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BLOCKADE OF THE ISLAND OF CURACOA.

By the Author of "Nelsonian Reminiscences."

Early in the present century the Hon. John Murray was entrusted by the vice-admiral commanding in chief on the Jamaica station with his Majesty's frigate La Fortune and two eighteen-gun sloops, in addition to his own frigate La Franchise, for the purpose of capturing the island of Curacoa, then a Dutch settlement, lying off the Spanish Main, and which the commodore pledged himself to subject to the British crown in a given space of time. It was my good or ill fortune (I have hardly made up my mind which) to be first lieutenant of one of these sloops. The proclamation of blockade was made in the Jamaica Gazette, and notice given that any vessels found within a certain distance of the island would be subject to capture; but this did not check the philanthropy of our American friends, who could not brook the idea of people being starved on compulsion, and very charitably used every means in their power to counteract our cruelty by sending them provisions at five hundred per cent. increased cost. Commodore Murray, finding that the strictest blockade did not effect his purpose, and that the governor and his garrison, with true Dutch obstinacy, chose to live on without showing the least symptom of surrendering to his Majesty's forces, now adopted the novel mode of landing a destroying party, from fifty to one hundred men, generally commanded by the first lieutenant of one of the squadron, with orders to burn everything for human food, shoot down all kinds of cattle, leaving the glorious sun to complete the work of spoliation; and to cross the island in the most rapid manner, by seizing all the horses in our line of march; and part of the squadron moved round to re-embark the destroying party after they had accomplished the good they had been sent to do. The Dutch boor of a governor could not see the humanity of these proceedings, and wilfully shut his eyes to the advantages to be gained in becoming part of the Great British empire. He, with unparalleled impudence, denominated our gentle proceedings the acts of bucciners, and informed our commodore that he would hang up on Fort Amsterdam, as a pirate, every Englishman caught in these destroying parties.

The following night the first lieutenant of La Fortune with his party of lambs, being busily employed in this work of destruction, were surprised by the Dutch commodore, at the head of his flying camp, about one hundred men, selected from the crews of their frigates in the mole, and kept encamped in the centre of the island under this active commander, for the express purpose now effected. Our party, only half their number, flew to their boats, leaving thirteen of their rear-guard prisoners, in the hands of their exasperated enemy. As no doubt existed of Myneer the governor fulfilling his humane determination of making the innocent pay the penalty of the guilty, I was ordered away at midnight, with fifty men, under the guidance of a Dutch renegade, named Horsica, to seize all the principal men I could catch, to answer with their lives for those of our captured men. The first estate pointed out by that most exemplary traitor, Myneer Horsica, was surrounded by our men, and a seizure of ten horses effected, upon which we mounted the officers and worthy guide, forming a small body of cavalry. The master of the mansion, with his wife, were declared to be in the town of Amsterdam. The house was of the superior order; and the mate of the Fortuna, with great glee informed me, that in a small room he had discovered three young ladies, daughters of the owner, endeavouring to secrete themselves. With the utmost speed, I hastened to save them, and found the two younger sisters clinging to their elder one, apparently about seventeen, and all of them in my eyes beautiful, half dressed, and frantic with terror. I saw some rudeness had been offered by the gazing and armed ruffians around them, and ordered them to draw up outside the house, in marching order, at the same time desiring Mr. Smart, the aforesaid mate, to put himself at their head. To this he demurred. With some difficulty I disarmed the monster, and caused him to be bound to the back of one of my mounted sailors. The poor girls, who had fallen with fear at the angry altercation and clashing of naked sabres, now crawled towards me, and on their knees watered my hands with their tears,

bestowing many kisses on them. It is one of the few good and redeeming actions of my life, and to which I have often, in the hour of peril, turned with pleasure, that I used my best endeavours to soothe the terrors of these pretty innocents, and left them, as far as regarded us, in security and comparative happiness.

Horsica, whose angry passions were roused by the escape of the master, to whom I judged him no friend, advised, and in some measure commanded me to fire the house and out-buildings; but in the frame of mind I was then in I would sooner have burnt myself, and with pleasure, his ugly carcass, whose visage would not have disgraced the devil, displaying all the bad passions supposed to originate in that important personage. "Close your files and move forward in quick time." And with Horsica I rode to the head of our cavalry. He advised a rapid movement on the next house, a large farm-establishment, from which we put in requisition twenty more horses, with the respectable farmer and his two manly sons.

Morning dawned, and displayed our grotesque cavalry, for all the sailors had mounted, and were not contemptible horsemen. We had eight Dutch prisoners and Smart, the mutineer, to guard, with the dread of the Dutch commodore and his flying camp. Horsica said, a burgomaster, highly respected, and of great note, lay on our route to the boats, and if we caught him the lives of our captured seamen were safe. "Here is his mansion," pointing to a good-looking house not far distant, and we closed upon it at a hard gallop.

"Surround the house, and let no one pass," called I to my mate, and with Horsica and two seamen rode through a very pretty garden to the outer door. To repeated raps from our pikes, an upper window opened, and the head of a female, somewhat in a disordered state, was thrust out. To Horsica's peremptory demand for instant admission a scream of fright from the demoiselle was our reply.

"Time presses," said Horsica, "force the door,"—and a post was instantly torn from its situation and propelled with great violence, as a battering-ram, against it; three sturdy blows—bolts, bars, and hinges gave way, and Horsica, with myself, and two orderlies, burst into a good-sized room, or hall, the bottom of which was composed of Dutch tiles. As we had naked sabres in our hands, with pistols in our belts, it was very natural that the half-dressed domestics should fly in all directions; but Horsica intercepted an old woman in her flight, and on pain of instant death compelled her to point out her master's bed-chamber. Her exclamations and entreaties not to enter were in some measure ludicrous. Horsica explained to me that she said her master, Myneer (something,) had brought home a fair young bride from Amsterdam only the previous evening, and urged upon us the impropriety of entering the bridal chamber.

"Call to him, Horsica," said I, "to come forth and surrender himself."

"And lose him, for our pains," said the ruffian, as he threw himself with violence against the door, that acknowledged his power by giving a free entrance.

A tall genteel-looking youth, in the act of arming himself, met my view. He was agitated and pale, dropped the sword he was drawing, pointed one hand to the bed, in which lay his bride, and raised the other with an air of entreaty to Horsica. I caught a glimpse of a fair hand and arm, throwing the sheet over her face, as unable to bear the view of armed men in her bridal chamber. To the young Dutchman's demand of what we wanted, Horsica replied, "Himself," as hostage for the lives of thirteen English seamen, held by the governor under sentence of death, according to his proclamation.

"I am a non-combatant," said the youth, "and not answerable for the governor's conduct."

Horsica pointed to his military accoutrements. "It is the militia, merely to enforce order, and protect us against our slaves," Horsica said fiercely, "This is trifling! Secure him with the other prisoners."

And as our stout orderlies proceeded to bind his arms behind his back, his lovely young wife, conquering her sex's fears in the extremity of her distress, threw herself at Horsica's feet. He roughly repulsed her, and pointed to me, as the nominal commander. I never yet could resist gentle woman's pleading eye, and least of all then, that I saw

this lovely girl at my feet, her light auburn tresses partly shading the beauty of her strongly agitated and heaving bosom, her blue eyes fixed on mine with such an imploring look of anguish, and entreating for mercy: I did not understand the language she uttered, but the soft voice in which it was conveyed went directly to my heart, while the natural grace of her movements, graceful because they were natural, her unaffected terror, conquered by her affection for her youthful lord, spoke eloquently without words.

