

remedy "without success on more than one Governor." Mr. Des Vœux was not many months in British Guiana after Governor Scott's assumption of the Government, and what he may have urged on him I have no means of knowing. As he came to British Guiana during my administration, the only other Governor besides myself that he could have urged his views on, was Lieut.-Governor Mundy, who would not have been likely to take up a question of such magnitude during a temporary administration. For myself, I can state distinctly that although the subject was one constantly in my thoughts, and one which I frequently discussed with others, I never even heard of Mr. Des Vœux taking any interest in it. I am certain that he never urged any remedy on me in the very few private conversations which I had with him, and I shall be very much surprised indeed if there is any representation of his on the subject in the records of the departments. There is, throughout Mr. Des Vœux's letter, a want of precision as to facts and dates which I hope will be remedied in the course of the enquiry which is to take place. The persons with whom I discussed the subject from time to time, were the officers of the Immigration Department, the Surgeon General of the Colony, the Inspector General of Estates Hospitals, some of the official and elective members of the Court of Policy, and some of the principal medical practitioners. I cannot, of course, recollect all the conversations that I held on the subject, but Mr. Des Vœux had had no experience whatever of the management of the Estates Hospitals prior to his appointment in February, 1867, to the charge of districts B and C. At that time I was absent from the Colony, to which I returned in September. The important question raised by Mr. Des Vœux had naturally engaged much of the attention of my predecessor, Sir Philip Wodehouse, as it did of mine. Sir Philip Wodehouse was, I believe, favorable to District General Hospitals, but he was unable to carry out his views. Important changes such as those indicated by Mr. Des Vœux cannot be effected without appropriations of money, which require the support of a majority of the members of the com-