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LINES
Addressed to a Society for establishing a
Literary Fund.

Ye friends of Genius, friends of human kind,
Who still the throbbings of the wounded mind;
Ye little flock, selected from the crowd,
The stern, the vain, the thoughtless, and the proud,
To Pity's humble shrine your offerings bring,
Afflicted Genius is a sacred thing.
You suffer with the man of studious mood,
Who harvests by labours for the public good!
Whose wisdom forms us, and whose magic pen,
Softens our hearts, and turns us into men.
Rouse, sons of wealth, whom Heaven in anger sees,
Stretch'd on your sofas in the pomp of ease,
Who mark the poet's or Historian's art,
And praise the truths that never reach your heart,
Who read an author as you quaff champagne,
To warm the frozen blood, and fire the brain;
And while the flights of Genius you admire,
View the forlorn'd owner in a jail expire;
Or like poor Chatterton, resign his breath,
Self-murdered, to preclude a lingering death.
Rouse sons of wealth, when Pity calls, and find
How woes of sympathy exalt the mind:
How oft, by small relief, in season given,
We build in sorrow's breast a little heaven;
And who, when such sublime effects are known,
Who, but must feel it rising in his own?

A SINGULAR TALE.

We are about to indulge our readers with a very singular, but a very true relation of an affair which happened some years since in one of the French provinces.

A man of fashion paid his addresses to a young lady of beauty, rank and distinguished merit.

As there was a parity in years, in fortune, and in situation, the lady received her gallant with the customary condescension, females seldom withhold from those whom they are taught to pronounce upon an equality with themselves.

The parents of the young lady, however from whatever motive, disapproved of the match. The gentleman pleaded—but in vain; and finding it impossible to overcome the aged obstinacy of the parents, he resolved to solicit his charmer's consent to enter into the holy bands of matrimony, without any further consultation with the parents, who seemed so resolutely to persist in a denial.

Having fully explained himself on this head, the young lady, after recovering from a confusion which ever on these occasions is visible amongst the virgin fair, consented to become his wife; they were wedded and the marriage kept a profound secret.

It happened after a few years had elapsed, that the husband was obliged to leave his lovely bride, being called into a foreign country to adjust some family affairs, which required his immediate presence. The necessity was no less urgent than disagreeable to both parties; however, they permitted their good sense to operate, and after avowing mutual affection and fidelity, parted in certain expectation of seeing each other at a time when such an alteration should take place as might afford them an opportunity of living in a manner every way becoming an happy & virtuous pair.

For some time they corresponded; but the husband being obliged to cross several tempestuous seas, did not receive such frequent answers to his epistles as he had reason to expect. This he attributed to the difference of climate rendering a regular correspondence altogether impracticable; and as he imagined his letters had miscarried, he resolved for the present to desist from writing; not relishing the idea of having his sentiments canvassed over by indifferent strangers, or perhaps captious enemies.

Another reason which induced him to lay aside for the present, all thoughts of continuing an epistolary correspondence, was the prospect he had of shortly returning to France, where the presence of his amiable consort would infinitely exceed all idea, interviews, and make ample amends for every pang his heart had undergone.

It is now time that we would return to the lady.

As she possessed a considerable share of youth and beauty, it was not to be supposed she could long remain without a train of admirers. Her parents who never dreamt about their daughter's previous marriage, became each day more anxious to select a person whose mental and corporal endowments might in their estimation, render him worthy their favourite daughter's hand and heart.

Several years had now rolled on, without the lady's hearing a syllable of

her real husband. At last the fatal news arrived that he was now no more.

The lady was inconsolable, but she found it prudent to stifle her grief, that she might obliterate the smallest degree of suspicion.

When she had paid every tribute consistent with reflection to the memory of her departed lord, a gentleman was proposed by her parents for her approbation, and the good old people so prejudiced in favor of the person they had introduced that they gave their daughter to understand their happiness depended on her compliance.

The young lady, who thought herself entirely at liberty to commit a second trepan upon Hymen, after some little hesitation consented. The nuptials were celebrated; the lady, if not happy, was placid, and serenely content; the parents were delighted: the bridegroom was enraptured; and all were jocund, all were sprightly.

For four years this newly married couple, lived in perfect harmony: but at length an intermitting fever seized the lady: the physicians were baffled, and she to all appearances paid the debt due to nature. She was buried with pomp, and every reverence shewn to her memory the custom of the country would admit of.

During her last illness, her former husband, whom we left abroad, had returned, and after making the necessary enquiries, was informed of every circumstance we have related above.

As he was unwilling to surprise her whilst she combated with sickness, he had employed a trusty person to make him acquainted with each particular of her case; and the instant the news of her death reached his ears, a frantic wildness seized his soul, and he resolved to receive no manner of sustenance, but to bury himself among the mould which lay lightly on her breast, and thus pine out the short remaining period of his existence.

Full of this resolution, he repaired, the night she was buried to her tomb, and after digging up the earth discovered the coffin, fetched a deep sigh, and was about to stretch his wearied limbs, when to his consternation, astonishment & affright, he perceived signs of life. He tore open the coffin, and found it even as he suspected. His wife as almost suffocated: he snatched her up in his arms, conveyed her to the house of a neighbouring friend, had her put into a warm bed, and in a few weeks she was perfectly restored to life and health.

As she had real affection for her first husband, she made no scruple of choosing him for her companion; but as the affair soon made a prodigious noise throughout the country, the second husband, who also doated on her to distraction, no sooner was informed of the particulars, than he attempted to force her to live with him; the prior claimant as resolutely persisted in keeping her to himself. In short a lawsuit was commenced; the most learned advocates in France were employed; a redundancy of erudition was displayed, and, after being litigated for a considerable length of time, a solemn decision was given in favour of the gentleman who had first married her.