"Horsica," said I, in strong agitation, "I cannot consent to the slaughter of this interesting creature's youthful husband."

"And yet you will to the murder of thirteen of your countrymen. I will not accompany any other party commanded by a boy—this business requires men. If this man is liberated, I shall instantly return to the commodore, and tell him that the tears of a woman are estimated more than the lives of your comrades."

This uttered in a harsh tone checked my romantic feelings, particularly as I was fully alive to the importance of the prisoner. "Then," said I, "speak in a consoling tone to this afflicted girl. O that I could make her understand me!—Say, her husband is in no danger, and will be tenderly treated," and I took her fair hand to call her attention to Horsica. What he said I know not; but the tones it was uttered in grated on my hearing, and produced a wild hysterical scream, with a frantic movement, to clasp her husband. The orderlies, who had bound the youth's arms, would have repulsed her, had I not called out in a loud tone, "Monsters, desist!" and I hastened to unbind his arms, with which he clasped his beautiful and youthful bride.

"Oh, myn Godt," said Horsica, "the boy is mad!—seize, and bind that prisoner to the stoutest man that rides," and drawing near me he hoarsely said, "Will you load your soul with the murder of thirteen comrades, disobey your orders, and lose your commission for a woman?"

I felt the good sense of this remark, though it grated harshly on the excited state of my mind, and I closed my hand on my eyes to shut out this cruel scene. The devoted and affectionate girl was in an instant at my feet, embracing my knees, and watering my hands with her innocent tears, and I shamed my manhood by letting mine fall on her lovely head. The infernal hideous voice of Horsica, "All is ready," roused me to my duty, and as I tore myself from her grasp her maddening shrieks harrowed up every tender feeling in my heart, and pulling my hat over my eyes, I sprang upon my horse, and ordered a forward movement in double quick time. We reached the boats, that fortunately had just touched the beach, in time to prevent the fierce attack of the Dutch commodore's flying camp, whose van-guard hove in sight as our rear-guard re-embarked. I threw myself into La Fortune's barge with the prisoner, Smart, who came ashore in her as her officer, and now, with his arms bound, faced me from the bow of the boat. He maintained a dogged and sullen silence, which accorded well with my frame of mind. As Horsica had urged on me the necessity of shooting the horses that had rendered us such good services, and some angry altercation ensued, the whole of the prisoners under his charge went off to La Franchise in the commodore's barge, the young burgomaster looking peculiarly mournful at parting with me, his only friend. Arrived on board La Fortune, Captain Vansittart inquired with great surprise the cause of his mate's degradation, and on my explaining his conduct, expressed the greatest horror and detestation.

"Wait till we have made sail,"—for the signal was flying on board the commodore, to hoist in the boats, and make all sail;—"and I will teach him a lesson that he shall long remember. Mr. Evans," addressing his clerk, "disrate Mr. Smart to landsman," and to the first lieutenant—"When the signal is obeyed turn the hands up for punishment, and I will give that monster five dozen."

I afterwards heard he punctually performed his promise. I begged for the jolly-boat to drop me on board La Franchise, for I felt most anxious to interest the commodore for my young friend, the burgomaster. This request was complied with, and I stepped on board La Franchise as she bore up for Fort Amsterdam, having directed the Rein Deer, by signal, to cruise to windward of the island.

THE EXECUTION.

So many years have elapsed that memory's log does not enable me to describe precisely the person of the hon. John Murray. (whose sister, Lady Augusta, was married to his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex,) but I remember well, that on entering the cabin of La Franchise, a tall slender gentleman, much emaciated in person, and looking in extreme ill-health, arose from the easy-chair in which he had been reclining in his dressing-gown, and with courtly address answered my bow, saying, "You are the officer, I presume, who commanded last night's party on shore."

I again bowed, (affirmatively;) he resumed his seat, and motioned me to take one near him.

"I am far from well," said he, "and very weak, which must be my apology for any seeming rudeness."

This was unnecessary, for a more finished gentleman, with polished urbanity and suavity of manner, it had never been my good fortune to meet.

"From Horsica's report, I judge your feelings were too susceptible for the irksome duty imposed on you."

"I hope, Captain Murray," I rejoined, "that I carried your intentions into execution in the most lenient manner that circumstances would permit. Horsica's advice appeared to me to spring from the disposition of a demon; and I feel assured, not only from your appearance, but from the high character for humanity you bear, that were you, sir, in my place, you would have acted in a similar manner."

He replied, "At your age I should. My remarks are far from intending to convey any censure; on the contrary, I highly approve of the feelings you evinced, and have liberated the youngest of your prisoners, on his promise to put the burgomaster's and other letters in possession of the governor in two hours. I have also addressed him, with official information, that those the fortune of war has placed in my power shall be hanged in sight of Fort Amsterdam at the hour of noon, that is, should but one English prisoner suffer death in accordance with the proclamation the governor had communicated to me."

"O sir! would that you had been pleased to have made the youthful burgomaster the messenger, perhaps it might have saved from madness a lovely and most interesting female. Had you witnessed the agony of this picture of innocence, and youthful beauty, as with clasped hands and streaming eyes she knelt at my feet, and with all the devoted and intense affection of woman's heart, implored for the safety of her youthful husband, Captain Murray," I pursued, "had the world's welfare depended on his death, you would have liberated him."

The commodore here leaned his face on his hand, which prevented me from reading his mild and benignant countenance; but I saw, from the excited state of his nerves displayed by his agitation, that he was strongly affected; and being warmed, I went on to state the unutterable misery and agony of grief that she was now suffering, concluding with the following appeal.

"Captain Murray, I have faintly portrayed what I have seen; but for your future peace of mind, and for your soul's sake, harm not that young man's life."

The commodore raised his head with a slight look of surprise, sighed very heavily, and motioned me to ring the bell. He seemed near fainting, and his servant presented a restorative draught. He again bowed to me, which I construing into dismissal, rose, and with a low obeisance retired, heartily glad that I was not loaded with the same heavy responsibility that preyed so much on his susceptible mind.

I found the squadron under a crowd of sail, standing for Fort Amsterdam, distance three leagues, with the exception of the Rein Deer, who had hauled her wind, and with tack and half tack, took short boards to windward of the island, to watch our American brothers. Accosting a fine young man, who was officer of the watch, I asked if it was his opinion, from his knowledge of his captain, that he could have the heart to hang up eight innocent men.

"I have no doubt of their execution, should a single Englishman die by the governor's order, even if Murray's heart broke in witnessing it."

"It will be an act of hellish cruelty," replied I. "and call down from heaven the just vengeance of the Most High upon all the aiders and abettors in this most direful tragedy."

"I do not see, sir," said the young officer, "how the commodore can abandon thirteen men to a shameful death for obeying his orders. He is a humane man, an excellent officer, and one of great determination; he has worn out a strong constitution in blockading this abominable island, and, in my opinion, is seriously ill."

The lieutenant was right. Captain Murray died in ten days, evincing, in the agonies of death, his love for his country, by ordering his body to be buried in a sand bank off Curacoa, well knowing that his frigate could not be spared to convey it to Jamaica.

"Can I see the prisoners, Mr. Fleming?" approaching the first lieutenant.

"Undoubtedly, sir; show the officer to the Dutch prisoners."

