

attainments, as well as Europeans perfectly eligible, but who have not the fortune to bask in the sunshine of official favour, and who perhaps have not servility enough to fawn, cringe, and flatter, preferring the welfare of the Colony and a proud conscientiousness of the English character, to the plunder of the Colonial chest, for situations in which they would alone serve the Colony (were they permitted) for the Colony's good. Nay, to such an extent had a system of unfair patronage been carried during the period of the Executive of Governor Fergusson, that even the American citizen found more favour than the Englishman and subject of the Government, as in the case of one Jones, who was appointed Queen's Advocate's Clerk, to the disappointment of an European who had claims for past services, till forbearance became unendurable, and complaints of venality were forwarded to the Home Colonial Minister, Lord Stanley, in 1844 (upon which his Excellency had to report, by the commands of his Lordship; the result of which was, however, kept a State secret). Though to the frequent changes in the Executive of the Colony many failures of good and useful measures may be fairly attributed, there are other causes equally as destructive; the African's welfare, and the purposes for which the settlements were formed appears to be with many not the primary object, whilst others have really its welfare at heart; indeed, it would appear from such unreasonable and unjust appropriation of the emoluments of so many offices, no matter how gained, that the chief object was (using a familiar phrase) "to make hay while the sun shined," and if fortunate enough to escape the penalty of the climate, to seek relief in frequent "leaves of absence;" whilst the Colony is left to its fate and the chapter of accidents, and the African's condition to thrive as best it may, nurtured by nature and chance alone.

On my arrival in the Colony, Colonel Doherty possessed the reins of government; he was in 1841 superseded by the arrival of Sir John Jeremie. The measures of this excellent Governor were of an enlightened and comprehensive character, and had he been spared, would have been of incalculable benefit to the Colony. Justice was his motto; favouritism and venal patronage had but little hopes at his hands. Amongst many measures which he had in contemplation, were the due division of civil appointments amongst the native applicants in the Colony; the extension of the British influence within the territories of the surrounding kings and chiefs, in the sending of British Commissioners amongst them; the suppression of the local transit of slaves amongst the rivers and creeks of the neighbourhood by the Mahomedans for foreign shipment; the cultivation of farms in the villages, &c. These were a few of the many leading measures he had in view, whilst the moral and social condition of the inhabitants was not neglected; the formation of book societies, reading-rooms, poor societies, and other charitable institutions, were in progression, whilst every facility was afforded for the produce of the Mahomedan countries reaching the settlement; in the midst of all these good and beneficial measures, death closed his active career, and the African mourned the loss of a friend and benefactor. On this event the government, according to