

with that of the Cape. Of this we took advantage, and found that our time-keepers had performed well.

Much to my regret, our consul at this place, Isaac Chase, Esq., was confined to his house by sickness. I anticipated detention from this cause; but on visiting him at his residence on Green Point, I was informed by him that he had already made arrangements through the house of Bordelaise, Thompson & Pillars, for supplying all our wants as soon as possible.

The view of Cape Town and its vicinity from the anchorage, is remarkable, and the whole seems novel. Directly in its rear rise the perpendicular sides of Table Mountain, while on either hand are seen the crags of the Lion's Head and Devil's Peak; the former usually overhung by a large cloud, which often covers the whole town with its broad shadow. These mountains are composed of a dark reddish-gray sandstone, and excepting immediately at their base, and close to the rear of the town, show but little signs of vegetation. Here and there pretty straw-coloured cottages are scattered among the foliage.

The anchorage, which is at some distance from the beach, was, at the time of our arrival, occupied by a large number of vessels, which somewhat surprised me, for at this season of the year the bay is often visited by northers, which have in former years done much damage, and caused the loss of many lives. I was informed, however, that but little apprehension is now felt on their account, for ships are at the present time well provided with chain cables, and can hold their ground. Two quays extend from the beach into the bay, affording facility to lighters to discharge and take in their cargoes at all times of the tide.

The town itself shows many traces of its original occupants. The houses, with their prim little stoops, porches, and gables to the street, reminding me strongly of those built by the early settlers of New York and Albany. But few of the streets have any sidewalks, and many of them are not paved at all, causing them, in consequence of the arid climate, to be ankle-deep in dust. Nine-tenths of the inhabitants still retain a Dutch look, and many of them are unable to speak any other than their original language, while to a large number of them the epithet "boors," so commonly bestowed, is quite applicable. The town is laid out with regularity, many of the streets crossing each other at right angles, and some are of respectable width. Rows of oak, poplar, and pine trees line the sides of the principal avenues. Many contain shops, which are well supplied with the usual varieties of European goods. Roses and vines are cultivated in front of the