And I descended to the gun-room, where they were surrounded by sentinels, and attended by the chaplain, who addressed them in the French language, of which the burgomaster had sufficient knowledge to make himself understood. They all looked worn down by mental suffering; and as the burgomaster placed a lock of his hair in my hands, he earnestly made me promise to have it conveyed to his young and lovely bride, with information that his dying thoughts should alone be fixed on her whom he hoped to meet in another and a better world. I wanted comfort myself, therefore had none to bestow on him, poor youth! but ascended the deck in time to see this smart frigate furl her sails, come to anchor, and square her yards, making the signal for the squadron to do the same in close order. A shot from the mole, and one from the fort, proved us to be just out of reach of fire, but near enough to observe all passing on Fort Amsterdam, where the Dutch troops were drawn up in military parade, with the English prisoners in the centre of their square. The Dutch governor and his staff were on horseback in the fort, and masses of people congregated about it. All eyes turned on the British squadron, as they displayed the flag that braved the battle and the breeze. The commodore hoisted a white one at the fore, and fired a gun; his gig then left the frigate with a flag of truce in her bow, and a lieutenant in full uniform, bearing letters to the Dutch governor from Captain Murray, and his prisoners. As the Dutch boat received our truce-flag, our commodore, followed by the squadron, struck his flags and pendant half mast, as mourning the necessity, and made signal for the boats, manned and armed, to attend the punishment of death. At the same time eight yard-ropes were rove, and the carpenter's axe and hammer might be heard fitting the platforms over each cat-head. Shocked at these preparations, I obtained their jolly-boat, and returned on board my own ship, where all eyes were turned on the Dutch governor, upon whose fiat depended twenty-one lives. They had erected two triangles, on which lay a beam with thirteen halts displayed. The Dutchman and his staff, with spy-glasses, were keen observers of the squadron; and our commodore, with great tact, put his ships in mourning, tolled the bell as a passing knell, and ordered his bugles to play the dead march in Saul; and as they sounded mournfully over the calm bay, a shrill and piercing shriek was heard from the graceful person of the burgomaster's lovely wife, who with frantic energy embraced the governor's knees, and piteously begged for mercy on her husband. He must have been harder than adamant to have withstood this heart-broken and drooping flower. I saw him raise her, and order the gallows to be taken down. The prisoners were marched to the mole, and embarked in a large Dutch boat; and as she pulled for the commodore, La Fraichise resumed her flags at the mast-head, dismissed all appearance of mourning, and the crews of the squadron, that were clustered like bees in the rigging, simultaneously cheered;—and I felt as if a mountain had been removed from my breast.

LORD DURHAM.

(From the Dublin Weekly Register, Dec. 8.)

The address voted to Lord Durham by the inhabitants of Devonport and Stonehouse, was presented to the noble lord on Saturday at the Town Hall, which had been handsomely decorated with flags, banners and evergreens, for the occasion. The space in front of the platform was occupied by ladies, of whom a large number were present, and appeared to take great interest in the proceedings. Long before the business of the day commenced, the hall was more densely occupied than ever we have seen it on any former occasion. There were 1500 persons present, comprising many of the nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood.

His Lordship arrived at twenty minutes past two, long before which the spacious hall was crowded in every part. His appearance on the platform was hailed with deafening plaudits; Sir William Molesworth, Bart., M. P., and John Rundle, Esq., M. P. for Tavistock, were also loudly cheered. Shortly before the noble earl arrived, the Countess of Durham, the Ladies Mary and Emily Lambton, Lady Elizabeth Bulteel, Mrs. General Ellice, Mrs. Rundle, and Miss Buller were escorted into the hall, and on taking their seats, were greeted with deafening cheers. On the platform we observed Sir William Molesworth, M. P., Mr. Rundle, M. P., Mr. Duncombe, M. P., the hon. Mr. Villiers, Sir John Dorset; county magistrates, Captain Foot, R. N., T. Gardiner,

Esq.; borough magistrates and aldermen, Mr. W. P. Billing, Mr. Abbott, Lieut. G. F. Somerville; aldermen, Mr. Paramore, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Norman, Mr. Jeffery; councillors, Mr. Townson, Mr. Ryder, Mr. Warn, Mr. Heard, Mr. White, Mr. Manicon, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Gould, Mr. James, Mr. Collings, Mr. Jope, Mr. Adams, Mr. Burrows, Mr. Wingate, Mr. Murch, Mr. Manacott, and Captain Russell.

Nothing could exceed the rapturous and enthusiastic reception which the noble earl met with from the densely-crowded assemblage, and after he had left the hall. The cheers were deafening with which Mr. Woolcombe's appeal to the meeting was received, bespeaking the sympathy of our townsmen for our Transatlantic brethren, and his denunciations of the absurd calumniators of the noble earl.

The Mayor having congratulated his Excellency on his arrival, proceeded to read the following address:—

My Lord,—We beg to approach your Lordship, to tender the expression of our high respect, and to welcome your lordship's return to your native land. We contemplate that return with mingled feelings of regret and satisfaction. We regret the termination of a mission from which we, in common with the country at large, anticipated the most beneficial results; but we rejoice that your Lordship's sphere of usefulness is transferred to your immediate home. We feel, that under the circumstances which have rendered your lordship's return to this country a matter of painful but paramount necessity, it would be unbecoming and uncalled for were we to enter in detail on the consideration of your Lordship's Canadian administration. It is enough for us to say that we have regarded with sincere respect and approbation your lordship's endeavours to temper justice with mercy, and while repressing rebellion to plant the seeds of true liberty in a country disorganised by a long and disastrous series of events. Whilst, however, we abstain from entering on subjects which will in due season be discussed elsewhere, and which it would be indelicate to thrust on your Lordship's notice, before you are more fully acquainted with all that has occurred in your absence, our personal feelings towards your lordship, and our regard for justice, will not permit us to conceal our impression that party spirit has factiously and prematurely blighted in the bud the fair fruits which the people of England had reason to anticipate from a full development of your lordship's policy. We desire to state also our full and earnest conviction that your countrymen will feel that the greatest allowances ought to have been made for your lordship's difficult and embarrassing position, and that (recognising in the open and manly expositions of your policy the liberal and enlightened statesman) they will unite with us in deeply lamenting those events which have deprived your lordship of the power and opportunity of giving full effect to your intentions. We believe, my lord, that the people will do more. Looking to your lordship for that firm and uncompromising support of reform in the institutions of our country, which its social condition imperiously demands, they will hail with delight your lordship's return among them, confidently relying that the cause with which your whole public career is identified will receive fresh life and vigour from your honest, able and energetic exertions in its behalf. That your lordship may be long spared to justify these views, and to complete your title to your country's gratitude, is our earnest prayer.

The earl of Durham rose, and was greeted with several rounds of the most enthusiastic applause that we ever heard from a public assembly. Silence having been restored, the noble lord delivered the following reply:—

LORD DURHAM'S REPLY.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen—I beg of you to accept my warmest thanks for the expressions of good will and esteem with which you have greeted my return to England.

You will never have reason to repent the confidence that you have placed in me, or the declaration which you have this day made of your approbation of my Government in British North America.

So far as it seemed to me imperatively necessary, in order to allay the most alarming irritation and excitement in the Canadas, and to lead men's minds from the contemplation of present evils to the prospect of future remedies, I have already explained the nature and scope of the policy which I pursued as governor-general. Upon that subject I shall, when parliament meets, be prepared to make a representation of facts wholly unknown here, and disclosures of which the parliament and people of this country have no conception; and I shall then fearlessly demand from the assembled legislature that justice which neither they nor the people of England ever will deny to a public servant who has faithfully and honestly discharged the duties assigned to him.

