

laid in ruins. Happily, however, wars are not now so frequent, and Butterworth is among the most prosperous stations in South-Eastern Africa.

In the very interesting biography of Mr. Shrewsbury, written by his son, we are furnished with minute particulars respecting the customs that obtained among the Kafir race, which were great barriers in the way of the Gospel among them. One of these was *dancing*, particularly on festive occasions, and the scenes of licentiousness that were usually connected therewith clearly indicated the tendency of such "innocent amusements." Mr. S. says:—"An English traveller, fond of masquerades, would plead for dances as tending to promote social habits, and abate something of the rudeness of uncivilized life; but we, who live amongst the people, know that at these carnival seasons, the land is filled with uncleanness, which tends to increase the aversion of the carnal mind to the holy law of God."

The thievish propensities of the people was another barrier against which the missionaries had to contend. A member of the British House of Commons once said that "the Kafirs were born thieves;" in thus speaking he only confirmed the truth of Scripture, that men go astray from their birth speaking lies.

There were a class of men among all the tribes, who professed to be "Rain Makers," and the natives thought that surely the missionaries might produce rain whenever there was a necessity. In some instances, the poor creatures would offer fine cattle as a reward for a good shower of rain, that was then much needed. They would even remind the missionary that he was *their* God. One individual, however, was very different from the rest of his tribe. He demanded that the missionary should immediately grant him rain, and on being told that the missionary had no power to comply with his request, refused to hear, and became so furious, that he even threatened to run Mr. S. through with an assegai.

Mr. Shrewsbury, like many other missionaries, had to mourn over the conduct of some of his own countrymen, men who professed to be Christian gentlemen, and yet, when amongst the heathen, they would practise some of the very sins from which he was labouring to save the people. Their conduct was a great trial to the missionaries, as the Kafirs took all white men to be Christians.