow plain or shelf of land, formed chiefly from the debris of the vast overhanging cliffs, which is about four miles long, and from half a mile to a mile in width. The soil is poor, and is already nearly worked out. There is, indeed, in the summer, abundance of grass, but crops cannot be produced on ground once used, without an ample supply of manure. The rest of the Island, about 9,000 feet high, and almost inaccessible, is of no use to them, nor are the two neighbouring rocky islands, lying at a distance of about twenty miles from Tristan. Feeling that each year was adding to their difficulties, and that, should anything occur to tempt the American whale-ships—upon which they are dependent for flour and clothes, and their communications with the rest of the world—to more promising fields of speculation (which has already been to some extent the case), they might be reduced to great extremities, twenty-five out of the little band of 100 inhabitants, having no other prospect or opening, left the island a few months since to seek their fortune in the United States, paying for their passage in a whale-ship with their stock of cattle, sheep, pigs, and potatoes. Of the remainder, we found that no less than forty-two were anxious to get away under any circumstances, even at the sacrifice of all their stock and little property. Others would be glad to move, if they could in any way carry their property with them. There are, however, two old sailors

—one eighty-one, the other seventy-three (who said that he had served in the same ship with Nelson, in all his battles)—who say that they are too old to move, and are better off where they are than they can hope to be elsewhere. This seems undoubtedly true; and yet, if the others move, it would be almost impossible that they should remain. They could hardly maintain themselves without their boat, and yet there would not be hands enough left to man it. They have, besides, large families of grown-up daughters, who have scarce anything to do, except till the ground, who are very anxious to remove, and who might, in service at the Cape, do something for their aged parents. The grown-up sons of nearly all the families have already betaken themselves to the sea, leaving a female population considerably outnumbering the male, which is of itself a great evil. Ultimately, after much consideration, it was resolved, that as our ship was without any accommodation, we should take none of the inhabitants away with us, but make our report of the actual state of the island to the Governor, and urge him to send, as speedily as possible, a ship with sufficient accommodation to bring off all the population of the island that may be willing to leave, and at least a portion of the stock. If, as I hope may be the case, the Commodore may be able and willing to furnish them with empty casks and salt, they can salt down the greater portion of their stock; and if he can further take their beef and pork off their hands for the use of the Navy, they will then be able to begin life again in their new home with some

little capital ; for their whole stock, consisting of more than 200 head of cattle, 300 sheep, 100 pigs, and 500 fowls and ducks, cannot be worth less than from 1,000*l.* to 1,200*l.* I do not see any great difficulty in carrying this out, and I am sure, if it can be done, Sir G. Grey will do it.

I must now give you some little history of our proceedings. We landed on Tuesday, in the Holy Week. We found Mr. Taylor living, as you may suppose, in a very primitive way. For the greater part of the time that he has been here he has lived in a small stone building, which has been his prophet's chamber, school, and house of prayer. Since the reduction of the population, however, he has had a sleeping chamber in another house. This, containing a small bed and chair, he insisted upon my occupying ; he, with Captain Nolloth, another officer, and the boat's crew, lying upon the benches in the School-chapel. As we landed early in the day, we had time to visit all the people in their houses, and to tell them the object of our visit, before the hour of evening prayer. I was much pleased with them generally. The men are English, American, Dutch, Danes. Their wives have come for the most part from St. Helena. The children are fine, healthy, active, modest, young men and women. These have been nearly all, more or less, under Mr. Taylor's instruction, and upon them his hopes of a really Christian population have of course mainly rested. The houses are about equal to an English labourer's cottage ; the furniture however, being, as might be supposed, more scanty.

At evening prayer we had about fifty present. All, without exception, knelt. They chanted the Psalms and Canticles. Each had a Bible and Prayer-book, supplied by the *Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge*, and all eyes were kept fixed intently upon their books. I have never seen a congregation that might not learn a lesson from these poor islanders. Their reverence and devotion impressed us all. Even a common sailor afterwards spoke to me of it with evident and deep feeling. Mr. Taylor has prayer in his Chapel, morning and evening, throughout the year. Most of the young people, and several of the elder, are regular attendants. To his honour be it said, old Governor Glass kept up the daily worship of God in his house from the first day that he landed—thirty-five years ago. He rejoiced greatly to be permitted to see the Minister of Christ settled amongst them. He realized the blessing of it during a long and painful illness. His eyes were closed in death about two years ago. A marble tablet marks the spot where the good old man lies buried.

