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COLONIZATION

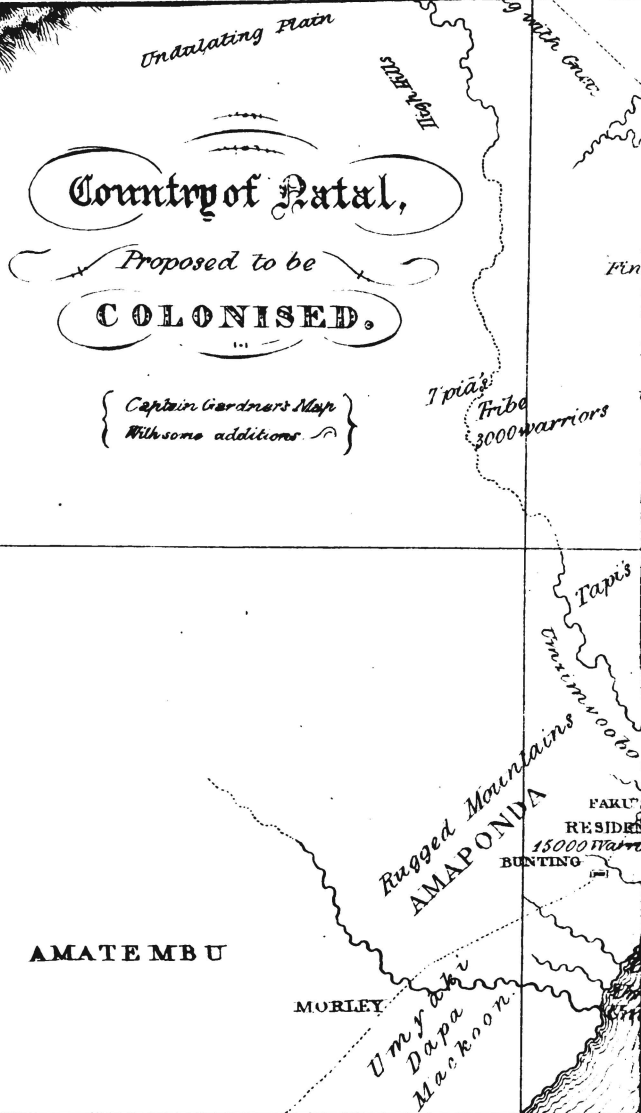
OF

NATAL.









**MEMOIR**  
**RESPECTING THE**  
**COLONIZATION OF NATAL,**  
**IN**  
**SOUTH-EASTERN AFRICA;**

**PRESENTED BY**  
*THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE TRADE SOCIETY TO THE*  
*SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES:*

**AND PREPARED**  
  
**By S. BANNISTER, Esq.,**  
*AUTHOR OF "HUMANE POLICY"; "BRITISH COLONIZATION*  
*AND COLOURED TRIBES"; AND MEMBER OF THE*  
*ABORIGINES PROTECTION SOCIETY.*

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**LONDON:**  
**JOHN W. PARKER, WEST STRAND.**

**M.DCCC.XXXIX.**



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## P R E F A C E.

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THE following Memoir relates to a proposed Colony resembling those contemplated for New Zealand, and Australia Felix, in regard to the great principle of selling the land to the settlers, and in other respects. It was laid before the Secretary of State for the Colonies in the beginning of 1838, after many similar calls being made on the Government; and the massacres and sanguinary conflicts which have since taken place, between a large body of Cape Dutch "Emigrants," and others, with the neighbouring tribe of Zoolas in the country proposed to be colonized, *Natal in south-east Africa*, give a distressing interest to the subject. The notes contain brief notices of some of these massacres and conflicts, of which warnings had not been wanting; and the last arrivals announce other like calamities to have occurred. A conciliatory proclamation of the Governor of the Cape inviting the Emigrants to *return* to the Cape Colony, is inserted in the notes (D. p. ix.); and there is a strong probability, that with prudent measures, an intention once declared by the "Emigrants" to establish an independent republic at Natal, will be readily abandoned; although their return, nearly a thousand miles by land, with some

hundreds of thousands of sheep and cattle, and a thousand waggons, from a fertile country almost destitute of native inhabitants, to the Colony which is comparatively barren and fully occupied, is not to be expected.

New views arise upon the measures of the Cape Government subsequent to the friendly overtures; and on the 14th of November last, the Governor issued the following important proclamation relative to the possession of Port Natal:—

*Proclamation of Sir G. Napier, Governor of the Cape of Good Hope.*

“Whereas, Her Majesty’s Government has been pleased to approve of the proposed occupation of Port Natal, in Southern Africa, by Her Majesty’s forces, in consequence of the disturbed state of the native Tribes in the territories adjacent to that Port, arising in a great degree from the unwarranted occupation of parts of those territories by certain Emigrants from this Colony, being Her Majesty’s subjects; and the probability that those disturbances will continue and increase, so that the whole of their part of Southern Africa may speedily become the scene of the most sanguinary wars of extermination,—and whereas Her Majesty’s Government will no longer suffer such a state of affairs to exist within the reach or influence of the Government of this Colony, nor such atrocities to be participated in, if not originated by the acts of the said Emigrants, Her Majesty’s subjects: I do therefore proclaim, and declare my determination to seize the said Harbour of Port Natal, and to erect a Fort therein, and to seize so much

of the territory surrounding the said Harbour, in whose hands soever the said Fort and territories adjacent thereto shall happen to be at the time of such seizure, as shall be necessary for the proper occupation, maintenance and defence of the said Fort; and to keep possession of the same, in Her Majesty's name, *until otherwise directed by Her Majesty's Government.*

“And I do further proclaim and declare, that the sole object of Her Majesty's Government in the proposed occupation of Port Natal, is to prevent its being held by any of the hostile parties, and to secure by sure occupation the power of effectual interference in maintaining the power of Southern Africa by such means and to such extent as shall hereafter appear to be necessary; and that for such aid, the said occupation shall be purely military and of a temporary nature, and not partaking in any degree of the nature of Colonization, as annexed to the Crown of Great Britain, either as a Colony or a Colonial dependency; wherefore the said Fort shall be, and the same is hereby declared to be, closed against all trade, except such as shall be carried on under the special licence and permission of the Government of this Colony, any clearance or permission granted by any British, Colonial, or foreign Custom House, to the contrary notwithstanding. And to ensure the maintenance of this proclamation, I do hereby authorize and require the officer who shall be in the command of the said Fort, for the time being, to prevent, by force of arms if necessary, the entry of any vessel into the said Harbour, for the purpose of trade, or the landing from any vessel of any cargo, of what descrip-



tion soever, on the coast adjacent to the said Fort, unless under licence.

“And for the better maintenance of due order and subordination within the limits of the said military possession, I do hereby authorize and require the said officer in command, to expel, from the said limits, any person or persons whomsoever, whose presence within the same shall by him be deemed prejudicial; dangerous to the proper maintenance and defence of the said possession; and, if necessary, to take into custody and keep therein, any such person or persons whenever, and for so long a time, as he shall deem necessary. And, further, to prevent any person or persons from residing, or harbouring within such possession, in case there shall be reasonable cause to object thereto: and, further, to search for, seize, and retain in military possession, all arms and ammunition of war, and which, at the time of the seizure of Port Natal, shall be found in the possession of any of the inhabitants of that place, care being taken that the same be kept in proper order, and receipts granted to the owners thereof.”

