

CHAPTER IV.

§ I. *Leave of Absence.*

1. THE Acts of Parliament, 22 Geo. III. cap. 75, and 54 Geo. III. cap. 61, empower the *Governor and Council* of any Colony to grant leave of absence to Colonial Officers.

2. Leave of absence should be confined, as much as possible, to cases of serious indisposition, requiring a change of climate. And if an officer employed in a distant Colony can recruit his health by visiting a neighbouring country, or by a sea voyage, the Governor should not sanction leave for his return to Europe.

3. Applications for leave of absence to return to England on the ground of urgent private affairs must be refused, unless the Governor and Council are satisfied that the case is really so urgent as to render the indulgence indispensable; and even in that case the duration of the leave of absence should be limited within such a period as the exigencies of the occasion may appear to the Governor and Council to demand.

4. The Governor and Council, in considering the term for which leave of absence should be granted, must be guided mainly by the length of service of