What relates to myself, however, is of no importance when compared with the interests of your fellow-subjects, the inhabitants of British North America. To the furtherance of those interests I have publicly and solemnly declared that I would devote myself with singleness of purpose and independently of all party considerations in this country. I am glad of an opportunity, at the very moment of landing in England, to repeat that pledge. The necessity for this course is well understood by the people of British America, and will before long be also comprehended by the people of England, involving as it does the very existence of British supremacy all over the world, and the efficient maintenance or weak abandonment of

the national policy, which is expressed by the words "ships, colonies, and commerce!"

Referring to the conclusion of your address, and to the principles which have governed my political conduct at home, I can with truth assure you that they are unchanged and unchangeable. They were formed on the maturest deliberation, and have been strengthened by observation as each succeeding event demonstrated to my mind their soundness and policy. My attachment, therefore, to the cause of that reform of our institutions to which you allude cannot be doubted. It has been tested by the share which I took in the preparation of that reform bill to which this important town owes its political privileges; and it has been confirmed, I should imagine, by my declarations to the people of Scotland in 1834. I need not make any new professions; I have nothing to add to, nothing to retract from, those declarations, which, in my conscience, I believe to be expressive of principles alike conducive to the honor and dignity of the throne, the security of property, the prosperity of industry, the promotion of wise and liberal institutions, and the general happiness of the people.

During the delivery of the above address the noble lord was frequently interrupted by tumultuous cheers, which also followed the closing sentence. Immediately after he had concluded, the noble lord bowed respectfully to the meeting, and quitted the platform, amid the enthusiastic plaudits of the immense assemblage.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

Marshal Lobau, the Commander-in-Chief of the National Guards of Paris, died on Tuesday morning, of an affection of the Lungs. The French doctor mistook his case, and treated him for rheumatism. The death of Marshal Lobau is a painful loss to the National Guards of Paris; and it was his manly frankness, his ardent and sincere patriotism, that mainly contributed to maintain in all ranks of these citizen soldiers the noble sentiments with which they have always been animated, and which have rendered it an insurmountable barrier to anarchy.

There had been a riot at the Royal School. The disturbance which at one time assumed a formidable appearance, originated in the unpopularity of M. Lermier, the law professor, whom the mob regard as a deserter from jacobin principles. The riot was proved to have been concerted by a number of common labourers and other strangers thronging the benches of the students.

RUSSIA.

A letter from Posen, dated Nov. 25, which we copy from the *Commerce*, contains alarming accounts (not exaggerated we are assured) of the disaffection prevalent in the Russian army. The same letter states that the victory claimed by the Russians over the Circassians at Solcha had been dearly purchased:—

"We have letters from St. Petersburg, which announce that it is not only amongst the officers of the imperial guard in that capital that arrests have taken place, but that a great number of officers have been arrested at various parts of the empire. I have learned from an authentic source that the Autocrat is exceedingly discontented at the spirit which reigns amongst the Russian troops in Poland; that he has determined to replace these troops by others, and that he has written to Field Marshal Paskewitsch an autograph letter, in which he reproaches him in the bitterest terms with having allowed pernicious doctrines to penetrate into the barracks. Even before the receipt of the present letter, the German journals will have apprised you that the Russian General Rajewski has gained a victory over the Circassians, and taken the fortress of Solcha; but these papers will not have told you that this victory has been the most disastrous that can be imagined, or, to express myself more clearly, it has been a great disaster for the Muscovites, and no victory. The Russian troops attacked the fort five times, and were five times repulsed with considerable loss. After experiencing these checks, and after having in the whole nearly 3,800 men killed and wounded, General Rajewski wished to try another attack; but his troops were so discouraged, so demoralized, that not a single man would march forward. The General then brought up five battalions of Marines, who, after having exacted and obtained a promise that the fortress should be abandoned to them to pillage, consented to make the assault. This attack took place during the night. The marines climbed nimbly up the ramparts; they cleared the parapets, and entered Solcha without a blow, or meeting resistance or obstacle. But what did they find? Nothing!

THE EAST—RAISING OF THE SIEGE OF HERAT—RUMOURED INSURRECTION IN GEORGIA, &c.

We were enabled to publish on Saturday, a brief account of the very important—we might almost say, *decisive*—intelligence received from Constantinople, three days later than that previously given. All our anticipations, as to the results of the new system of British policy in the East, have been fully borne out by the last accounts. The siege of Herat has been raised—British influence is paramount in the Court of the Sultan; and thus Russia has been completely checkmated, and foiled in the game of diplomacy which she had been so long playing successfully. For some time, at least, there will be no war with Russia. England has been victorious without the firing of a shot. The fol-

lowing will be found a satisfactory epitome of all the detailed accounts in the London Journals:—

According to the three letters from Constantinople, all dated the 31st ultimo, a Cabinet messenger had reached the British Embassy two days previously with dispatches from Mr. McNeil, our Ambassador in Persia, announcing that the Shah had raised the siege of Herat, on the 9th September, and to remove all doubt of his Majesty's good faith, was then, with his whole army, at a distance of fifty two miles from that city, on his return to Teheran. According to one statement, our Ambassador finding the Shah inclined to listen to the overtures made him by the agents of Russia, who backed offers of substantial assistance by representing to him that it would disgrace his Majesty in the eyes of his subjects, no less than in those of their imperial Master, to raise the siege at the instance of a British Envoy, ordered Colonel Stoddart to state distinctly that the British authorities in India, had actually authorised the march of 30,000 British troops, for the relief of the city, and that in the event of the siege not being raised in the time specified, an intimation to that effect would be given to the besieged to encourage them to hold out. Other circumstances concurred to give powerful effect to the representation of the British ambassador. A letter from a British officer at Teheran, dated the 27th of September, states that a deserter from the Herattees offered to betray the city to the Shah on conditions which were at once accepted. In the middle of the night, conducted by their guide, a body of Persians entered the city, and had advanced a good way before they discovered that the gate had been closed and their retreat cut off. Hemmed in on all sides they were butchered without mercy to the number of 1,000 men and 72 officers. The success of this stratagem, and the sight of the heads of their companions in arms, made a strong impression upon the Persians, previously disheartened by the report of the landing of a British army at Bushire.

It is added that Mr. McNeil had proceeded to Teheran, to meet the SHAH, who had agreed to a treaty with Great Britain, greatly calculated to strengthen our interests in that quarter, at the expense of Russia.

From the Constantinople letters we quote some additional particulars, possessing considerable interest:—

"The Cabinet Messenger to the British Embassy here, brought accounts from Erzeroum, which stated that the Georgians were in full insurrection against the Russians. It was reported in that city that Shiraz had been pillaged and totally destroyed by the Lesghis, and that 6,000 Russians had been massacred. Two Russian Generals were said also to have been murdered by the Lesghis, who were in considerable force not far from Teflis, who it was apprehended, would make an attack on that city, in which they had numerous partizans.

"It would appear that this insurrection had not come upon the Russians unforeseen. Intelligences received in Constantinople on the 30th ult. from the Crimea, announced the sailing of the Russian fleet with 15,000 troops on board for Ridout Kaleh, who were to march thence for Georgia.