For the present purpose it is necessary to consider only what enactment should be forthwith passed by *Parliament*, in reference to the future occupation of Port Natal, and the adjacent country, by British subjects. Such an occupation must *either* be *prohibited*, or be *regulated* by a new law made in England. As the law stands, the Cape Government has only that sort of provisional discretion in the case which belongs to all authorities, and even to all men in great emergencies.

A prohibition against all British subjects going to Natal is clearly out of the question: it would not be obeyed willingly, and could not be enforced, as may be inferred from the experience of the Cape of Good Hope, in the analogous case of *prohibition* of intercourse with the natives on the eastern frontier of the Colony, which has failed both under the Dutch and British Governments.

*Regulations* of various kinds have been proposed, for the occupation of Natal by British subjects, who have now frequented this country for fifteen years, and have lawfully acquired large tracts of land there. Prior to 1829, proposals for a settlement here of the ordinary Colonial character were submitted to the Government, by Lieutenant Farewell and others, but not approved. In 1829, a new principle of colonization was communicated to the Secretary of State, in reference to Natal, but not approved. Subsequently other proposals of the ordinary kind, were pressed on the Secretary of State, but none of them have been approved.

The peculiarity of the proposal contained in the following memoir is, that it applies the New Colonial Land-selling principle to Natal, so as to relieve the Home Government from any reasonable apprehension of financial difficulty. Sales of land actually effected at the Port, throw some light upon the value of the soil, if a Civil Government can be established there, so as to confirm the opinion, that the Land-selling principle may be safely applied to Natal. In November, 1837, three months only before the late disasters, the prices paid for ten town lots of something less than an

acre each, ranged from 1*l*. to 10*l*. sterling per lot. These were sales by auction, made in expectation of an early settlement of the place.

This proposal has also in view, a due consideration of the rights of the aborigines in and near Natal. The difficulty of preventing dissensions between Colonists and Native tribes, having been thought by some persons to be insuperable, an opinion has gained ground in the Colonial office, that it is wise to escape from that difficulty altogether, by abolishing new colonization. This conclusion rests on the old fallacy, which leads us to infer that a thing ought not to be used, because it has been abused. But it will be seen, from passages quoted from parliamentary papers in the Memoir, that this fallacious way of arguing is not always followed in the Colonial office, and that Missionaries of experience hold, that we need not despair of being able to correct abuses, which have commonly had consequences so disastrous.

The parties to such enterprizes as that which is the subject of this Memoir, are convinced that a system may be devised by which these abuses will be corrected. They rely for success on introducing a new system under which *all* the inhabitants of the country shall enjoy perfect *equality* in all respects in the eye of the law; and by which also such a disposition shall be made of the land to be colonized, as will provide for all proper expenses for the *protection and improvement* of the inhabitants of all shades of colour, from the fairest white to the blackest ebony.

These are principles hitherto untried on a suitable

scale, and the prudent application of them cannot fail to produce a great and beneficial change in the condition and prospects of every Colony. It is the neglect of them by the Government, not the dislike of them by Colonists, that has hitherto baffled the attempts of many good men to prevent evils which are the reproach of our civilization.

We do not conclude, as a Committee of the House Commons has done, from the failure of the Government in all its former proceedings on this perplexing question, that all relations with remote and barbarous tribes, ought to be devolved on Missionaries.

“The safety and welfare of an uncivilized race,” says that Committee, “require that their relations with their more cultivated neighbours should be diminished rather than multiplied.

“To the preceding statement an exception is to be made so far as respects the pastoral relation formed between Christian Missionaries and the Aborigines.

“To protect, assist and countenance these gratuitous and invaluable agents is amongst the most urgent duties of the Governors of our Colonies. On the other hand, those by whom the Missionaries are selected and employed cannot be too deeply impressed with a sense of the responsibility under which that choice is made. Without deviating into discussions scarcely within the proper province of a Parliamentary Committee, it may be observed, that piety and zeal, though the most essential qualifications of a Missionary to the Aborigines, are not the only endowments indispensable to the faithful discharge of his office: *in such situations it is necessary that with plans of moral and religious improvement should be combined well-matured schemes for advancing the social and political improvement of the tribes, and for the prevention of*

any sudden changes which might be injurious to the health and physical constitution of the new converts."—*Report of the Committee on Aborigines*, 1837. No. 425. p. 80.

This recommendation seems to be in the highest degree indiscreet; and the system it anticipates would be as fatal to the Missionaries themselves, who are to be thus studiously instructed to be Statesmen, and formally invested with political functions, as to the Natives, *whom Missionaries have for the most part proved themselves to be incapable of protecting POLITICALLY; or of improving so rapidly that they might become their own protectors.* Missionaries in their proper sphere merit entire respect, and their numbers should be increased so as fully to meet the peculiar wants of the proposed Colony. But Missionaries are men, and they are not likely to resist the ordinary corrupting influence of power. On general principles the recommendation of the Committee ought not to be adopted; and particular examples of recent occurrence such as those of the Church Missionaries on certain points in New Zealand, have given warning on this head which cannot be neglected with impunity.

We hold that the Queen's Government, through the Secretary of State, should be supreme in the proposed Colony, under a constitution settled by Act of Parliament; and upon such principles as will enable it to be administered in harmony with the Government of the Cape of Good Hope and Albany.

The notes to the Memoir and the foregoing Proclamation bring events down to a late period, and every ship that arrives from South Africa adds to the

interest excited by the present state of Natal ; and brings intelligence that confirms the opinion of the ablest and best informed persons, that the only way to save that country from ruinous and sanguinary conflicts between the British subjects now there, (more than 3000 in number,) and the neighbouring tribes, is to adopt it as a Colony on sound principles.

For half a century the most earnest and best considered appeals have been made to the Governments to reform their system in South Africa. Without referring to the volumes which have been published on the subject, and among which must be reckoned the Official Reports of the Commission of Inquiry in 1824—1828, it will sufficiently serve the object before us to cite the last counsels of this character, given in 1834 to Mr. Spring Rice, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, by the present Lieutenant-Governor of the Cape. His opinions upon the way of dealing with Colonial intruders upon the interior set forth in the following extract, are in a great degree applicable to the existing condition of things at Natal. In reply to a letter from Mr. Rice, this Colonial functionary, Mr. Stockenstrom, says :—

“ I do certainly ‘ consider it practicable to establish amicable arrangements, not only with the Caffre, but with the Griqua and Coranna chiefs, for the maintenance of good order, and so obviate the necessity alleged to exist for continuing the commando system,’ for as far as those chiefs and their people are concerned ; but the evils of a century and a half are not to be remedied in a day. The arrangements with these chiefs will not all at once stop the inroads of independent gangs of their marauders ; and if, on the first injury done by the latter,

we charge the said chiefs with a breach of their engagement, and plunder their people, those arrangements will prove as fragile as all former ones. These gangs are many and various, as I have above shown, and likely to increase, if matters be allowed to take their course. For the last six years migrations of *Colonists* beyond the boundary, (such as are mentioned in your 10th question,) have recommenced. I have more than once ordered them back, and seen the order obeyed; but, during the last year of my residence in the Colony, I again found numbers of these emigrants out of the Colony, and believe that many more were preparing to join them from various causes. This must prove the source of much mischief; for though there are among them many well-disposed men, there will necessarily be many bad characters who will not scruple (if even the others should) to follow the system by which their forefathers became possessed of land; and the present tenants, when ejected, will increase the number of plunderers, and be unmercifully destroyed.

