of reward, in equity ought not to be suffered to remain without remuneration.

This visit, however, was disappointed, in consequence of the urgent demand for Mr. Cary's medical services; for of the late emigrants, many were sick. Mr. Ashmun himself had the utmost confidence in his medical skill, as appears by the following testimony: "The prescriptions of our excellent and experienced assistant physician, the Rev. Lott Cary, under the blessing of Divine Providence, so far succeeded as to afford complete relief, only leaving one in a very emaciated and enfeebled state, about the end of the first week in July." Though Mr. Cary had declined all offices which would be likely to interfere with his ministerial and missionary labours, yet so high was the estimation in which he was held, that in September, 1826, he was elected to fill the office of Vice-Agent. Indeed, all eyes were turned to him as the most fit person to fill that responsible office. His intrepidity, foresight, prudence, and firmness, eminently qualified him to sustain the government, and secure the welfare of the people. "In his good sense," says Mr. Gurley, "moral worth, public spirit, courage, resolution, and decision, the colonial agent had perfect confidence."

After receiving the necessary books, and finding a suitable teacher, he went to Cape Mount, to prosecute his long contemplated school at that place; and after a palaver, the king and his chiefs unanimously gave their consent to the proposed institution. And while there, he embraced the opportunity on the Sabbath, of preaching to the natives through an interpreter.

In one of his letters to the Richmond Missionary Society, he urges them "to be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might, for it seems as if the great flood-gate is about to be opened upon this part of Africa. One missionary arrived here in the Ontario, and he informs me, there are four following after him. He is all the way from Germany or Switzerland—of the Lutheran denomination. I do not know what to say, but I must say, O American Christians! look this way! come this way! and help, if you cannot come. Send help, for the Lord's sake. Help Africa's sons out of the devil's bush, into the kingdom of God. The harvest is already white. The heathen, in our vicinity, are very anxious for the means of light. They will buy it—beg it—and sooner than miss of it,

they will steal it." In confirmation of this last, he gives the following fact: "In removing our school establishment up to Cape Mount, I had upwards of forty natives to carry our baggage; and though they had every opportunity to commit depredations, nothing was lost, except fifteen spelling books."

In the early part of the year 1828, as was before related, Mr. Ashmun left Liberia for the United States, his physician having declared that such a step was necessary to his restoration. Under these circumstances, the whole government of the colony devolved on Lott Cary. Mr. Ashmun's confidence in his wisdom and integrity may be learned from his communications to the Board. "I was enabled," says he, "to arrange the concerns of the colony with Mr. Cary, even to the minutest particulars; and I have the greatest confidence that his administration will prove satisfactory in the highest degree, to the Board, and advantageous to the colony." And on his death-bed, Mr. Ashmun recommended that Mr. Cary should be permanently appointed to conduct the affairs of the colony.

Mr. Gurley states, "that for six months after the departure of Mr. Ashmun from the colony, Mr. Cary stood at the head, and conducted himself with such energy and wisdom, as to do honour to his previous reputation, and fix the seal upon his enviable fame."

Mr. Cary was not insensible of the magnitude of the charge which had devolved upon him; but he had a mind which rose in strength, in proportion to the pressure by which it was urged.

It will be gratifying to learn from his private journal, what sentiments were entertained towards Mr. Ashmun. In describing his departure, he says, "Never, I suppose, were greater tokens of respect shown by any community, on taking leave of their head. Nearly the whole (at least, two-thirds) of the inhabitants of Monrovia, men, women, and children, were out on this occasion; and nearly all parted from him, with tears; and in my opinion, the hope of his return in a few months, alone enabled them to give him up. He is indeed dear to his people, and it will be a joyful day when we are permitted to see him again."

Mr. Cary now called together the principal officers of the colony, and read to them, without reserve, the instructions left him by Mr. Ashmun, and requested their cooperation. "I

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XIV. Books
3.
A History of Colonization on the West Coast of Africa
by Archibald Alexander, Philadelphia, 1846