
Messrs. Cowie and Green's Expedition to Dela Goa Bay.

[Communicated by Mr. CHASE.]

AN outline of the incidents which occurred during the adventurous and fatal enterprize of Messrs. Cowie and Green, in their journey to, and return from, the Portuguese Settlement at Delagoa Bay, overland, has been already given to the public as a part of a more extensive work in progress, on the Discoveries made in the interior of the African Continent from this Colony.

The following account of the death of the directors of the expedition and of their faithful Hottentot servant, Jantje, is taken nearly verbatim from their Caffer interpreter, Jacob, who accompanied them, and was present during the excursion.

* The circumstances narrated indicate a formation by deposition from the spring, rather than by volcanic agency.—Ees.

Jacob states, he proceeded from Natal with Messrs Cowie and Green, to Dela Goa Bay. It was a laborious journey, and all felt very much fatigued. They performed it in fifteen days: had in all, six horses, together with four cows as food for themselves and the three Caffers, besides Jacob, who accompanied them. All the Caffers, except Jacob, remained on the southern side of the English river at Dela Goa Bay, and took care of the horses; Cowie, Green, Jantje, and Jacob, proceeded to the town.

Remained at Dela Goa for four days, where Jantje sold his mare, then left for Natal, the same party being in company.—The Doctor (Cowie) felt a little indisposed on leaving, and on the road bled himself; on the third day, however, he died; and by this time all the horses were dead, having been taken ill soon after leaving Dela Goa. The Doctor died about a day's journey on the northern side of the *Mapoota river*, where Mr. Green buried him.

At this time Jantje was very sick, and unable to travel; he was therefore carried upon some spars which Mr. Green made for the purpose. He lingered for ten days, and expired. When he was very ill, Green went to shoot a buck, for we had no food; we then laid Jantje on the ground to rest ourselves, but conceiving him worse, called Mr. Green, who came to him, and, addressing him, felt his pulse, upon which Jantje said "Master, I leave you to-day," and instantly expired.—Green then said, "I never thought we should all die in this strange country; if Fynn had told us it was so unhealthy, we never should have come." Upon which Jacob replied, "Did I not tell you, this was a country unfit for strangers, and that none but natives could live in it."—Jantje was now buried in a hole made by the Caffers for catching wolves, and covered over with bushes and earth. When this was done, although it was raining very hard, Green told me we must proceed, and on the following day were detained, the *Sooto river* being impassable; we, however, crossed it the next day. On our arrival at the *Sooto river*, Green felt indisposed; but although his illness increased we still continued to travel until after the expiration of four days, when he was obliged to halt at a Portuguese Caffer's place, *Chumbany*, where he lingered in great agony for three days, and expired. Jacob now told the Caffers that were with him, that they must assist him to dig a grave; this they did, then made a coffin for Mr. Green, in the same way as Green had done for Cowie, by getting a few spars laid down, into which Jacob placed the body, making it fast with Caffer ropes. Jacob rolled the body into the skin-blanket, and put all his clothes with him, which consisted of one blanket, one pair of leather trowsers, and three shirts. The grave was dug?

feet deep and 6 feet long, into which the body was placed. We placed under the head a small pillow which Green carried with him; when this was done, Jacob took a quantity of grass and bushes, which he placed upon the body, and raised it thus about 4 feet, and then placed some spars on the bushes and grass, and filled the remainder up with earth, raising it above the level of the ground about one foot: he watered the ground all round, in order to see if the grave would be attacked by any wild animals. On the night of Green's death he slept at a kraal adjoining, and next morning visited the grave, but saw no traces of wild animals. Jacob now made the best of his way to the country where he resided, (Fynn's kraal,) taking with him 3 guns, a book, and a silver cup—all of which he sent to Fynn, excepting the cup, which he afterwards delivered to him. The reason he did not send it to him was, that on arriving the country was in a disturbed state: he thought it valuable, and was unable to travel, having been bit by a crocodile: he afterwards recovered, and, when he saw Fynn, delivered the cup to him. One of the Caffers died on the road just as they came into their own country. The whole of them were sick; and when Cowie was sick all the Caffers but Jacob, being then unwell, were dispatched forward, that they might get Caffer water-melons to make soup: all the Caffers, but the one, afterwards recovered. We all complained of the same sickness, having a violent pain in the head, with an almost total loss of sight, felt very cold, accompanied by excessive trembling or shaking of the whole body.

Jacob states, he does not conceive Cowie and Green were poisoned, for, on the journey to Dela Goa, the Caffers cautioned them to take medicines with them, as well as to be careful of the Portuguese, as they were a very treacherous nation, and in the habits of giving poison in their victuals and drink, that they ought never to eat or drink but in their company, and of the articles which they (the Portuguese) partook; the Portuguese did not like white people from this quarter, although they would treat them friendly; but it would only be to put them off their guard, that their own purposes might be answered. At these remarks, Cowie and Green only laughed. When Jacob asked Green how he felt, he said, "I am very cold and cannot keep myself warm; have a violent pain in my head, as if a ball had entered it, and I have almost lost my eye-sight. I cannot lift my eyes up."*

* The remarks alluded to in the commencement of this article will be found in a subsequent part of this Number.