\* \* \* \* \*

“But in order to enable the Government to act steadily upon these principles, some steps must be taken to restore order beyond the limits of the Colony, where an unlimited field for European philanthropy and civilization is to be found. One of my objects in setting on foot the Kat River settlement, was to make an experiment in how far such a system of colonization could be beneficially extended along our frontier, and even beyond it.

“On the northern frontier you have an extensive community ripe for good and for evil. If left to themselves, open to aggressions on one side, and with the temptation of weaker tribes, easily empowered, on the other, it is to be feared that, in spite of the best intentions of some of the leading men, and all the efforts of the Missionaries, they will retrograde. Whilst under our protection, which I believe they would most readily adopt, if extended upon liberal and just principles,

they would vie with the Kat River settlement in improvement and in usefulness.

“I am aware that here the great objection against the extension of the Colony stands in the way, but the population is spreading itself, and has been doing so ever since the middle of the seventeenth century in spite of the Government. If the Boors migrate beyond the frontier in great numbers (which I fear they will), who is to bring them back? they tell you they are doing nothing illegal by withdrawing from a country in which they have no room for their flocks or do not feel themselves comfortable, and that if you cannot extend the protection of your Government to them, they are ready to forfeit it, and those who talk of fetching them, *or forcing them back by means of the Griquas*, understand neither the nature of the people, the country, nor the question, or are certainly not averse to scenes of bloodshed. Nor have I any desire to shut up the whites within certain limits for the benefit of any particular class, whilst all equally encroach. The disposable land in the interior is of unlimited extent, and the white man will have his share do what you will (the history of every Colony proves this); but the question is, *whether he shall be allowed to go forth without control, dispossessing the natives, destroying them upon the least resistance, and the Government follow when the mischief is irremediable, as has been the case heretofore, or whether the Government shall take the lead, prevent anything being taken but what the natives choose to part with, taking care that they be amply indemnified, that this indemnification be applied to their advantage, and that extensive tracts be reserved for their own support, in which they should be protected upon an equal footing with the most privileged classes, and in which I do not despair that means might thus be provided to reclaim those who have been forced into a marauding life, and for whom otherwise there appears no other lot in store but extermination.* I am of course alluding to those tracts adjoining the Colony in which there are only wandering disorganized



hordes to be found, and into which our emigrants find such easy access, for with those nations who can control and protect themselves, I would only maintain the most amicable treaties, watching cautiously our borderers, who would then be under our check, in their treatment of and dealings with such nations."—*First Report of the Aborigines Committee, House of Commons' Papers*, 1835. No. 22—120.

The exact applicability of the opinion of Lieut. Governor Stockenstrom to Natal, is shown by the fact of that country being inhabited *now* only by a few *broken* tribes throughout the whole tract described in the following extract from another document, printed by order of the House of Commons.

"That portion of the Zoola territory which is inhabited, and which Dinjaan wishes to see occupied by white people, may be in extent, along the sea coast, three hundred miles, from the Omsin-vobo, or St. John's River, to the Tugala, sixty or seventy miles east of Natal. Its breadth is from sixty to an hundred miles, and a range of high mountains separates it on the north from the peopled part of the Zoola country."—*House of Commons Papers*, 1835. No. 252, p. 58.

The following Sailing Directions to Port Natal, are copied from the *Cape of Good Hope Annual Register*, of 1838.

"In leaving Algoa Bay, steer out from the anchorage S. E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  S. per compass forty miles, and then E. S. E. a hundred and sixty miles; you will then be out of the stream, which sets at the rate of three to four knots per hour, W. S. W., and you will have a little help by a current which sets N. E. (In this part, the *Dove*, Capt. Haddon, laid-to for thirty-six hours, and only drifted seventeen miles).

"Then shape your course to bring you into latitude 29°30.,

and longitude 30°30., you will then be to the N. E. of Natal, and with a N. E. wind you will soon run down to it. It is easily known from the Northward, as you can see the entrance better than from the Southward.

“Should the wind be from the S. W., you should only run to 30° lat., if the breeze is very strong, and the same meridian as before: but do not keep too close in shore, as the wind dies away suddenly, and the strong current which inclines towards the shore may endanger the ship and lives.

“The Bluff Point is easily known by the back land running in a sloping direction, and several flat tops notched here and there.—The Bluff is also very thickly wooded, and the other side is low, and sandy shore, with bushes a few yards from the beach.

“If the wind is from the N. E. keep your ship under canvass, but with off shore; anchor in nine fathoms; the Bluff S. W. by S. If intending to enter the harbour, go in with your boats first, and sound for the deepest water on the Bar, and lay buoys down, but they must be made well fast, or the tide will sweep them away. The Bar lies in three ridges. The wind from the S. W. causes the deepest water to be close to the reefs; and N. E. makes it deepest in mid-channel. The surf is always worst at high water; and it is seldom that you can pass it in a small boat without risk.

“The course over in mid-channel is S. S. W., and you will see a large remarkable tree upon a hill a-head going in, and keep this well on the starboard side.

“Should you not find sufficient water for your ship to cross the Bar at spring tides, and you have cargo to land there, moor with open hawse to the N. E.

“The winds blow strong at times, but seldom last more than twenty-four hours, and then there is not such a heavy sea sets in as at Algoa Bay, and the ground is equally as good. The cutter *Circe* rode out the heaviest gale ever recollected there, for four days.

There are two boats which in fine weather would greatly help in the discharge of a ship, but the best way is to land it on the beach outside the harbour, as in fine weather and off-shore winds it is very smooth about half a mile to the northward of the Bar.

“In crossing the Bar with a vessel drawing from eight to ten feet, if with a good commanding breeze, let hands stand by the braces, as the tide is strong, and in shallow water a ship will not answer her helm quick enough without the help of bracing about the yards as required. In coming in you have from eight fathoms; it gradually shoals to *two fathoms* on the Bar, and with a good way you have not time to get a second cast on it. You then gradually deepen to seven fathoms, and when abreast of a large sand-coloured stone, haul sharp up, and steer for the sandy shore, and hug it as close as you can. The tide will keep you from getting on it. The anchorage is at the first commencement of the bushes, on the sandy point, and a new store abreast of you. If you run past the large stone on the rocky side, you will see a sand-coloured patch half way up the bluff-side amongst the trees; but if you go past that, you will be sure to be set on to a sand point and ground.

“I erected a beacon at the anchorage, and placed a buoy inside the harbour, with directions for others to be placed on the bluff-sides, in lieu of the large stone, and there they are sure to be seen.

“A ship will not take any hurt having a-ground inside the harbour, as in the strongest winds it is as smooth as London Docks, provided she is not a sharp built ship. A ship ought to be coppered, as the water fouls the wood very soon with barnacles, and the worms are very bad also.—(*From a Communication, by Capt. Haddon.*)”

*Within a few days, measures have been taken by a party of gentlemen for promoting the colonization of Natal.*

S. BANNISTER.

16, REGENT STREET,  
14th Feb. 1839.

# MEMOIR

LAI D BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE  
COLONIES, EARLY IN 1838, as

*Explanatory of the present state of British interests at  
NATAL. in South Africa: and shewing that commerce  
and civilization may be extended profitably to ourselves  
and advantageously to the Natives, by a well-planned  
British Colony being established in that country.*



## P O R T   N A T A L .

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NATAL is a country situate on the south-east coast of Africa, between the Cape of Good Hope and Delagoa Bay ; where a considerable number of British traders and settlers, with English and American missionaries, have established themselves in successive years since 1824, and which has been recently, as well as at earlier periods, visited by several travellers.

