

of commerce, is gathered by the natives of Bethelsdorp, and sold to the traders. I had also sketched a zamia tree, growing near the Gamtoos river. Leaving Zuurbraak I proceeded, in company with Messrs. Helm and Anderson, to Swellendam, where, after a short rest under the hospitable roof of Dr. Robertson, I was able, notwithstanding some indisposition, to continue the journey with my friends to Cape Town, which place we reached in safety on the 19th of May, thankful for preservation throughout our wanderings and for the many blessings by which the journey had been attended.

Amongst the many impressions which the journey now closed has left upon my mind, few are more agreeable than those produced by the hospitality which we almost invariably experienced. With the families of the missionaries at the various stations I naturally felt at home; but at other places, especially amongst the Dutch boers, or farmers, we were perfect strangers, and, excepting in one or two instances, when the companionship of a missionary from the neighbourhood indicated in some degree the object of our journey, we appeared as ordinary travellers, yet we were always received courteously, and kindly helped on our way.

Our journey was in furtherance of a religious object, and our intercourse chiefly with the coloured people. The London Missionary Society, by which I had been requested to undertake this journey, had been for many years engaged in endeavours to effect the conversion of the heathen races in the country by educating them and teaching them in the simplest manner the truths of the Christian religion. These endeavours had not been in vain. In the several places occupied by the missionaries numbers of the coloured people were now united in organised Christian communities, having respectively their churches or chapels, schools, and other means of religious and social improvement. The efforts directed to the accomplishment of these ends had been