

satisfied from its position that he was on the high road to India, he determined to return and report his further discoveries; and it was then that he actually discovered the Cape to which he gave the name, but which the King of Portugal altered to that of Cabo **de** Boa Esperanza, which it has ever since retained. When Portugal fell under the dominion of Spain in the **reign** of Philip II. the Cape passed with it; and soon after, in consequence of the successful revolt of the Seven United Provinces, the **Hollanders** explored those seas, and soon made themselves masters of the important colony. Under their provident government, population gradually increased, and the colony remained in their quiet possession up to the year 1795, when, in consequence of the conquest and annexation of Holland by the French Republic, they were forced into the war against England.

We annex a portrait of the founder and **first** Governor of the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, from his **picture** in the Town Hall at Cape Town.



PORTRAIT OF **JOHAN VAN RIEBECK.**

In the hands of a friendly power the Cape was not of much importance; but it was soon felt that it could be converted to a very great annoyance against our trade with the East Indies and **China**. An expedition was consequently fitted out to take **pos**-session of it, and after a short resistance made by the party who adhered to the French connexion, it was occupied by us, and

retained in our possession up to the peace of **Amiens**, when it was **most** unwisely given up.

On the renewal of the war in 1803, it was determined again to recover the "**Cape**," and in 1805 an expedition was sent against it, which was successful, and being confirmed to us by the peace of 1815, it has ever since remained in our **possession**—never again, we **earnestly hope**, to acknowledge any other authority than the sovereignty of Great Britain.

The 'boundaries of the Cape colony have been several times enlarged **and** contracted, but they may now be considered to extend from about the latitude of **29.**, long. 17. O., on the west **coast**, to Port Natal, in lat. **30.**, long. **31.**, on the south-east coast. . The natural boundaries of the colony seem to be the mouth of the Grange River, **28. 30.**, along the whole of its course, embracing the most northern forks, and then in a convenient line until it meets the Portuguese settlements about **Delagoa** Bay, which was extended rather farther to the east than Port Natal—and there ought to be no difficulty in at once declaring this to be the boundary. Such a course would for ever cut off any hopes of a successful independent settlement by those of the **Boers** who may not yet have submitted after their recent revolt. We **do** not indeed see any objection to a further **extension** on the west coast until we shall reach Walwich Bay, about lat. 20. ; and this ought to receive' the encouragement and support of all those who are anxious for the civilisation and **conversion** to **Christianity** of the numerous tribes of savages who now prowl over the country that has so recently been explored and described 'by Sir James Alexander. It is only by the introduction of Europeans, with all their knowledge of arts, sciences, and commerce; that any satisfactory improvement of the aborigines can be **accomplished**. . By employing some of the sums of money now almost uselessly expended in **endeavouring** to prevent the slave-trade, in settling emigrants on that line of country, a greater progress would be made in the civilisation and improvement of Africa, than by a hundred such expeditions as the unfortunate one with the iron steamers under Capt. Trotter.

Whatever shall be determined by our Government to be the boundaries, a **scientific** and correct survey of the country should be made, and a map constructed dividing the whole into districts

. SIMMONDS ' S  
**COLONIAL MAGAZINE.**

---

PAST AND PRESENT CONDITION OF THE CAPE OF  
GOOD HOPE,

**It** is curious to trace the progress of discovery of the Portuguese in the **fifteenth** century, which commencing about the year 1420, under the auspices of Don Henry, the youngest son of the then King of Portugal, and **a** grandson of England, was continued along the coast of Africa **until** they eventuated in the discovery of the Cabo de **los** Tormentos by Bartholomew Diaz in 1486, and subsequently, in 1497, by the discovery of India by Vasco de **Gama**—**thus** throwing open to the enterprise of Europeans the most valuable existing traffic, which had hitherto in a great degree been monopolised by, the Venetians.