In regard to the interests of the Cape of Good Hope, this settlement must have a great influence for good or for evil, according as it shall be well or ill directed ; and, it is conceived, that a statement of facts, supported by evidence, concerning its present condition, will prove that a wisely planned British Colony there, will much advance British interests, and promote peace and the progress of the native people throughout South-Eastern Africa, from Caffreland to the Portuguese possessions.

Two general questions on British Colonization must be answered before the merits of a Colony at Natal can be discussed with advantage.

Prudently planned Colonial settlements ought to be adopted by the Government.

The 1st question is, whether in reference to British interests only, new Colonial settlements, such as Natal, ought to be encouraged?—a question which is completely answered by a despatch

of Lord Glenelg, of 1836, addressed to the Governor of New South Wales, in reply to a recommendation that the Government should establish a regular administration in two ports in that colony, which private parties had voluntarily settled: Lord Glenelg states his approval of that recommendation in the following decisive terms, which will be found to be strikingly applicable to the existing state of things at Natal.

“It is wholly vain,” says his Lordship, “to expect that any positive laws will be energetic enough to repress the spirit of enterprize and speculation in which the unauthorized settlements of Port Philip and Twofold Bay (the ports in question) have originated. The motives which are urging men to break through the restraints upon their settling themselves and their families in such situations, are too strong to be encountered with effect by ordinary means. To engage in such a struggle would be wholly irrational. All that remains for the Government is to assume the *guidance* of enterprizes, which it may conduct to happy results, though it cannot prevent or retard them.”—(House of Commons Papers, 1836, No. 0101, p. 234.)

Title to  
Natal, as be-  
tween Euro-  
pean States.

These just observations directed in this despatch to lands already British, are singularly applicable, we repeat, to the proposed colony, however its *title* may stand. If Natal belong to the Cape of Good Hope, as some hold it does, in consequence of a Dutch purchase of 1689, which passed to us at the conquest, the case is exactly parallel to those mentioned in the dispatch; and Government ought now to undertake the *guidance* of the enterprize, although begun on what were already crown-lands.

If, as others hold, Natal was *abandoned* by the Dutch long ago, and did not belong to the Colony in 1824, when Lieut. Farewell and others went thither, those parties were *not unauthorized* occupants of British lands. On the contrary, they were the lawful acquirers of a new country from the natives, the adoption of which by the Crown will depend (so far as concerns British interests) on the value of the country acquired, and on the prudence of the whole enterprize. So, that should the acquisition be desirable, the reasoning of Lord Glenelg is directly applicable to the Natal Settlements, which the Government may "*guide to a happy result,*" and therefore ought to adopt.

The 2nd question is, whether *new* Colonial Settlements *can* be encouraged consistently with the interests of the coloured people living in and near the country to be colonized?—which question has been answered in the affirmative, by two witnesses before the Aborigines Committee of the House of Commons, whose peculiar profession it is, cautiously to respect the natives' interests.

British  
colonization  
may be bene-  
ficial to the  
native tribes

The Secretary of the Church Missionary Society one of these witnesses, said—"I am not prepared "to say, that colonization might not be conducted "in a given country so as *not* to produce injurious "consequences to the natives."—House of Commons Papers, 1836, No. 022, p. 512.)

The other witness, a Secretary of the London Missionary Society, says on the same subject—"I do not conceive that it is a *necessary* consequence of the contact between Europeans and "Aborigines, that any destruction of the latter "should follow; though I consider that it has "frequently been the case, but not necessarily."—(ib. p. 490.)



An obvious conclusion from these opinions is, that what is thus admitted to be possible, ought to be attempted to be realized by proper exertions on the part of the Government. The influence of colonization upon coloured tribes has been both good and bad; the bad having predominated in past times; chiefly because voluntary adventurers have been without *guidance*. Endeavours should, therefore, be made by Government to exercise a salutary controul over enterprising men, by laws and by institutions suited to their position, but which will not crush their activity. And the State ought to accompany them in advance, so as to make their energy tend to improve, instead of oppressing the native people.

Such, it is conceived, will be the character of the proposed Colony at Natal; and it will be seen from facts to be adduced respecting a great emigration going on thither, that the present is one of those golden opportunities for effecting a really good object, which rarely returns.

The natives both chiefs, and people, always friendly to the Natal settlers.

During the last 14 years that a steadily increasing body of British subjects has resorted to Natal, the natives of all ranks, and of every neighbouring tribe, have shewn strong dispositions to hold friendly intercourse with them. With two exceptions only, and those scarcely exceptions, the white people have been safe ever since their first establishment in the country in 1824; although they have themselves often been unguarded, and the tribes have generally been in a disturbed state.

One of these exceptions was that of Lieut. Farewell, murdered on his way to Natal, in 1829, by a remote Chief; either jealous that a rival should have the advantage of a white man settlement in

his neighbourhood, or tempted by Lieut. Farewell's wealth, in a way not peculiar to *black* marauders.

The other exception was in 1833, when the settlers left Natal under fear of an attack, and part of their deserted property was destroyed. But the black assailants soon made them reparation, and invited them to return, which they did. The occasion of this attack was an unhappy case of suspicion of the intentions of the white people, which can be removed permanently by no means short of a new system.\*

In fact, notwithstanding their intestine wars, the chiefs have invariably asked missionaries and *other* whites to settle among them.

In 1824, when Lieutenant Farewell, and his companions, established themselves at Natal, they found Chaca by far the most powerful chief in South Africa, in possession of the country; and he was, in the terms of Lieut. Farewell's letter to the governor of the Cape, "particularly pleased at hearing of the party's intentions to remain" (1824 Humane Policy Appendix, p.LII.) Chaca accordingly then granted to Lieut. Farewell and his companions, about 2,000,000 of acres; the deed for which, is in London, and it is expressed, in the clearest terms, vesting the sovereignty over the ceded territory in the white people. Grant of  
1824.

In 1828, Chaca also granted, as is stated, 1,500,000 acres of the same land to other parties: and his successor, in that year, confirmed to the whites all the advantages before granted, "express- Alleged  
Grant of  
1828.

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\* Since this memoir was presented to the Government, lamentable massacres and conflicts have occurred at Natal. The case is still involved in some mystery. Such of its details as are known, will be found in note A annexed.

ing his hope, that they would confide in his assurances of friendship and protection.” (Isaac’s Eastern Africa, vol. 1, p. 318.)

From 1828 to 1837, the white people have increased in number; and all have been treated with  
 Grant of 1835. of uniform kindness by this chief: and, in 1835, 7,000,000 of acres were granted to them through Captain Gardiner, including the tracts obtained by the first settlers (Gardiner’s Zoola Country, p. 314).

Recent intelligence in the Cape newspapers respecting the proceedings of certain Cape Dutch emigrants confirm these statements of the facility with which lands can be obtained at Natal from this powerful chief\*—a facility that plainly arises from his appreciation of the benefits to be had from white men, as well as from the depopulated state of the country.

Other chiefs, near Natal, are even more anxious than he is to have white people about them; some being willing to become united with the settlers, inasmuch as they expect to be protected against the attacks of the Zoolas—(Gardiner, p. 282, 314).

The inferior colored people are also strongly disposed to respect the whites. When Mr. Farewell obtained the original grant of 1824, “the territory made over, was nearly depopulated, not containing more than three or four hundred souls, who appeared much pleased at the manner of its disposal”—(Farewell’s letter as above p. liii).