"The French Government, contrary to the reports previously in circulation in the diplomatic salons, had conformed to the commercial convention lately concluded between the Porte and Great Britain. Admiral Roussin had communicated to the Porte the official instructions he had received from his Government to concur in and sign the convention without any alteration, stipulation, or exception whatever. The Emperor of Austria had equally become convinced of the policy of acquiescing in and becoming a party to a treaty so well calculated to prevent the possibility of evil from the side of Russia, and had intimated his readiness to become a member of it.

"Mehemet Ali was, at the date of the latest accounts received from Alexandria understood to have officially communicated to the British Consul his resolution to accept the convention, and to carry it into effect.

"Sir R. Stropford sailed on the 27th ult. with the greater portion of his squadron for Malta. The *Rodney*, *Talavera*, *Pembroke*, and *Talbot* remained at Vourla. The Ottoman fleet was hourly expected to arrive in the Dardanelles."

With respect to the statement in the above extract of an insurrection of the Georgians, and the massacre of 6,000 Russians, we should remark that two other letters from Constantinople attach no credit to the report. We would not, however, be surprised if it should turn out correct to some extent. Russia will daily find it more difficult to preserve her control over subjugated and half-subjugated nations—some of them far distant from herself.

We need not dwell upon the importance of the adhesion of France and Austria to the Commercial Treaty with Turkey originated by Great Britain. All those powers feel the necessity of stopping the career of Russia.

(Private Correspondence of the Morning Herald.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 20, (via Odessa.)

The Turkish fleet arrived here on the 18th, and all the ships came to anchor off Topkhane, in a seamanlike style never before witnessed here. There is a Persian saying, that common earth, if it should long have kept company with musk and atar, imbibes their grateful odour; so I suppose the Mussulman sailors, by rubbing up against the British Jack-tars, have acquired something of the maritime essence which was previously not only wanting but wanted. Commodore Parker, Captain Moresby, and Captain Walker, came up with the capudan pacha, and are receiving marked attentions

here. It is even rumoured that the latter may stay here for the present, and become the virtual commander of the fleet; but nothing on that head has, I believe, yet been determined on. With proper instructors the Turks will soon become admirable sailors. They are very quick at imitating, and learn almost faster than they can be taught. Hitherto they have had no officers worthy of the name. It was but lately that a captain of a splendid seventy-four was observed, with all his lieutenants, holystoning the quarter-deck, barefoot and coatless. How was it possible the men could entertain any of that *prestige* of respect so necessary to ensure good discipline? Equality is an admirable thing in some places, and to a certain extent, but it has no more to do on board a man-of-war than mirth has in a church, or sadness at a wedding. The Fleet arrived just in time for the Ramazan, which began a few hours before they were in sight.

On the 17th. Mr. Bulwer had an audience of the sultan, to take leave, and I am sure that his highness said many kind things to him. Mr. Bulwer was to have started the same day for London, but was prevented by indisposition. Indeed, to go to the palace he had to rise from a sick bed, to which he returned as soon as the ceremony was over. Lord Ponsonby sent off despatches yesterday morning for Downing Street.

We have no news from Persia this week. The communication from Circassia is so open that the Trebisonde steamer was this time nearly filled with passengers from that quarter.

The reports of severe losses sustained by the army in Asia, under Hafez Pacha, in pursuing operations against the Kurdes, are renewed, and I suspect with great exaggeration. There has ever been a talk of the appointment of Halil Pacha to the seraskierlik there, but I doubt every thing relating to the advancement of the latter; false rumours respecting him having been spread over and over again without the slightest foundation. If the Kurdes can beat Hafez Pacha, they would make a "few bones" of Halil, who is by no means the superior of the other, except in being allied to "the fountain of all merit," the Shehenshahi Djihan (Emperor of the whole world!)

It has been whispered that the present capudan pacha, Ahmed, will not long retain his high post, the Russians having taken umbrage at his hand and glove intercourse with the British admiral. The influence of M. Boutenief (it may be, and probably is, the influence of fear only) is decidedly on the ascendant again, and he appears disposed to use it on every occasion which may be deemed proper; but Admed Pacha is a personal favourite of the Sultan, and if he were put aside to please the tyrants of his country, the first opportunity would, in all likelihood, be seized to restore him to rank and honours. Some of the great folks here, however, are not his friends, and they are constantly at work to overthrow him. I should be sorry to see him out, unless a better were put in his place, and it will not be easy to find one.

We hear all manner of versions respecting the departure from Bucharest of the Prince of Wallachia. According to some he is gone merely to take the baths at Carlsbad, whilst others say his excursion is a matrimonial one; but people connected with that country talk mysteriously of the matter, nod and wink, and let you know that their opinion is that he will never return as hospodar. The Turks appear to know nothing about it, and as for the Russians, every one of them looks as cunning as a conjurer about to catch a pistol ball between his teeth.

The Turkish fleet has already been taken into the arsenal, and is being dismantled, apparently for the winter.

The Newfoundland.

ST. JOHN'S, (THURSDAY) JANUARY 24, 1839.

The *Cicely* from Liverpool, on Tuesday last, furnishes London dates to the 12th December—but being not many days later than the papers received by the *Manchester*, they do not contain any new matters of intelligence.

The *Gazette* of 15th inst. contained a proclamation for opening the Spring Terms of the Central and Northern District Courts; the former to commence on the 15th April, and terminate on the 11th May; and the latter to open at Harbor Grace on the 20th April, and terminate on the 31st May.

The Brig *Ringwood*, from Lisbon, bound to Port de Grave, passed this harbour on Tuesday, about 2 o'clock.

The *Mary Ann*, Brown, was to sail from Liverpool for this port, in a few days after the *Cicely*.

The *St. John's*, from Greenock, and *Devon* and *Kingalock*, from Cork, are now daily expected—there are also several vessels from Portugal, whose arrival may be calculated upon in all the present month.

Departure.—In the *Blandford*, for Cork & Mr. C. F. Bennett.

A Public Reading-Room has been established at the House of Mr. Stephen J. Daniel, Water-Street.

Died, on Thursday morning last, after a short but painful illness, Mr. Patrick Kenny, grocer and publican, aged 47 years.

On Saturday evening last, much regretted, after a short illness, Matilda Julia, third daughter of Mr. Joseph Gill, of this town.

On Saturday last, much and deservedly respected, Mr. Wm. Branscombe, a native of this town, aged 78.—The friends of the family are requested to attend his funeral, which will take place Tomorrow, (Friday) at one o'clock.

On Tuesday morning last, after a long and painful illness, Harriett, wife of Mr. Elias Rendell, of this town, aged 38 years, much regretted by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.—The friends of the family are invited to attend her funeral, which will take place on Saturday next, at 1 o'clock.

SALE BY AUCTION.

(For the benefit of whom it may concern.)

THIS DAY,

(Thursday,) At 12 o'clock,

ON THE WHARF OF

John & James Kent,

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES,

Damaged on board the Schooner *VICTORY*, from Waterford, by Fire on the 4th inst.

- 15 Boxes Soap
 - 1 Gaff Topsail
 - 1 Topgallant-sail
 - 1 Topgallant-yard
 - 1 Tarpauline
 - A lot of Cordage;
- ALSO,
1 Mainsail, and
1 Fore Stay-sail, } Cut away
January 24.

For CORK,

THE BRIG

HOPE,



Richard Cooper, Master;

has room for Goods on Freight, and excellent accommodations for Passengers.—Apply to G. & R. CLAPP.

The above vessel having half her Cargo engaged, will be despatched without delay.
January 24.

For Charter.

