

had informed the Governor that they were revolutionary demagogues; and he, it seems, was nothing loath to believe it. No squatting being permitted, they were driven to the third course, of a regular purchase. They secured a property of 6,018 acres for £630.

The position of the settlement as a mission fortress and centre was good. It was under English protection: it was not inconveniently distant from the sea; it touched on the most important tribes of Southern Africa; and by penetrating northward from tribe to tribe, it was still possible to reach the Gallas. And the religious state of the population, white and black, was pitiful. Isolated among the heathen, and removed from every Christian influence, the heathenism of the so-called Christian is the result.

Having secured their purpose, the next step of the colonists was to build. Then the learning of the language became the most formidable work of all. For they did not spend their energy in mere outward arrangements. They kept steadily before them the purpose of their colony, and every spare moment practised the native tongue. If a man got knocked up in the woods, he recruited himself by a month's study of Kaffir with Posselt. "I have seen them," says Posselt, writing to Harms, "struggling with these clicks and clacks till their eyes turned round in their head. It is a hard nut for them to crack: but they are indefatigable, and they never flinch; real martyrs in the cause."

The language is a lamentation in their letters for years—they were only simple peasants of the heath: elderly men some of them, more used to a spade than a grammar; and it is to their credit that they manfully overcame the difficulties in their way, instead of fall-

ing back upon pastoral duty among the scattered Germans. Meanwhile their hearts were burning within them for some speech with the natives, and until able directly, they spoke as they could through interpreters. Nor were they slow to practice with any natives who might be at hand, though they sometimes fell into odd blunders.

Harms, careful and thoughtful at home, warned them of the African laziness, of a "lady-and-gentleman existence." They wrote him in reply—"A bell rings us up at half-past five; we have worship at six; after coffee every one hurries off to his work; for breakfast we have bread and milk; the bell rings from work to dinner at twelve, at half-past one there is coffee, and then to work again as long as our dear God lets the sun shine." The work embraced everything—mission teaching and handicraft, the household and the church. At last a despatch arrived from Lord Clarendon, recognizing the admirable character of the mission, and recommending it to special care, while 3,000 acres additional, out of the Government land, were allocated to the settlement. With the arrival of Sir G. Grey came still brighter prospects. He is reported to have said, that if he were not a governor he would be a missionary. Whatever truth may be in this, his interest in missions is well known. His familiarity with their working, and his experience of the relations between European and savage races, led him to a higher estimate of their value than is at all common to colonial rulers. He made grants to any new mission station of 6,000 acres, grants of which the Hermannsburgers soon availed themselves. They were rapidly increasing. The old parish at home sent out a continuous stream of emigrants. Their organization