Since 1824, the number of these *contented* people has much increased, as appears from Dr. Smith’s testimony, written after a visit to the spot in

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\* For the result of this transaction see note A annexed.

1834, and published by the House of Commons—  
 “ A population of 2, or 3,000 souls, says Dr. Smith,  
 “ have attached themselves to the colonial traders  
 “ at Natal, and live around them in the immediate  
 “ vicinity of the bay. They are the remains of the  
 “ tribes, which formerly occupied the present de-  
 “ populated territory, and from the time they were  
 “ conquered and plundered of their cattle, till  
 “ 1824, kept secreted in the depths of the forests,  
 “ to avoid the spears of the Zoolas ; all of them  
 “ are extremely poor, but industrious, kind, and  
 “ peaceable, to a miracle. They evince great at-  
 “ tachment to their protectors, and display a lively  
 “ interest for their prosperity ”—(House of Com-  
 mons papers, 1835, No. 252, p. 100).

It would be easy to multiply proof that the natives, both chiefs and people, are extremely well disposed towards the whites ; and it has been under the influence of these friendly feelings that the *Sovereignty* of Natal has been given to the British settlers.

The original deed to Lieut. Farewell, and his com-  
 panions, is plain as to the subject of Sovereignty :  
 and the steps taken by that gentleman, and others,  
 until his death in 1829, to induce the government  
 to adopt Natal for a British colony, shew what  
 was then understood to be the character of the  
 grant. Since Lieut. Farewell's death, various acts  
 have been done to the same purport. At least one  
 treaty has been made between the settlers at  
 Natal and the Zoola chief, as between two *separate*  
 powers ; and on more than one occasion, the set-  
 tlers have refused to join him in war without  
 forfeiture of their lands, to which they would have  
 been liable, had they before accepted them on  
 condition to be his subjects.

Sovereignty of Natal  
 granted to  
 the whites.

The consequence, according to the law of England, is clear. Territories thus justifiably acquired by British subjects in sovereignty, vest in the Crown subject to its discretion to adopt, or reject, the acquisition. This doctrine applies equally to such grants as the foregoing, and to the voluntary occupations of lands, which may happen to be discovered uninhabited, as a large portion of Natal is said to be. The Crown, however, on its part, is bound in distributing the *adopted* acquisition, to consider equitably the interests of all the enterprising men through whose means the acquisition has been made.

Indispensable conditions on which the Sovereignty of Natal must be adopted by the Crown

But this concession so readily made by the Zoola chief, of a sovereignty, which must bring us as neighbours, among independent black tribes, immediately suggests a grave reflection. Similar grants have been made in an hundred cases before, with consequences fatal to the unconcious grantors; and it will, unquestionably, be unjust in the British Government, to sanction these purchases at Natal, unless a *new system* is to be followed, so as to establish a plain distinction between the present, and those former cases. That system ought to afford reasonable means of securing justice to the adjacent tribes, and of improving the condition of colored people, and thus avert the evils commonly attendant on colonization.

The special merit of the proposed colony is, that it offers substantial guarantees for the establishment of such a system.

Fertility of Natal and the permanent causes of that fertility.

The soil of Natal is proved by many competent witnesses, to be fertile and well watered; and to derive those qualities from causes that are not of temporary duration, or prevalent in particular seasons only.

The voyagers, who visited the country long ago, and others in the last century, made favorable reports on these points; and parties who have lived in it during longer or shorter portions of the last fourteen years, confirm their statements. One of the former, the first who made an exact survey of the coast *three centuries ago*, marked a feature in the geography of Natal, which remains unchanged to this day, and fully accounts for the excellence of the soil, and its freedom from drought. "In the distance, says he, are seen undulating *mountains*, adorned with verdure, and rugged. "The country abounds in trees; amongst which, "we found the wild olive, in the vallies; and on "the borders of rivers, mint and beril, and other "European plants. The soil is rich, and a great "part of it is fit for cultivation; consequently, "the country is populous, and well stocked with "animals, both tame and wild. Of this character "is the coast, to the last point, which is latitude "30°, twelve leagues from point Pescadoros." (Survey of Manuel de Mosquilha Perestrello, in 1575, cited in Bannister's Humane Policy Appendix, p. 3.)

Another early authority, the writer of an official memoir upon Natal, dated 1718, states it to be "one of the most fertile regions upon earth, and "capable of producing inexhaustible supplies of "grain, and other provisions, if settled." (Humane Policy Appendix, p. 15.) This writer, was Colonel Purry, who afterwards founded Purrysburg, a town in Georgia, in North America.

In 1824, Mr. Farewell described the country about Port Natal, in the following terms: "the "soil is fit for any purposes, and well wooded and

“watered; four rivers of magnitude running through it, into the sea. The rivers abound in fish; and cattle is to be had at a moderate rate (ib. p. 53).

In 1834, a memorial, signed by 192 merchants and others, at the Cape of Good Hope, for the purpose of promoting a colony at Port Natal, and printed by the House of Commons, declares “that the features of this country are of a character highly favorable: it is well wooded with large timber; and watered with many large rivers, and running streams. The soil is fertile, and has produced three crops of caffre and Indian corn in the year.” (House of Commons Papers, 1835, No. 252, p. 94).

The same document contains the testimony of Dr. Smith, a high authority on the natural history of South Africa, who enters at considerable length into the agricultural prospects of Natal. Dr. Smith’s favorable opinion of the country may be inferred from the following short extract from his statement. “Such an effect was produced upon one of my party, a Dutch farmer, on our entrance into this beautiful country, that for several days, he could scarcely give utterance to any thing but *Almighty! I have never in my life seen such a fine place! I shall never again reside in the colony, if the English Government make this a drostdy.*” (ib. p. 99). It is not necessary to have visited the interior of the Cape of Good Hope, to appreciate the real force of this testimony.

In 1836, Captain Gardiner, of the Navy, published his narrative of a visit to Natal, in 1835; and, after giving many details to prove the fertility of the soil he concludes with the “opinion of a

“ party of Dutch farmers, who were on their  
 “ return to the colony, about the time he was  
 “ travelling towards the new settlement. They  
 “ had heard much of the soil and capabilities of  
 “ Port Natal, for agricultural purposes ; and re-  
 “ solving to decide for themselves on the accuracy  
 “ of these reports, they formed a large party, and  
 “ with ten or twelve waggons, proceeded to the  
 “ place. After advancing towards the Tugala, and  
 “ thoroughly examining the whole district, they  
 “ not only acknowledged that the accounts they  
 “ had received, had not been exaggerated, but they  
 “ set out on their return for their several families,  
 “ with a full determination to locate them in this  
 “ neighbourhood : a resolution which the sudden  
 “ breaking out of the Caffre War has alone pre-  
 “ vented their executing.” (Gardiner, p. 89.)

In the last year, 1837, a party of fifty Dutch farmers were delegated by a large body of emigrants from the Cape, to examine this country. with the same object of settling there ; and they report as well of it as their predecessors. “ The  
 “ worst part, says their leader, which I have travelled  
 “ through, is tolerably well suited for cattle, and  
 “ agricultural purposes.” Others add, that they cannot describe the beauty of this country. (Graham’s Town Journal, 7th December, 1837).

To complete this testimony, a citizen of the United States of North America, well acquainted with the best part of New England, has declared, after a residence of three years at Natal, that he never saw a better soil, in all respects ; nor a climate in which there is a more equal distribution of moisture.\*

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\* Additional testimony of a decisive character, to the same effect, from recent sources, will be found in note B annexed.