In this isolated spot, cut off to so great an extent from communication with the rest of the world, religion, if it lays hold upon the mind at all, is likely to become the chief concern, and the acts of religion an important part, of the daily life. Nowhere else where I have been do the people seem to be so able to serve God without distraction, or more ready to do so. And, so far as I am able to judge, religious exercises (and I would fain hope also true religion) do occupy a higher position in the minds

of these people, and are to them more of a real occupation, than is the case with most other people with whom I have been brought into contact. Of course, one can hardly expect that as yet many characters should be thoroughly formed, or many hearts truly and abidingly turned to God; but I think it right to bear my testimony to the fact that, so far as my short visit enabled me to form an opinion, this devoted, self-denying Missionary, who has given up so much to serve his Lord in the persons of these his members, has been very largely blessed in drawing souls to the worship of their God, and the knowledge of their Lord and Saviour; and I feel satisfied, that some at least of those to whom he has ministered, will have reason to bless his coming amongst them through all eternity. I preached every evening but one during our stay. On that evening Mr. Taylor spoke to his people in an earnest and affectionate way. On Good Friday the School-chapel was quite full, several of the boat's crew attending. In the afternoon of that day I confirmed thirty-two, with nearly all of whom I had previously conversed. All appeared very serious and devout. There are now only two persons in the island above the age of fifteen remaining unconfirmed. There could be no regular school during our stay; but on one day, the children, sixteen in number, were collected for me to examine. The greater number of them could read very fairly, write neatly, and could do simple sums in arithmetic, from addition to long division. They understand, I think, what they read, and several had a

fair knowledge of the Catechism. It was difficult, however, to get them to speak, as they are all very shy. Mr. Taylor keeps school a portion of each day, and night-school twice a week for the elder children who have left school. His chief society and refreshment consist in the instruction of his children. I was surprised to hear from him that (except during one anxious year) he has suffered very little from depression of spirits, which is the more remarkable, as he seems greatly to enjoy conversation. God has, however, comforted and upheld his servant amidst circumstances trying to flesh and blood, and in a post where, unless sustained by a double measure of the grace of God, the Minister of Christ would be specially liable to grow weary in his Master's work, and flag in zeal, and stumble, and fall. Such, however, God be praised, has not been the case with Mr. Taylor. He has continued faithful, and I doubt not has grown in grace, and faith, and knowledge, while tending his few sheep, and feeding Christ's lambs here in the wilderness. He was naturally anxious to know what would become of him, if he came to the Cape with his people. Though I believe that all my vacant posts are now filled, as well as my means wholly absorbed, I did not think it right to leave him in any doubt, and therefore told him that I would find him some post, and provide for him as best I could. He is not a man of many wants, nor one who looks for much, as may be gathered from the simple fact that he meant to cling to his people and his rock as long as he could, even though the means placed at your disposal by

a liberal benefactor were exhausted. From this very Easter the people were to support him altogether, supplying him with such food as they had, and offering on each Easter-day about 12*l.*, to provide him with clothes. Now, however, my belief is that in two or three months' time he will be at the Cape with all, or nearly all, his people.

I have written so long a letter that I have no time or space left for many observations upon the island itself. You are aware that it is of volcanic origin, and abounds with lava. At the summit there is a lake of some depth, probably in the crater of an extinct volcano. We attempted to ascend it one day, but, after getting about 4,000 feet high, found the top enveloped in clouds, and rain coming on. The ascent and descent were very difficult, and in some respects extremely dangerous. Half the boys in the island went up with us, and skipped about like young antelopes, while we trembled for ourselves, as a single false step, on loose and often slippery ground, would have precipitated us in many places to the bottom—as our young guides consolingly and expressively assured us, saying, “Now, if you were to slip you would strike the bottom.” We, however, got down again in safety, having discarded the help of a sounding-line, which at first we thought would help us in our descent. On another day we walked along the plain, and observed very distinctly the craters of several extinct volcanos, at the bottom of which the inhabitants have planted their apple and peach trees, as the only sheltered spots in the island. There seems to be only one

kind of tree indigenous to the island, and it is an evergreen, and of stunted growth. There are but few flowers. I observed a small tree fern which is very abundant, and several varieties of ferns and heaths—a geranium with a very small flower—a plant from which they make tea, which some of the people prefer to China tea—the sorrel—and a few other plants, together with a long grass, at times eight feet high, which makes an excellent thatch for their houses. There are no animals save what have been imported; and the thrush and the partridge are the only land birds. The island, however, abounds with the albatross, Cape hen, and other sea-birds. The water is excellent and abundant. There is no secure bay, and the landing, nearly always difficult, is, with a north wind, dangerous. Mr. Taylor was very anxious that we should remain over Easter-day, which we should gladly have done, had not the work for which we came been completed, and other duties called us elsewhere; and had it not appeared to me more proper to minister to our ship's company, who, if I remained on shore, would be without any service on that holy day. We therefore assembled the people on the morning of Easter-eve, and Captain Nolloth and myself addressed them. At the same time he, by order of Sir G. Grey, appointed one of their number to be responsible to the Cape Government for what passed in the island, and to communicate with the Governor as opportunities might present themselves. I afterwards went to all their houses to bid the wives and children good-bye. All of these expressed a desire to leave, and several said,

they wished they were going with us. Before we left they drew up a letter of thanks to the Governor, and sent on board four bags of potatoes as a present and token of gratitude to him, and four for me. They then helped us off with the stock we had purchased, and came on board to receive some little presents Captain Nolloth had promised them, and to bid us a last farewell. They parted with three hearty cheers from their boat, which were re-echoed by the ship's company.

I arrived home on the 4th of April, after a prosperous voyage of thirteen days, and an absence of between five and six weeks. I am thankful to say that I found wife and children well, and everything in the Diocese going on perfectly well, for which great mercies God be praised.

Believe me ever, dear Hawkins,

Faithfully yours,

R. CAPETOWN.

REV. E. HAWKINS.