To any port in the Mediterranean, The fine coppered British built BRIG



MARY,

S. GUNTON, master, Burthen 170 Tons.—Apply to LAWRENCE O'BRIEN.

January 3.

NOTICES.

THE Subscribers, to the COMMERCIAL ROOM are requested to meet on SATURDAY next, at One o'clock, for the purpose of devising some plan for the better management of that Room—the papers being every day taken from the Room, and seldom returned, contrary to the 5th Rule of the Institution.

SAMGEL MUDGE, Manager.

N. B.—The *Evening Mail*, returned last evening, and the Liverpool paper, taken by a MAN with a velvet collar.
January 24.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Subscribers of the St. John's Reading Room and Library, will be held in the Reading Room on TUESDAY the 5th Proximo, at 8 o'clock in the evening.

W. B. DRYER, Secretary.

January 24.

PUBLIC BALL, MECHANICS' SOCIETY.

THE Ladies and Gentlemen of St. John's are most respectfully informed that a

PUBLIC BALL

Will be given in the Mechanics' Hall

On the Evening of TUESDAY the 29th instant.

Dancing to commence at 7 o'clock Tickets—Ladies, Five Shillings; Gentlemen's Seven Shillings and Sixpence.

Tickets to be had of the respective officers of the Society.
January 24.

DR. CARSON begs to inform Speculators in Grist Mills, Breweries, Distilleries, &c. &c., that there are several convenient spots at either side of the river running through his lands of Billies for such Establishments, not more than a mile from the flourishing town of St. John's, to the centre of which there is an excellent road. The command of water is powerful, plenty of superior building stone convenient, and a contract may be made for an adequate supply of PEAT COAL, on moderate terms.
Billies, January 1.

THE Partnership subsisting between the undersigned, since the First day of January 1837, under the Firm of JAMES FERGUS & Co. has this day been dissolved by mutual consent, JAMES FERGUS having withdrawn. All debts due to and by the above late firm will be received and paid by THOMAS GLEN and EUGENIUS HARVEY, who will continue the Business on the same Premises, under the firm of GLEN & HARVEY.
JAMES FERGUS,
THOMAS GLEN,
EUGENIUS HARVEY.

(Signed)

Witnesses,
KENNETH MCLEA,
WALTER GRIEVE.
St. John's, Newfoundland,
17th December, 1838.

NOTICES.

Government Contracts.

SEALED TENDERS will be received at this office until one o'clock on Tuesday the 12th February, 1839, from any person willing to contract for either of the following services, for the term of one year, beginning on the 1st April, 1839, and ending on the 31st March, 1840.

The conditions of these contracts may be seen daily at the Commissariat office.

The tender for each service must be accompanied by the signatures of two respectable persons (subject as usual to approval) engaging to become bound with the party tendering in the penal sum of £100 sterling, for the due and faithful performance of his contract.

BAKING BREAD

(From Government Flour.)

The number of pounds of bread proposed to be given for each 100lb. of flour, issued from the Commissariat Magazines, to be specified in words at length.

CARTAGE

(For the Public Departments.)

The tender should state the price in sterling—in words at length—at 50 pence per dollar, for a whole or half day's hire of each

Horse, Harness, and Driver, or for

Each Box Cart, or Truck, with one

Horse, Harness, and Driver, or for

Each Box Cart, or Truck, with two

Horses, Harness, and one Driver.

Payment will be made, as usual, quarterly, in Dollars at 4s. 2d. Army sterling each, equal to 5s. Halifax Currency.

COMMISSARIAT,
Newfoundland, 10th January, 1839 }

SAVINGS' BANK

AT the Annual Meeting of the Governors of the above valuable Institution, the following Resolution was passed—

That in addition to the Three per Cent. interest on the amount of deposits, a Bonus of one per Cent. for one year be paid on Sums, not exceeding Fifty Pounds, that had been deposited Twelve Months previous to the close of the Accounts.
N. W. HOYLES,
Cashier.

January 10.

ON SALE.

COALS! COALS!

NOW LANDING AT THE WHARF OF

BULLEY, JOB & Co.

Ex Brig *CICELY*,

150 Tons best Liverpool

Coals,

(Cheap from the Vessel's side).
January 24.—2.

COALS.

T. & J. Brocklebank

OFFER FOR SALE,

70 Tons round well-screen d

COALS,

Just received per Barque *MANCHESTER* from Liverpool. If taken from alongside the Vessel immediately will be sold cheap.
January 17.

BY

Baine, Johnston & Co.

Ex Brig *ANN JOHNSTON* from Leghorn:—

- 500 Barrels Superfine Flour
- 1200 Bags fine Biscuit
- 330 Half do. do. do.

January 3.

BY

EWEN STABB,

- 100 Sacks prime Hamburg Barley & Oats.
- 50 Firkins do. do. Butter
- 100 Barrels Oatmeal & Pease
- 12 Do. English Hams 1 cwt, in each Superfine Flour
- Souchong Tea
- 4000 Lbs. Butt & Shoulder Leather
- Deck Boots, Shoes
- Tar, Tinware
- Paints, Red Lead, Blue &c. &c.

January 3.

ON SALE.

WESTMORELAND, FROM TRIESTE.

Thos. & J. Brocklebank

OFFER FOR SALE,

The Cargo of the *WESTMORELAND*, viz:—

- 1000 Barrels superfine Flour
 - 1065 Bags fine Cabin Biscuit
 - 60 Boxes Candles, dips, 8's & 10's
- January 17,

Provisions.

JUST RECEIVED

Per Brigs *MARY* and *PORCIA* from Hamburg,

And for Sale at the Stores of

Lawrence O'Brien,

Bread, 1st 2d and 3d quality
Pork, Butter, Flour
Oatmeal, Gritts

Also,
25,000 Brick which will be sold reasonable from the above Vessels.

January 3.

A FEW HUNDRED POUNDS Exchange on London

For Sale by

January 3. LAWRENCE O'BRIEN

PROVISIONS.

THOS. & J. BROCKLEBANK

OFFER FOR SALE,

The Cargo of the *ARIEL* from Hamburg,

Viz—

- 500 Barrels superfine Silesian Flour warranted of superior quality
 - 789 Bags Biscuit, 1st & 2d quality
 - 100 Barrels prime Mess Pork.
- January 3.

THE SUBSCRIBER

Offers for Sale

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES,

PRINCIPALLY IN BOND,

And in Barter, for either Large Shore Cullage Fish, Cod Oil, or Blubber, at Market Prices, or Cash in June next.—Credit, over £50 to approved Purchasers,

- 300 Very prime Westphalia Hams
- 50 Dozen Champagne, pink and pale
- 45 Ditto old brown Sherry Wine, in barrels and cases of 3 dozen each
- 20 Pipes French and Spanish Red Wines
- 14 Hhds. ditto ditto
- 12 Pipes Marsella and Teneriffe Wines
- 14 Qr.-Casks ditto
- 20 Hhds. Cognac Brandy
- 2 Qr.-casks ditto
- 2 Hhds. Hollands Geneva.

N. B.—Purchasers wishing to let any part of the above articles lie over in bond until next Spring, can do so, at their risk, free of Warehouse Rent.

JOHN HOWLEY.

Dec. 27.

BY

M'BRIDE & KERR,

Per *Cora* and *Olinda* from Copenhagen,

- 3400 BAGS Bread, No. 1, 2, & 3
- 1600 Barrels Superfine Flour
- 50 Half-barrels Ditto Ditto
- 300 Firkins Butter
- 50 Barrels prime Beef
- 40 Ditto ditto Pork.