The permanent causes of this superiority of Natal, over the better known districts of South Africa, have already been alluded to: they consist in the mountainous character of its western region, noticed in the survey of 1575, and in its geological structure. Recently, a chain of lofty mountains has been seen to run at about 120 miles from the coast, which it gradually approaches towards the N. E.; and snow was observed on the summits, in October, by Captain Gardiner, when stopped by this range, in his journey into the interior, in 1835. Dr. Smith also says, that he should have expected abundance of water at Natal, from “an examination of the geological structure of the country and of its vegetable productions, a great many of which have been found to appertain to orders known to be natural only to moist soils.”—(House of Commons’ Papers, 1835, No. 252, p.100.)

Healthiness  
of Natal.

The testimony is strong and uniform as to the healthiness of Natal. No epidemic has prevailed there during the fourteen years of its occupation by the British; and the Cape memorial, of 1834, states “the climate to be cooler than that of the Cape, and highly salubrious.” The personal experience of the American missionaries, one-third of them being medical men, confirms this statement, and one of their body has made declarations to that effect, in London, within a few weeks.

The boundaries of the country proposed to be colonized.

The precise situation of the country, proposed to be colonized as Natal, is from about 31°, 30' to 30° 30' south latitude, and from about 29° to 31° 30' east longitude. Within these limits, there are above 15,000,000 of acres at the command of the British government, namely, the 7,000,000 already

acquired from the Zoolas, and above 8,000,000 adjoining the former; but in the direction of the Cape frontiers. The latter, like the rest, are in a great measure deserted, in consequence of the desolating wars of the Zoolas.

The present exports from Natal, are Ivory, Hides, Horns, Gum, Bees' Wax, and Indian corn. Present and future trade.

The future exports will include most of the articles sent from the Cape, except, perhaps, wine, and they will extend to various other articles of value.

The port, which is safe for small vessels, will gradually, also, become the depôt of a considerable *interior* and *coasting* trade.

The probable extension of the Natal *interior* trade, may be inferred from the actual increase of the Cape *interior* trade since it was opened about twenty years ago. For example, in ivory, that increase has been tenfold, and in hides, twenty-fold. And that of Natal must be so much the greater, as the interior to be traded with from thence is far more populous and more civilized than the countries bordering on the Cape colony. Of a native population of at least 1,000,000 souls, calculated to compose the tribes between the Cape and Delagoa Bay, not more than 300,000 border on the colony, whilst 700,000 at least are likely to furnish produce to Port Natal; and the latter are well known to be incomparably better workmen already in various metals; to have better habitations, more cattle, and a much more advanced agriculture. The state of superior civilization of these people, as compared with that of the colonial border tribes after the trade was opened above

twenty years ago, may be inferred with great certainty from the sort of articles in demand by the two people respectively. The bulk sold by us to the Cape border tribes, have been beads, brassware, and buttons; clothing being of recent importations, and our domestic and agricultural implements in only gradually increasing use. But the more northern nations, who may be said to belong nationally to Natal, have required clothes, of various sorts, from our first acquaintance with them.\*

The coasting trade must, at no distant day, be carried on towards Mozambique, and to the dominions of the Imaum of Muscat; in addition to being more rapidly opened with Mauritius, and probably Madagascar.

The white  
population  
at Natal.

The white people at Natal are about 40 British with 6 American families; and a body of the Cape Dutch Emigrants will soon arrive, amounting to above 5000 souls. Their delegates, 50 in number, have already been there, and have been favorably received by the Zoolas, as well as by the Settlers.

The ordinary conduct of the British may be inferred from Dr. Smith's account, above cited, of the *attachment* of the *poorer natives to them*; and from the respect paid them generally by the chief. From their first settling at Natal they have earnestly sought to have lawful British authority placed over them. Their own Constitution, substituted in the absence of such authority, does them credit, (see Gardiner and Isaacs,) and if any circumstances that are to be disapproved have occurred in this

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\* In note C annexed, will be found a statement of the greatest importance, as to Coal being discovered by the emigrant farmers.

neglected settlement, such circumstances are fewer in number than nine years ago some among themselves anticipated, and to prevent which the interposition of the Secretary of State was asked in vain.

The Missionaries, American as well as English, have given satisfaction both to white people and to the natives; and it will be one of the advantages of the proposed colony to increase their number; relieving them also from many political duties, now unfortunately too often imposed on them by circumstances, which Government might controul.

But it is in reference to the Cape Dutch Emigrants that is to be found the most weighty and immediate argument in favor of a well planned British Colony at Natal.

Cape Dutch  
Emigrants.

Already that emigration has extensively affected the state of trade at the Cape of Good Hope; and it has formidably increased the disturbances in the interior of South Africa. A due consideration, however, of all circumstances attending this remarkable event, will produce a conviction that the only remedy for the evil is to adopt the Natal Colony.

It is utterly impossible to appreciate the true character and the position of these emigrants, without having accurately ascertained and candidly weighed the various causes in which their present movements has originated.

For more than a century the Governments, English and Dutch, have sanctioned the practice of settling in the interior, without proper measures to render it beneficial to the natives, or even to prevent its being injurious to them. More espe-

cially has this practice been carried on under the eye of the Government, with the most extraordinary neglect, during the last ten years.

Hence a spirit of habitual wandering has been encouraged by the Cape Dutch Farmers, extremely difficult to be curbed, and which has been the first cause of the present emigration.

The second cause must be sought in the temptation offered to the South African Farmers by the fertility of Natal.

A third cause—discontent with the British Government—which, be it reasonable discontent or not, it is desirable to allay: and it deserves serious consideration whether out of the present crisis there may not be gathered general benefits, without dishonour or cost to any parties.

Salutary restraints may now at last be set on the practice of pressing into the interior; and the desire to possess the good soil of Natal, which the emigrants will overspread in a few months, may prove a motive of reconciliation with British authority.\*

As stated above, every acre of this country becomes crown-land upon its acquisition by a British subject. If the Government adopt it, the *declaration of independence* proclaimed by the emigrants is, in law, null. In all respects the administration of Natal will be conveniently made entirely independent of the Cape of Good Hope. The distance of the two places from each other is a sufficient reason for separation; and such an arrangement will greatly facilitate the reconciliation of the emigrants with us. They are known to be well

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\* For an account of the present settlement of a portion of the Emigrants see Note A annexed.

disposed to the British already settled on the spot, who have declared firmly their determination to preserve the British connection: so that if the Queen shall be now advised to exhibit a prudent vigour in adopting the proposed colony, the opportunity of promoting tranquillity in South Africa, offered by the wish of the emigrants to settle at Natal, can hardly fail of leading to great good, which should not be thrown away. Treated with wise indulgence\*, it is not rash to say, they will prefer a friendly settlement of their discontent, to hazarding all by an unreasonable perseverance in their declared independence; and, finding themselves in a new and good position by a reconciliation with us, they will not be the last to carry into practice the philanthropic views which so honorably distinguish the times.

