

On his father leaving the army, our hero became a school-teacher while he was still exercising his gifts as a local preacher, but he felt a strong desire to go abroad as a missionary. Various hindrances prevented him doing so until 1819, when a party of Methodist families, who were being sent out to the Cape Colony, chose him as their minister. The Wesleyan Missionary Society sanctioned his appointment, and by the aid of such distinguished servants of the Church as Revs. J. Benson, G. Morley and R. Watson, he was set apart to the work of the ministry, and sailed to his destination, where he arrived in May, 1820. There were many trying things to endure, but Mr. Shaw was not easily discouraged, and soon began to do the work of an evangelist. His first sermon, in what is now called the Eastern Province of Africa, was preached on a heap of stones, and near the very spot there now stands a Methodist church, and the place is called Port Elizabeth.

Mr. Shaw took an active part in all that pertained to the welfare of the new colony. He was a real practical man, well suited to the post which he occupied; hence he could plan houses and afford the poor people much valuable counsel. His appearance was not always clerical. "I was obliged to ride about dressed in a sheep-skin jacket and trousers, with a broad-brimmed hat, made from the leaves of the *palmiet*, which grew in some of the streams. My dress was, in fact, similar to that worn by a large number of persons; and it was well adapted for 'roughing it' on the road and in the jungle, but not exactly such a dress as an Englishman prefers when circumstances, pecuniary and otherwise, will allow of an alternative."

The religious welfare of his people was the first thing which he cared about, hence he soon got a temporary place of worship erected, which was a great contrast to the beautiful sanctuary in Great Queen Street, London, where many of his hearers had been accustomed to worship. As a true son of John Wesley, he began to itinerate, and went to distant places to feed the people with the bread of life. Grahamstown, though now the metropolitan city, was at this time a military post, where there was little religious instruction, but he soon made it one of his regular preaching places, and every alternate week he rode 130 miles and preached eight times, besides his Sabbath labours at home. He often heard the Macedonian cry for help; and though he did all that he was able to