Diaz did not discover what is **properly** called the Cape until his return, having been sufficiently to the southward to pass **it, in** safety, and the part of the coast **first** made by him was **Algoa** Bay, where he anchored and remained some time, and being



ISLET OF SANTA **CRUZ**, IN **ALGOA** BAY.

satisfied from its position that he was on the high road to India, he determined to return and report his further discoveries; and it was then that he actually discovered the Cape to which he gave the name, but which the King of Portugal altered to that of Cabo **de** Boa Esperanza, which it has ever since retained. When Portugal fell under the dominion of Spain in the **reign** of Philip II. the Cape passed with it; and soon after, in consequence of the successful revolt of the Seven United Provinces, the **Hollanders** explored those seas, and soon made themselves masters of the important colony. Under their provident government, population gradually increased, and the colony remained in their quiet possession up to the year 1795, when, in consequence of the conquest and annexation of Holland by the French Republic, they were forced into the war against England.

We annex a portrait of the founder and **first** Governor of the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, from his picture in the Town Hall at Cape Town.



PORTRAIT OF **JOHAN VAN RIEBECK.**

In the **hands** of a **friendly power** the Cape. was not of much importance; but it was soon felt that it could be converted to a very great annoyance against our trade with the East Indies and **China.** An expedition was consequently fitted out to take **pos-**session of it, and after a short resistance made by the **party** who adhered to the French connexion, it was occupied by us, and

retained in our possession up to the peace of **Amiens**, when it was most unwisely given up.

On the renewal of the war in 1803, it was determined again to recover the "**Cape**," and in 1805 an expedition was sent against it, which was successful, and being confirmed to us by the peace of 1815, it has ever since remained in our **possession**—never again, we **earnestly hope**, to acknowledge any other authority than the sovereignty of Great Britain.

The 'boundaries of the Cape colony have been several times enlarged and contracted, but they may now be considered to extend from about the latitude of **29.**, long. 17. O., on the west coast, to Port Natal, in lat. **30.**, long. **31.**, on the south-east coast. . The natural boundaries of the colony seem to be the mouth of the Grange **River**, **28. 30.**, along the whole of its course, embracing the most northern forks, and then in a convenient line until it meets the Portuguese settlements about **Delagoa** Bay, which was extended rather farther to the east than Port Natal—and there ought to be no difficulty in at once declaring this to be the boundary. Such a course would for ever cut off any hopes of a successful independent settlement by those of the **Boers** who may not yet have submitted after their recent revolt. We **do** not indeed see any objection to a further **extension** on the west coast until we shall reach Walwich Bay, about lat. 20. ; and this ought to receive' the encouragement and support of all those who are anxious for the civilisation and **conversion** to Christianity of the numerous tribes of savages who now prowl over the country that has so recently been explored and described 'by Sir James **Alexander**. It is only by the introduction of Europeans, with all their knowledge of arts, sciences, and commerce; that any satisfactory improvement of the aborigines can be accomplished. . By employing some of the sums of money now almost uselessly expended in **endeavouring** to prevent the slave-trade, in settling emigrants on that line of country, a greater progress would be made in the civilisation and improvement of **Africa**, than by a hundred such expeditions as the unfortunate one with the iron steamers under Capt. Trotter.

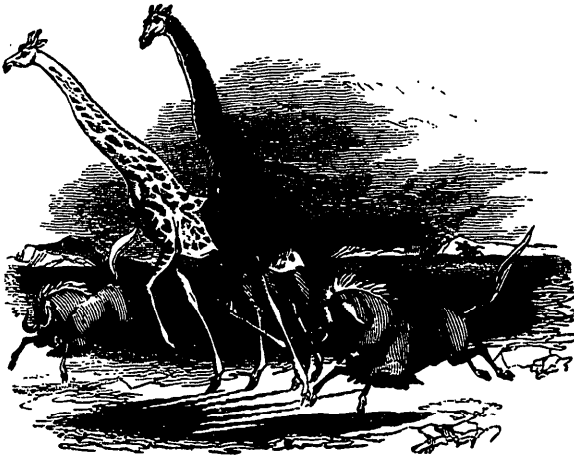
Whatever shall be determined by our Government to be the boundaries, a **scientific** and correct survey of the country should be made, and a map constructed dividing the whole into districts