On the other hand, if the acquisitions made at Natal be rejected by the Crown, and the proposed colony be not established there, the probably disastrous result may be told in a few words.—The Cape Dutch Emigrants will be masters of the whole Eastern Country; and, without speculating on the fate of the British Settlers, who have declared their intention to maintain the British connection—the alliance to be made by the new republic with some of the natives, and its wars with others, already in hostility with the emigrants, cannot fail to bring alarming confusions on our frontiers. If no foreign civilized power is likely at present to accept the country from the Cape Dutch, the disposition would not be wanting in a future

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\* See the recent Address of the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope to the Emigrants.—Note D annexed.

war to assail us by such an union ; and new adventurers will easily be found in Europe or America to throw themselves into a defensible post upon the chances of distinction or gain. The Buccaneering, which a Committee of the House of Commons, last year only, declared may be expected to break out in the South Seas, may, by no remote possibility, have establishments on the coasts of Madagascar, and be no unwelcome visitors at Natal.

Under these circumstances, it is of great importance to decide early on the whole subject. And, fortunately, an objection which formerly induced the Government to refuse to adopt Natal no longer prevails; for the proposed colony rests on prudently applying the lands selling principle to that country.

This new colonization principle will provide funds for all needful charges, and furnish the means of justly indemnifying all the parties interested at present in any portions of the soil to be colonized, as well as promote in a decisive manner the protection and civilization of the natives; and whilst it will advance our commercial relations in South Africa, it will put a satisfactory end to the most perplexing occurrence ever known in a British Colony—the Cape Emigration,

FINIS.

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# A P P E N D I X.

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## APPENDIX.

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### NOTE A.

Towards the end of 1837 a large body of the emigrant boors under Retief and Maritz proceeded with their families to settle at Natal; Uys and another large body remained to the west of the mountains; and a considerable number were spread over the country, north of the Cradock river.

Retief, with 70 white men, and 30 coloured servants, was killed by Dusgaan and the Zoolas in February last. Soon afterwards, Maritz and all the remaining boors who had gone to Natal were attacked by Dusgaan by surprise, and they lost 40 men, 56 women, and 185 children, all white, with 250 coloured servants; the Zoolas losing 500 men. On a *third* occasion, in April last, the boors, 347 in number, lost 10 more white men. In another conflict, being joined by Uys and others from the interior, the Zoolas are supposed to have lost between 600 and 700 men in this action.—*Letters of Mr. Boshof in the Cape newspapers of July and August, 1838.*

A fourth action is known to have occurred, in which the English settlers at Port Natal suffered severely, and fifth has since taken place.

“The emigrants” says Mr. Boshof “are now encamped at Tugala and Bushman’s Rivers by parties of from 50 to 100 waggons, and have commenced ploughing at the latter, and other places. They must frequently, from necessity, expose themselves to great danger; and it is feared, that if the enemy should take advantage of their situation, and they should be off their guard, fresh disasters may yet befall them. There are altogether about 1,000 waggons, 640 men, about 3,200 women and children, and say, 1,260 blacks. It is also calculated that they have still about 300,000 sheep, 40,000 head of cattle, and 3,000 horses, including mares and colts.”

“There are, within a few miles of Port Natal, on the east of the Quathlamba mountains, a great many widows, and orphans, and others, who suffer a great deal from want; and the assistance which is now to be rendered them by the subscriptions from the colony will, I am sure, be gratefully received, and looked upon as a boon from heaven.

“Since the death of Retief, and subsequently of Uys, the form of government amongst the emigrants has undergone some changes, and they have had several meetings to discuss, alter, and mature the system. These discussions have arisen out of the differences which existed between the respective adherents of Uys and Maritz. The former presented at last a memorial to the general council, stating, that for various reasons they could not submit to him as their magistrate, and praying that another individual might be appointed to preside over them. The council acceded to this, and accordingly appointed in his room a person named Badendorst. The council consists of 24 members, who are elected by the people. It holds supreme authority, makes laws and regulations, appoints to all offices of trust and power, such as field-commandants, field-cornets, and ward-masters, and hears and determines upon all matters of importance.

“The laws of Holland, as they are recognised in this colony, are followed by them, except in matters of a purely local nature, when the general council promulgates such regulations as may be necessary, or gives instructions to the respective officers according to circumstances. The members of council and also their present magistrates, have been elected for one year only; and they deem this period, and the laws and regulations now in force, as sufficient to the exigency of their present circumstances; but they contemplate making many changes when they shall be peaceably settled. They are, however, greatly in want of an efficient head—of one properly qualified in every respect to direct and guide them, and who, unconnected with any party, may acquire the confidence of all. They feel this want very much, and it is generally thought that were such a person raised up, he would soon remove all

party feeling, suspicion, and jealousy from amongst them, as well as prevent ambitious men from creating dissensions' which, though frequently of a trifling nature, have too often caused much annoyance, and brought them into great difficulties. Such disputes might have been the cause of great misfortunes, had it not been for the forbearance which has been very generally manifested, by which party spirit has been prevented from degenerating into personal hatred between themselves. They have exerted themselves on all sides to remove the causes of disagreement, as soon as known, and to reconcile the disputants if possible. On the whole I found the people peaceably disposed, well-behaved and orderly. During our stay among them we did not hear of a single instance of quarreling or fighting between either man or woman, although it was feared by some, that as wine and spirits had been obtained from Port Natal, such disorders would take place.

"There are not a few slave apprentices with the emigrants : but it has been determined by council that these shall be set at liberty on the 1st December, the same as in the colony. The emigrants do not seem to have the slightest idea of entering into any slave trade whatever, and are even offended at a question on the subject being put to them. They say "We are not averse to the emancipation of the slave—the colonists never introduced the slave trade, the European governments forced it upon us—what we complain of is, that our slaves have been emancipated by England under a promise of full compensation, whereas, we have scarcely received one-third of their value."

"They are most anxious to remain on friendly terms with the colony ; but if you begin to propose to them their return, or argue as to the causes of their emigration, you soon find yourself in the back ground : you must submit to listen to a long catalogue of grievances, and which they state have driven them to take the steps they have done ; and they appear fully determined to run any risk, and to suffer any privation, rather than to submit again to the same annoyances,"—

*J. Boshof.*

## NOTE B.

The following account of Natal was published in the Cape newspaper in August last, by Mr. Boshof.

"On the 19th May we descended the Draakberg\* with six waggons and a cart, and reached its base in an hour and a half. Some parts of the descent were so steep that we were compelled to chain two wheels; but upon the whole the road is not very difficult. From the foot of the mountain to Port Natal the distance is computed at 42 hours with horse waggons (210 miles). In the winter the cold is as severe on these mountains as in the Sneeuwberg; but on descending into the level country it is as temperate as in the Camdedo; and as you approach Port Natal it becomes still warmer. On the 4th of June (nearly the middle of winter in this latitude. we saw in the garden of a native, under the Stinkhoutberg, a distance of between 50 and 60 miles from the coast, Indian corn, of luxuriant growth, in full blossom, together with tobacco plants, and pumpkins, and calabashes, all uninjured by frost. At Natal we partook of two large dishes of Indian corn in a green and unripe state.

"On the whole the climate is healthy and so mild that two crops of almost every kind of grain may be reaped in a year. The soil is a dark mould, deep, loose, and very fertile. Indian corn has been often found in the fields of the natives of such vigorous growth, that a man on horseback, standing in his stirrups, could not reach the top of the plant. This grain, as also Kafir corn, pumpkins, and tobacco, are grown without irrigation. It is said that from September or October to March, and sometimes to April, rains are so frequent that the highest hills may be successfully cultivated. Independent of this, however, there is such abundance of water, both by rivers and springs, that by means of irrigation a hundred times more produce might be raised within the comparatively small tract of country over which I travelled from the Draak-

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\* A point in the Quathlamba mountains of Captain Gardiner who was 10 days on the journey from Port Natal in a waggon.

berg to Natal than in the whole of the eastern province. But as irrigation does not appear necessary, with very few exceptions, it appears certain, that were there sufficient population, the whole country might be converted into corn fields and plantations.