Per *Avalon*, from DEMERARA,
64 Puncheons very prime Molasses;
Per *Jane*, from NEW YORK,
100 Barrels prime Pork.

ALSO,
60 Casks fresh Porter.
November 15.

TO BE LET.

On a Building Lease for 31 Years.
A PIECE of GROUND, measuring in front 383 feet, immediately in rear of the Cottage lately occupied by Judge Brenton. For particulars apply to

MICHAEL MEEHAN.



Poets' Corner.

THE MORNING STAR.

BY ROBERT NICOLL.

Thy smile of beauty, star!
Brings gladness on the gloomy face of Night—
Thou comest from afar,
Pale Mystery! so lonely and so bright,
A thing of dreams—a vision from on high—
A virgin spirit—light—a type of purity!

Star! nightly wanderest thou
Compassionless along thy far cold way—
From Time's first breath till now,
On thou hast fitted like an aether-fay!
Where is the land from whence thou first arose;
And where the place of light to which thy pathway goes?

Pale Dawn's first messenger!
Thou prophet-sign of brightness yet to be!
Thou tellest Earth and Air
Of Light and Glory following after thee;
Of smiling Day 'mong wild green woodlands sleeping;
And God's own sun, o'er all, its tears of brightness weeping!

Sky sentinel! when first
The Nomade Patriarch saw thee from his hill
Upon his vision burst,
Thou wast as pure and fair as thou art still;
And changeless thou hast looked on race, and name!
And nation, lost since then—but thou art yet the same!

Night's youngest child! fair gem!
The hoar astrologer o'er thee would cast
His glance, and to thy name
His own would join;—then tremble when thou wast
In darkness; and rejoice when, like a bride,
Thou blushed to Earth—and thus the dreamer dreamed
and died!

Pure Star of Morning Love!
The daisy of the sky's blue plain art thou;
And thoughts of youth are wove
Round thee, as round the flowers that freshly
blow
In bushy dells, where merle and blackbird sing—
Flower-star, the dreams of youth and heaven thou back
dost bring!

Star of the Morn! for thee
The watcher by affection's couch doth wait;
'Tis thine the bliss to see,
Of lovers fond who 'mid the broom have met;
Into the student's home thine eye doth beam;
Thou listenest to the words of many a troubled dream!

Lone thing!—yet not more lone
Than many a heart which gazeth upon thee,
With hopes all fled and gone—
Which loves not now, nor seeks beloved to be.
Lone, lone thou art—but we are lonelier far.
When blighted by deceit the heart's affections are!

Mysterious Morning Star!
Bright dweller in a gorgeous dreamy home,
Than others nobler far—
Thou art like some free soul, which here hath come
Alone, but glorious, pure, and disenthralled—
A spark of Mind, which God through earth to heaven
hath called!

Pere Maiden Star! shine on,
That dreams of beauty may be dreamed of thee!
A home art thou—a throne—
A land where fancy ever roameth free—
A God-sent messenger—a light afar—
A blessed beam—a smile—a gem—the Morning Star!

The following brief account of the career of Robert Nicoll is incidentally introduced in a critique in *Tail's Magazine* for October, on "Clarkson's Strictures on the Life of Wilberforce." It will be possessed of interest for all who have admiration to bestow on the good and the great; and the above specimen of his poetic genius affords evidence of the high deeds which his splendid though untutored intellect might be expected to achieve, had the thread of his valuable life not been so prematurely severed.

Robert Nicoll wrote under the common idea, that Clarkson, who had been labouring for Abolition fifty years before, had finished his course. But the kind-hearted, youthful poet was to drop at his own honourable post, before the patriarch of Negro Freedom closed his career. When a herdboy, some few years before, on the braes of Lowland Perthshire, the self-educated Nicoll had probably first heard or read of Clarkson; nor could

this have been without a responsive chord being struck in his fervid bosom. At a very early age for such a task, he became the editor of the *Leeds Times*, and at once acquired an influence among the manufacturers and handicraftsmen of the West Riding, which, to those unacquainted with the sympathetic influence of mind over congenial minds, must have appeared unaccountable. We have sometimes wished that the valuable lesson, both for encouragement and warning, which might be drawn from Robert Nicoll's brief history, were given to the young men of his class—now a most numerous and most important one. His genius, of which Ebenezer Elliott, the head of that noble class, has said, "Burns, at his age, had done nothing like him," was, all circumstances considered, less remarkable than the purity of his life, and the fortitude and energy of his character. A few specimens of his verse are, we believe, preserved, and an account of a volume, and a very remarkable one, of his juvenile poems, appeared in this magazine. At the time of his death, there was an impression that he had been a frequent contributor to *Tail's Magazine*, and to other Liberal periodicals. This was altogether a mistake, but one hardly worth rectifying. His only contributions were a very few poetical pieces to our columns, which bore his name; and one or two prose trifles in the *Monthly Repository*, while it was conducted by Mr. Fox. A time seemed coming, when any publication might have been proud of his contributions. As it was, he was prized for the purity and singleness, and the ardour of his mind—for the bright promise of that dawn too soon overcast, and for enthusiastic devotion to what he considered the good and the true. Robert Nicoll emerged in life in almost the same circumstances of self-privation and rigorous self-denial, with Garrison of Boston, and with the same apostolic zeal for freedom, and missionary devotion attributed to that remarkable person; but with more splendour of poetic genius. From unacquaintance with the world, or with the habits of society, and ignorance, and perhaps unwise contempt of its conventionalities, he was, as a journalist, occasionally chargeable with the same faults as Garrison—intemperance of language, and what are usually called personalities; nor is it easy for those who would denounce abuse and iniquity, and rouse masses of men to the assertion of their rights, to be always bird-mouthed or choice in their expressions. But all his verse is remarkable for tenderness and sweetness; and for simplicity, without rusticity; shewing nothing of that staunch uncompromising Democrat, who, reared in and among "the huts where poor men lie," gave all his love, all his sympathy, and probably all his esteem to the virtuous poor.

For two or three years before his death, which took place at the age of twenty-three, Nicoll's physical strength had been literally consuming in the fires of his sleepless mind. He had contrived to subsist upon the pittance of about 2s. 6d. a-week; burning with the thirst of knowledge, and giving day and night to study and composition. When he went to Leeds, as a journalist, aware of the deficiencies of his education, or of his non-education, his anxiety "to do his best" as he termed it, and a high and sustaining consciousness of his real powers, made him doubly task himself. The consequence was the rapid popularity of the newspaper, whose editor was known only by the fervour of his writings, and by that resistless sympathy with the feelings and wants of the People which obtained him their confidence and admiration. He struggled on, until he literally dropped at his post; though his last breath was drawn in that native land which he loved so dearly, and to which so much of his sweetest verse is dedicated.

We rejoice that this desultory reference to Robert Nicoll, gives us a fit opportunity of mentioning a circumstance which ought to be made known to all the world, and especially to the Radicals of Leeds and the West Riding. When his days were evidently drawing to a close, Mr. Tait wrote Sir William Molesworth to the effect that young Nicoll of the *Leeds Times* had been induced to leave his post, in the last stage of a decline, aggravated by the prospect of destitution, rendered much more bitter by the distress of those who looked to him for daily bread. But his wants were few, his time, in all probability, to be short in this world, and little would suffice. Sir William, without an hour's delay, transmitted an order for fifty pounds, in a most kind and delicate letter. It would be a sin to conceal this unostentatious deed of benevolence in their Member to their late Editor, from the Radicals of Leeds.

