

these duties, two of them sick and the third for the ostensible purpose of taking care of them.

There fortunately happened at this juncture, a few days of favourable weather; by which the Governor was enabled to perform the journey to Black River, in a much shorter time and with much greater ease than we had come from thence. The same fortunate time enabled them to land the remainder of the cargo of the second vessel.— This last event removed the dread of immediate want, for when the whole provisions and stores were landed they found there was sufficient to serve the whole for the space of two months, and they relied upon the hope of further supplies reaching them by other arrivals before the expiry of that period. But although thus released from the dread of impending famine, they had still other distressing and unpleasant difficulties to contend with. From the falacious but glowing colours in which this Poyais country had been depicted in the accounts of it published in England, the last party had embarked under the pleasing hope of finding many of their friends who had gone before in the first vessel, comfortably settled on their farms and in the enjoyment of ease and affluence as a reward for their former toils and present labour. In this hope they had fancied to themselves a cheerful meeting and hospitable reception at the same time, the ties of blood and friendship which existed between many of the first and last emigrants, had led the latter to anticipate assistance in their future progress. How sad and mortifying the disappointment of all these fair hopes needs not be told; when in place of that warm and friendly reception, combined with the liberal assistance the possession of affluence can bestow, they met many whom they had known in comfortable situations at home, now reduced to a state of starvation on a foreign shore, with all their prospects overthrown and their best exertions defeated. Other causes besides these combined to enhance the sufferings of such as had last arrived. The disappointment and sympathy which might have arisen at seeing former friends and acquaintances in untoward circumstances were but the least of their painful feelings. Many of them had brought numerous young families out to this unhappy shore; and they now found when too late; that instead of bringing them to a favourable clime where a prospect of obtaining ease and affluence was before them, (as had been depicted to them before leaving the mother country,) they had inconsiderately precipitated themselves and children into a state, where instead of obtaining even a moderate competence for their labours, sickness stared them in the face, and the only hope of relief was to be found in the grave.

Disease now began to make dreadful devastation among these deluded creatures. A spacious hut was constructed for a temporary hospital; and soon filled. In the short space of a fortnight after the arrival of the last party, out of 200 their whole numbers, not above 20 were seen able to stir. Fever and ague was the prevailing disease, and so strong were the exciting causes to it that not one escaped being attacked. A few of the more robust made an attempt to get to Truxillo, but after proceeding a short distance on the route, were stopped by the rivers and compelled to return to share the unfortunate fate of their companions. But it is time to revert to the party