

England. Holland being the weaker power was forced to cede her American colony by the treat of Breda in 1667, and her colony at the Cape by the convention of London, April 13<sup>th</sup>. 1814.

The report to the effect that the Prince of Orange had *sold* the Cape was only a fabrication: the historical researches of M. Heeres have proved this. On the contrary his minister of Foreign affairs resisted to the last; but Lord Castlereagh opposed him with the formal declaration: "our resolution is taken; it is for us to judge what portion of your colonies, we think it expedient to keep and what portion we are willing to surrender" <sup>1</sup>).

The sum paid by Engeland was destined not to replenish the Prince's purse but to indemnify the King of Sweden for the cession he had made of the Island of Guadeloupe, and for the construction of fortifications against France towards her Northern frontier. <sup>2</sup>) The colonists well understood this. The malicious explanation of a venal abandonment was whispered afterwards, but at the time of the cession all were still convinced that England had forced the hand of their mother-country, and when a Prince of the House of Orange visited the Cape in 1838 he was received by his old compatriots with frantic enthusiasm. In the occupation of the Cape in 1806 England saw, not a question of right, but what it devolved upon Mr. Chamberlain later to christen with the name of "paramountcy." As she

<sup>1</sup>) *Werken van de Maatschappij van Letterkunde*, 1896—97, pag. 69.

<sup>2</sup>) Additional article of the convention of London, 1, 2 and 3. LAGEMANS, *Recueil des Traités*, etc., *The Hague* 1858, I, p. 34—38.