Some idea may be formed of the character of this youth, from the primitive and emphatic farewell which he took of his readers, when about to return to die at home. This letter and paragraph, which we copy from *The Spectator* of 4th November, 1837, was the last thing connected with politics which he could have written, and almost the last thing of any kind, for he died early in December. But, even after his arrival in Scotland, it was impossible to win his excitable spirit from the cause of the People. His last denunciations, while the fires of consumption glowed in his eyes, and hectic flushed his cheeks, were of "that man Durham, who has deceived us all."

The Spectator says—"We learn with regret, from the following letter, that Mr. Robert Nicoll has been compelled by ill health to give up the Editorship of *The Leeds Times*, a journal which he has raised to a large circulation, by following an independent course in politics with vigour and ability."

To the Radicals of the West Riding.
Brethren!—Ill health compels me to leave your locality, where I have laboured earnestly and sin-

cerely, and I trust not altogether without effect, in the holy work of human regeneration. I go to try the effect of my native air as a last chance for life; and, after the last number, I am not responsible for anything which may appear in *The Leeds Times*, having ceased to be Editor of that paper from that date.

I could not leave you without saying this much, without bidding you one and all farewell, at least for a season. If I am spared, you may yet hear of me as a Soldier of the People's side; if not, thank God! there are millions of honest and noble men ready to help in the great work. Your cause emphatically is

The holiest cause that pen or sword
Of mortal ever lost or gained.

And that you may fight in that cause in an earnest, truthful, manly spirit, is the earnest prayer of one who never yet despaired of the ultimate triumph of truth.

ROBERT NICOLL.

This was the kind of young man who, two years before, had attempted, in exquisite verse, expressive of his feelings, to add a leaflet to the wreath of Clarkson. And in the hearts of thousands of such nameless youths dwells the pious regard which will defend the memory of all who have, like Clarkson, fought the good fight in the strife of humanity, from the attacks, whether of ignorance or envy. This may seem an irrelevant conclusion to our random observations upon the "Strictures," and Mr. Robinson's Remarks, but it all means the same thing to those who have the key; and if, as we fondly hope, Mr. F. Buxton's judgment be correct; and benevolence, and active goodness, the "putting the shoulder to the wheel," be the only true greatness, whether found tried and confirmed in the veteran soldiers of Humanity, like Thomas Clarkson, or only beginning to be gloriously developed in the smaller achievements of right-hearted and enthusiastic lads like Garrison, the printer's boy of Boston, and, at an humbler distance, Robert Nicoll.

ON SALE.

AT THE STORES OF

Parker & Gleeson,

Ex AGNES, THOMAS BAKER, and MEDIUM from Hamburg,

1500 BAGS 1st, 2d, and 3d quality BREAD

- 300 Bls. & Half-bls. OATMEAL & GRITTS
- 150 Do. do. do. Superfine and Fine FLOUR
- 100 Barrels PEASE
- 10 Barrels Pot BARLEY
- 5 Barrels Pearl BARLEY
- 10 Barrels Split PEASE
- 300 Firkins Prime BUTTER.
- A few Barrels prime Hamburg Beef
- 10,000 Bricks,

And, a few Cases Glassware.

ALSO,

- 30 Puns. best retailing MOLASSES.
- AND IN BOND,
- 30 Hhds. Fayal Madeira Wine
- 20 Almudes London Particular
- 20 Qtr.-Casks Bronte Madeira (which can be recommended as a very superior Table Wine)

1000 Hogsheads COALS.

October 25.

John and James Kent

ARE NOW LANDING,

Per *Pleiades* and *Duchess Gloucester* from Hamburg,

2000 Bags fine-middling and common Bread

700 Barrels Fine and Superfine Flour

100 Firkins new Butter

40 barrels Oatmeal

20 Ditto Pease

70 Westphalia Hams

7000 Large Bricks.

And per *Fox* from London,

30 Chests best Twankey,

10 Ditto Fine Congou

TEAS

Which will be Sold low for Cash or Shore Fish in October.

PRIME UPLAND

HAY,

AT THE COTTAGE.

PATRICK MORRIS.

January 10,

Notices.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

CENTRAL DISTRICT,
St. John's, to wit.

BY virtue of an order of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for this District, in Sessions assembled, I, the High Constable, am thereby required to collect a rate or assessment of Ten Shillings Currency in the Hundred Pounds, on the value of all Houses, Lands, and Tenements in this District—to be applied to the purposes of remunerating parties who have sustained damage under the operations of the Acts 4th Wm. 4. Cap. 4, and 5th Wm. 4. Cap. 5, commonly called the Road Acts.

Notice is therefore hereby given,

to all Landlords and Tenants possessing any interest in the Houses, Lands, and Tenements, situate in the said District, forthwith to pay to me, the said High Constable, the said rate of Ten Shillings in the Hundred Pounds on the value of their respective interests.

Given under my hand, the 24th day of September, 1838.

J. FINLAY, High Constable.

Packet Boats

TO PLY BETWEEN PORTUGAL COVE AND CARBONEAR.

THE Subscriber begs to inform his Friends and the Public, that having now completed the new Packet

NATIVE LASS,

in a style hitherto unknown in this Country—being fitted up with comfortable Cabin, Sleeping Berths, &c.—he has commenced plying between Portugal Cove and Carbonear.—The *NORA CREINA* will also continue to ply as heretofore, and he will thereby be enabled to arrange so that one of the above Packets will leave Carbonear and Portugal Cove every morning while the navigation remains open.—The *NATIVE LASS* is built in a superior manner, copper-fastened and coppered, sails remarkably fast, and is decidedly superior to any Craft of her description.—The *NORA CREINA* is sufficiently known to render it unnecessary that any exposition as to her qualities should be gone into.

FARES:—
Cabin Passengers..... 7s. 6d.
Steerage Ditto..... 5s. 0d.
Letters (single)..... 0s. 6d.
—— (double)..... 1s. 0d.
And Parcels in proportion to their size and weight.

The Subscriber will be responsible for any parcel, &c., that may be given in charge to him.

JAMES DOYLE.

Carbonear, September 25, 1838.

JAMES HODGE,

Of Kelly-Grews,

BEGS most respectfully to inform his friends and the public, that he has a most safe and commodious four sail Boat, capable of conveying a number of Passengers, and which he intends running the winter as long as the weather will permit, between Kelly-Grews, Brigus, and Port de Grave. The owner of the Packet will call every Wednesday morning at Mr. THOS. DOYLE'S for Letters and Packages, and then proceed across the Bay as soon as the wind and weather will allow; and in case of their being no possibility of proceeding by water, the letters will be forwarded by land by a careful person, and the utmost punctuality observed.

JAMES HODGE begs to state also that he has good and comfortable lodgings and every necessary that may be wanted on the most reasonable terms.

Terms of Passage—

One person or three to pay 15s., above that number 5s. each. Single Letters 1s., double do. 2s., and packages in proportion.

Not accountable for Cash or any other valuable Property put on board.
January 10.

ALL Persons having claims for assistance rendered in saving the Schooner *HOPE* on the 25th November last, are hereby requested to send in their accounts to

M. STEWART & Co.

December 20.

ALL Persons having claims against the FACTORY are requested to leave their Accounts with the SUPERINTENDENT, at the Establishment.
J. JENNINGS, Secretary.

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