or counties of about 500,000 acres each, and giving to every part, division, mountain, river, **&c. &c.** an English name by which for the future it should always in official and other documents be acknowledged and known. An extensive emigration might be encouraged; and it would, **notwithstanding** the prevailing notions about the sale of land in the colonies, be much more advantageous to give away the land to bona-fide settlers, who, in proportion to the extent of it, should engage to take out emigrants as cultivators.

In such an extent of country **as** is now under survey, and in the large portion which may be embraced in the future boundaries of the colony, every variety of soil and situation is to be found. Some of the mountains rise in continuous chains to a height of 2,009 to 4,000 feet, and particular peaks even attain to 7,000 and 9,090 feet ; many of the ranges, with very hard Dutch names, extend along the west coast, and others of a similar description on the south coast. It is not necessary to give a very particular description of the different ranges which diverge more or less from the sea-coast, **frequently** to about a hundred miles thus dividing the waters of the interior, some of which fall by innumerable rivers **and rivulets into** the Indian Ocean, and other find their way to the great Orange River, and thence into the Atlantic on the west coast. Another feature of the country is the high, arid, sandy plains of great extent, but which are easily traversed; these are intersected by vast fertile regions, which only require to be occupied by man, with his flocks and herds to render them the happy and prosperous abodes of innumerable hardy emigrants, who, from the confined space of Great Britain are now pining in almost hopeless misery and destitution at home

The population of the colony as now existing may amount to perhaps **200,000** souls, nearly one-fifth of whom are emancipated slaves. Every exertion ought to be made to increase this number to at least half a million. Pensioners **retaining**, not commuting their pensions, should, if possible be induced to go out as settlers, with their wives, families, and relations ; they might be spread all over the country in towns of about 100 families in each-thus making the Cape, in a great degree, a military colony, which by its numbers, and the character of its population, might defy the attacks that any power could make

on it. We cannot see that the trade between England and its possessions in the East, China, Australia, &c. can ever have any other legitimate course of transit than that round the Cape; it is, therefore, the interest of Great Britain that her power there should be so great as to afford no hope of successful capture to any nation which may envy or dispute with us the possession of it. Whatever **difficulties** may be supposed to arise from insufficiency of good water are always found to give way before actual settlement, and it only requires a proper knowledge of boring and well-sinking to be able at all times to draw sufficient supplies **from** beneath the earth's surface.



AFRICAN GNU AND GIRAFFE.

The rivers of the country may be **very** easily improved, and made available for many purposes that have hitherto not been thought of. Surveys should be made by Government officers, say by the engineer department; and as convicts must and ought to be employed during the period of their sentences in **public** works, we cannot see why 500 to 1000 of them might not be engaged in the construction of roads, and other means of rendering the communication between the various parts of the colony as easy and convenient, both for travellers and the transit of **merchandise**, as possible. Too much fastidiousness is evinced in many of our colonies as to the employment of convict **labour**; but experience has shown, that when properly directed and confined to public works, it will always be most useful and beneficial.

The seasons are, of course, the reverse of ours; and the wet and dry periods are more or less determined by their position. The heats of summer vary from about seventy to eighty degrees of Fahrenheit, and in winter **from fifty** to sixty degrees; in **particular** situations, the heat, as is usual in other countries, **is much** greater: but **there** is no part of the globe where the general health of the people is better than at the Cape, and this is unequivocally shown by the military returns of casualties, which are much less than at any other station out of Great Britain.