"We crossed in our progress several beautiful rivers, the largest of which are the Tugala and Umgani. The first resembles the Breede River, near Swellendam, or even lower down, and the second is not much inferior in magnitude. In rainy seasons I have no doubt but they are navigable for large boats for a considerable distance. The other rivers are, the Little Tugala, the Bushman, the Umbooti, the Umzalak, the Umlas, and several other streams, resembling in size and volume of water, the Berg River, the Hex, or the Zonderend, and some rather smaller. All these streams have their sources in the Draakberg, at a distance of from 15 to 30 miles higher than where the road crosses the range. In many places they are capable of being led out without any other expense or labor than merely making a channel to conduct the water.

"From the character of the soil and climate, I have no doubt but that every kind of fruit tree which grows in the colony will flourish there. I have seen bananas, dates, a species of medlar, and some others, growing wild,—as also a sort of cane, and Spanish reed, which are also indigenous.

"Timber for building purposes, waggon making, &c., is every where to be had. The country is hilly, like that in the neighbourhood of Swellendam or George; but it is quite open, the wood only growing along the margin of the rivers, and in the kloofs. Near Port Natal, for 15 miles from the shore, it has, however, the appearance of a continued forest."

#### NOTE B 2.

"The pasturage is extremely rich and very healthy for large cattle and sheep. The whole face of the country is thickly clothed by a great variety of grasses, growing from one to eight feet high. It sometimes for many miles in extent has more the resemblance of corn fields than grazing ground."

viii.

“Elephants, elands, buffaloes, and wild boars, are found in this part of the country; but animals of prey are very rare. After we descended the Draakberg we never saw so much as the footmarks of a jackall, wolf, lion, or other noxious or ferocious animal. Sheep are permitted to graze at a great distance from the camp day and night, and are uninjured.

“The cattle, sheep, and horses, excepting such as have been much used, or kept close to the camp, look very healthy, and are in excellent condition. The farmers state that they have had no disease amongst either cattle or sheep all the time they have been there. The horse sickness, however, similar to that known in the colony, is also prevalent there.

“The roads are smooth and good, although the country is not level. Stones are rarely met with, except in the beds of rivers.” Ib.

NOTE C.

The discovery of *Coal* in South Africa is too important to be left without special notice. Specimens heretofore shewn at Cape Town have not been found good. But the following account taken from Mr. Boshof's letter, seems to be more promising.

“Coal is found at the Sand River, between the Great and Little Tugala Rivers, and at the Blue Krans River. We dug up some near the road between the Tugalas, of which I brought home with me a small quantity. This was taken from near the surface, and proved on trial to be coal of second or third rate quality. We also found a small piece of coal on the shore, about a mile east of the entrance of the Bay of Natal; but this might have been washed on shore from some vessel. However, there is no doubt but that the country in the vicinity of Natal produces abundance of this valuable article.”

NOTE D.

The following proclamation to the Boors, was published in the 1st number of the New Graham's Town Government Gazette.

## COPY OF PROCLAMATION.

To the Farmers who have Emigrated beyond the Land  
Boundary of the Colony.

It having been represented to his Excellency the Governor that great misfortunes have befallen many of Her Majesty's subjects who have emigrated beyond the land boundaries of the Colony into the interior of Africa: that many of them are consequently reduced to great distress: and that a great proportion of them are desirous of returning within the limits of Her Majesty's South African dominions, but have hitherto been deterred by an apprehension that the laws which are in existence forbidding the crossing of the land boundary of the Colony into the interior without permission regularly obtained will be put in force against them.

And it has more than once appeared to him that many of Her Majesty's said subjects have been induced so to emigrate under mistaken and erroneous impressions, and have erred more from ignorance and unfounded fears than from any intention to offend against the laws:

His Excellency is anxious to act upon the principles of mercy and benevolence, which constitute the most valuable attributes of the crown, and to preserve from further misfortune and total destruction so many of her Majesty's subjects, who were so long conspicuous for loyalty, good order, and submission to the laws, but who may have been seduced by their own want of consideration, or the advice and example of others:

His Excellency hereby assures them that it shall be fully and freely allowed to all the said Emigrants, or all such proportions thereof, as shall be desirous of returning to the Colony, to do so; and to resume their domicile and avocations, as also their rights as British subjects without hindrance or molestation in consequence of the said Emigration. And he also promises to remit all pains and penalties which may have been incurred by them by the transgressions of said laws, against the crossing of the said land boundaries of the Colony into the interior: provided nevertheless, such Emigrants do so return previous to the first day of January, 1839.



And his Excellency hereby engages, that if any of the said Emigrants so returning have been in any way wronged within the jurisdiction of Her said Majesty's authority, or have any grievances to complain of against Her Majesty's subjects, the public functionaries, or otherwise, that the most full and ample investigation shall, upon proper representation, be instituted; and either such redress afforded as it is in His Excellency's power to afford, or such representations made to Her Majesty's Government as the respective cases shall in justice demand.

But his Excellency also warns all those who have already Emigrated, or may still be disposed to Emigrate, as a duty he owes to his Sovereign, and to them as Her subjects, that their Emigration into the interior cannot absolve them from their allegiance as British subjects, and their responsibility as such to the laws in force in the colony, and the courts administering the same.

His Excellency moreover assures them, that whenever the preservation of the peace, and prosperity of the colony and of the neighbouring tribes shall appear to him to require that Military possession be taken of the Sea Port called Natal, he will be prepared, and is determined to do so, in her Majesty's name,

By Command of his Excellency the Governor,  
H. HUDSON, Acting Secretary to Government.

#### NOTE E.

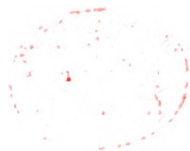
Extensive details on the present trade of Natal are wanting. Its amount is believed to be considerable, if reference be had to the circumstances under which it is carried on. An illustration of what it may become, is to be seen in the Parliamentary documents on the slave trade.

A merchant of the western coast of Africa, there makes the following statement. "One great advantage of a peaceful and uninterrupted commerce with the natives, particularly those of the interior, is, that many valuable productions of the country, of which the natives themselves seem totally ignorant,

are, by our research brought to light, to their astonishment. This has been particularly exemplified within the last two years, as the article of Coffee, of which, it now appears, there are in the forests of the Foulah country and other parts, vast quantities growing quite indigenous and in a state of nature, and which has been for years food for monkeys and other animals, but by our search after produce has become a source of great profit to the natives, and an article of export to Great Britain, France, and America.—Correspondence with the British Commissioners relative to the Slave Trade, 1838. Class A. p. 7.

They who are well acquainted with South Africa, anticipate that if proper facilities be offered to trade, a similar progress would rapidly follow there. The increase of the interior trade on the eastern frontiers of the Cape, is noticed in the memoir : the British trade on the east coast is also increasing. In a report, dated 29th September, 1837, from an officer on the station, it is said that “the English trade with the east coast and Madagascar, which is of considerable value, has much increased since last year;” and the writer of the report adds, “I think it will be of still greater value ; and the occasional presence of a vessel of war at the different ports, more particularly those in Madagascar, I conceive, will be highly beneficial to the trade.—Correspondence relative to the Slave Trade’ 1838. Class B. p. 25.

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