

uproar; and as the men had enough to do to look after their own safety, they were compelled reluctantly to leave him to his fate.

Since our visit the remote little community of Tristan d'Acunha has not entirely escaped political complications, such as have involved many states of greater importance in their own estimation. The attention of the Lords of the Admiralty was for some reason or other attracted to the island, and H.M.S. *Sappho*, Commander Noel Digby, called at Tristan in January, 1875, and Captain Digby reported that at that time there were fourteen families on the island, eighty-five persons in all. The condition of the islanders seemed to have been much the same as when we went there two years before. From Captain Digby's report, it appeared to Lord Carnarvon that if the Tristan group really formed part of the Cape Colony, which seemed to be the case from Bishop Gray having visited it as part of his diocese, the jurisdiction of the Cape Government should be recognized; and it might be well that certain limited magisterial powers should be conferred upon Peter Green, and perhaps one or two others, by the governor; and he wrote to Sir Henry Barkly for information and suggestions. Sir Henry Barkly replied that Tristan d'Acunha had certainly been included in the letters patent constituting the see of Capetown, but that on the creation of the bishopric of St. Helena it had been transferred to that diocese, and that no proclamation or other evidence could be found giving the Governor of Cape Colony special authority over the Tristan group. Moreover, Sir Henry Barkly's advisers reported that, in the present state of information relating to the connection between Tristan d'Acunha and the Cape Colony, they did not feel at liberty to recommend that magisterial powers should be conferred on any of the inhabitants by the Cape Government.

Lord Carnarvon then gave up the idea of attaching Tristan to the Cape, and proposed that its government should be pro-