dition and wants of the colony. He says, "A missionary and two schoolmasters, with a female teacher, are needed beyond measure."—Speaking of emigrants, he says, "They will come, I believe, as fast as the good of the colony shall require. It is not desirable, at present, that more than three or four shipments, of sixty persons each, be made in the course of the year. But the proportion may increase, and that largely, every year. Let one hundred families be well settled with a good house and perfectly improved lot to each, in town, and a plantation without, well cultivated:—let a warehouse and temporary receptacles for new comers be prepared—and the wheels of the machine—its schools, courts, &c., get a good momentum on them, in a proper direction, and you may throw in new settlers as fast as your funds will admit." Again, "The delays and dangers encountered in acquiring secure possession of a territory will endear it, and greatly enhance its value to the settlers for a long time to come. They have, even the most worldly, been *driven* by the extremity of their circumstances to supplication and prayer. The truly pious among us, have thus contracted the habit of regarding and acknowledging the hand of God in all their ways; and of trusting his gracious promises more implicitly, both for soul and body, for this world and the next.

"We are now one hundred and fifty strong, all in health, have about fifty houses, including three store-houses, and a heavy substantial stone tower, fourteen feet high, mounting six pieces of ordnance. We have a good framed house surrounded with a piazza: Dr. Ayres has brought out the frame of another of equal dimensions. Harmony and a good degree of industry, at present, prevail. Thus you see that we are prepared to go on and fulfil the anxious wishes of the friends of the cause, in relation to the cultivation of the lands, and the formation of a moral, regular, and happy society."

The death of Mrs. Ashmun took place in the year 1822. She died about the middle of September. The entry in the Colonial Journal for September 12th, says, "There is no rational hope of her recovery. All remedies have been tried in vain. Her husband, with a burthened heart, resigns her up to God. When last possessed of the power of reflection, she declared herself happy in her God, and to possess not a wish not absorbed in his holy will. She seemed to have intercourse with God in

prayer. Her husband ventures to record it as the first wish of his heart, that the will of the Lord may be done."

It may now with propriety be mentioned, that Lieutenant Dashiell left by Captain Spence, in the command of the schooner Augusta, sickened, and died on the 22d of June, 1823. He was succeeded in the command of the schooner by Lieutenant McMullin.

We will bring this chapter to a close, by adding some further description of Cape Mesurado, from the pen of Mr. Ashmun. (See Appendix to Sixth Report B. C. S.)

"The whole cape (I mean the promontory of four miles in extent) is of nearly equal elevation throughout the whole extent, running in a north-westerly, and south-easterly direction, and terminating in a double or bifurcated point. The river washes the north side of this promontory two miles before it falls into the sea; and its width from the river and sea on the north side, to the ocean on the south, is from two miles to three-fourths of a mile. The acclivity from the north side is abrupt, the descent towards the south, gentle; and near the sea contains an excellent tract of table land. The whole of this cape, except the alluvial table on the south side, is of volcanic origin. Two kinds of stone only are found, and these are abundant. The first is lava, in a state of partial decomposition, and exceedingly friable: the other is of the limestone species, and almost incapable of being split or reduced, with the heaviest hammers. The wood on the cape is as lofty and nearly as heavy as that of our sturdiest forests, in America. On the table lands it is lighter. Some extensive tracts, and containing a rich soil, are nearly covered with brushwood. Our force here can clear for planting, ten acres of it in a day. Whole forests here are strongly bound together, and rendered nearly or quite impervious, by a profusion of rank vines of all sizes; some nearly as large as a small cable, which creep, wind, and intertwine with other trees and themselves in all possible directions. Often a dozen trees must be separated from their trunks before one can be brought to the ground.

"Fish, in the river's mouth, are very numerous, especially in the dry season—many of them are large—all that I have seen, excellent.

"Every day I bless anew the favouring providence which eventually led your agents to establish the settlement on Cape

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XIV. Books

3.

A History of Colonization on the West Coast of Africa
by Archibald Alexander, Philadelphia, 1846