Timber for building purposes is scarce, but sufficient supplies can always be obtained by importation; and as there are many districts where trees might be advantageously grown, every encouragement ought to be given to those who are disposed to plant, and in the progress of time it would be found here, as at home, that a good and thriving plantation of well-selected trees would add, at very trifling expense, most considerably to the value of an estate, and further prove as advantageous **a provision** for the younger branches of a family, as an investment in the funds, or in any other security.



CAPE FUEL-VENDERS.

There are four distinct races of people in the colony :-the Hottentots, or Bushmen ; the **Kafirs** ; the Europeans, of Dutch or English extraction; and the now emancipated Blacks, who are principally from Madagascar, and whose places, if they could be induced to emigrate to Trinidad, Demerara, or any other. of the West Indian colonies, might be most advantageously supplied by

our pauper labourers from home, If those who are now so anxious to procure a supply of **Coolie labour** from the East Indies were to direct their attention to this quarter, we consider an arrangement might be made that would prove highly advantageous to all parties.

A number of people called **Fingos**, rescued from slavery under the **Kafirs** by Sir B. Urban, have settled peaceably down among the farmers and residents on the eastern frontier.



**FINGO** WOMAN.

The **Hottentots** are an inoffensive race, not capable perhaps of much improvement; but the **Kafirs** are a very **different** set of people, of whom we shall have something to say hereafter.

The natural productions of the Cape Were originally few and unimportant; but whatever has been introduced by Europeans has been found to thrive tolerably well. The experiments that have been made to render the Cape a wine-growing country have not hitherto been attended with much success, as the several qualities do not suit the fastidious palates of those accustomed to the finer wines of Europe: still, by perseverance and proper encouragement this may be overcome, and the attempt ought not to be lightly abandoned. The export of wine, **from 1,548,085** gallons in **1829**, had fallen to 781,600 gallons in 1841.

The cattle have of late years equally increased in numbers and improved in quality, and the judicious introduction of a few more bulls of the best breeds **Kafirs** from England would accomplish

all that seems to be desirable. The sheep are no longer the long fat-tailed kind that used to be so much talked of, but are now o



ORIGINAL CAPE BREED OF SHEEP.

a breed which, for symmetry and wool, are a most decided improvement.



IMPROVED CAPE SHEEP.

In 1840 about five thousand emigrants were sent out to the Cape, who were principally settled in the eastern districts, and who are now in possession of considerable lands, flocks, and herds. We do not understand why this experiment was not followed up as it ought to have been, nor can we see any reason why so few emigrants should choose the Cape as their future place of residence; every encouragement ought to be given to them, and we hope soon to find that Graham's Town, which is the principal location in the eastern province and the residence of the Lieutenant-Governor, will number its 20,000 inhabitants.



TOWN OF UTENHAYE.

at least. Its position is in a fine and improving country, and its public buildings are very creditable.



COURT-HOUSE, GRAHAM'S TOWN.

Utenhayc, the chief town of another of the six counties into which the eastern province of the **colony** is divided, is planted on the declivity of a gentle hill, flanked by a bold ridge of **moun-**  
**tains**, on the left bank of the Zwartkops river, and about **fifteen**  
miles **from** the sea. It contains nearly two thousand inhabitants,  
'but its growth has been greatly retarded by its more successful  
rival Graham's Town on one side, and the **neighbouring** town of  
Port Elizabeth in Algoa Bay, distant twenty miles. Utenhayc  
**has frequently** been recommended as the seat of the Supreme  
Government; which, according to all accounts, it is likely at no  
remote period to become. According to Mr. Chase, **to** whose  
interesting volume we **are indebted** for much valuable informa-  
tion, its central position with regard to the whole colony; its  
proximity to the barbarian frontier, whence alone danger to the  
**possession** can be apprehended, and the consequent necessity of  
**this** being the military station of the colony; its convenient  
nearness to the safe and capacious harbour of Algoa Bay; and  
its extraordinary capability, superior to every site **within** the  
comprehensive limits of the Cape colony, for the erection of a  
noble city—all point it of necessity the most promising place of  
'the settlement.