This work, which is contained in several folio volumes, "L'Amour Celeste." The above very extraordinary relation is recited therein, together with all the subtle and ingenious arguments used by the opposite advocates for the different husbands. So that there can be little doubt of the truth of a narrative so extremely well authenticated.

This story has so much the air of fable and romance, that to leave an impression of its truth upon the minds of our readers, we shall inform them that the French lawyers, have selected all the famous trials, with the decisions which have been given in their courts for a series of years.

CAPITULATION

Of the Danish Islands in the West-Indies.

Art. 1. The island of St. Thomas and St. John's, and their dependencies, are hereby placed under the protection of his Britannic Majesty, until by a conclusion of peace it shall be settled whether they are to be Danish or English property.

Answer. The island of St. Thomas and St. John's, and their dependencies, must be surrendered to the force of his Britannic Majesty, on the conditions as follow:

2. Military honors are to be shewn at the surrender. The officers to keep and continue to wear their swords.

Answer. Granted.

3. All the inhabitants of the island are to enjoy the fullest security for their persons and property and other rights, as well as a free exercise of Religion.

Answer. All Danish inhabitants and the subjects of the island and of the United States of America, shall enjoy the fullest security for their persons and properties as well as the free exercise of Religion, provided they do not endeavour collusively to cover property of the enemies of Great-Britain and Ireland. By properties is to be understood goods and merchandize now on shore.

4. Arms and ammunition to be delivered by a commission composed of officers of both parties, also the magazines and provisions, and what else may be found in the fort as it shall be found today, according to returns to be drawn up.

Answer. Agreed.

5. All Danish officers of the garrison, naval officers and sailors, to be conducted conveniently and safely to their native country, and those that may desire to proceed to America and elsewhere to be provided with proper passports.

Answer. The garrison must be considered as prisoners of war, and speedily as possible will be conveyed to Europe as and every indulgence shewn them.

6. No military to be quartered in houses but in barracks, and decent rooms to be assigned by the Burgher Council, and a commission appointed to that purpose.

Answer. Agreed.

7. The Danish laws and ordinances to remain in force, all courts and judicial offices to be occupied by the present officers. In case that no appeal can take place to the high court of justice at Copenhagen, one is to be established here by the English Government, to consist of three of the most able candidates in law and two respectable citizens, acquainted with the Danish language.

Answer. The Danish laws and ordinances will remain in force as at present. But the persons filling civil offices must be subject to the approbation of their Excellencies the Commanders in Chief. In the event of appeal, to lie to his Britannic Majesty in Council.

8. The King's and public treasures, all public book keepings and accounts, archives and protocols, remain unmolessted under the hands of the respective officers for mutual security and use.

Answer. All property belonging to the King, or the government must be given up to his Britannic Majesty, and all public records and papers be submitted to the inspection of the British, and the records and papers will afterwards be allowed to remain in the proper offices.

9. His Majesty the King of Denmark having advanced a loan to the planters; the said planters continue to pay off according to the method regulated, unto his said Majesty. The King of Denmark, retains the right of mortgage in the said estates with the exception that the owners, in consideration of precedent in favourable commercial conjunctures and the present circumstances, make no payment this year upon the Royal loan which has been effected for the benefit of the planters.

Answer to the last article. But with respect to the payment to be made upon the loan advanced by the King of Denmark, to the planters, it is agreed to be left to the determination of the King of Great-Britain and Ireland in Council, how they are to be made and applied.

10. No inhabitant shall be compelled to carry arms or perform military duty when he has made his oath of military obedience.

Answer. Agreed to, but they will be requested to take an oath of allegiance expressing that they will not either openly or secretly do any thing hostile to the British Government.

11. The Americans shall be permitted without restraint to export produce of the island and provide necessaries. The inhabitants also to ship to America.

Answer. These colonies must trade under the same laws as govern the British West-India islands.

12. A secret and separate convention to permit the inhabitants of the neighbouring islands or from the main to trade thither in order to provide the country with fresh provisions.

Answer. The affirmation to this proposition must depend upon the decisions of his Majesty the King of Great-Britain and Ireland.

13. The free coloured people of this island shall be regarded and protected as heretofore under the Danish Government, and they shall not be forced to do any military duty.

Answer. The Danish free coloured people will be protected as heretofore,

and will not be forced to do any military duty, but they must take the oath of allegiance conformably to the answer to article 10th.

14. The preliminary articles on which this proposed capitulation depends that the officers sent on board the fleet ascertain the number of British to be three thousand at least.

Answer. His Excellency the Danish Governor is not expected to sign the capitulation until the return of the officers he has sent to see the British troops.

15. In the general claim of Danish and neutral property to be respected as belonging to lawful owners is also comprehended the vessels and all properties afloat in this harbour, or what might arrive during the time the Danish colonies remain in possession of his Britannic Majesty.

Answer. To reply to the third proposition additional, all the forts, military ports and vessels of war must be given up as soon as the capitulation is ratified by the Commander in Chief.

16. It is requested that the military and naval officer should be permitted either to remain here or to return by the way of America or any other neutral state, and that the private foldiers and sailors should be provided with passports.

Answer. The officers of the army are to be prisoners of war on their parole of honour, not to serve till exchanged, and will have permission to depart in the most convenient manner with passports, but their stay here must not exceed a month. The non-commissioned officers must be disposed of as his Majesty shall direct.

17. It is understood it is hoped that slaves belonging to the Danish subjects or other subjects considered as neutrals, are to be considered as property belonging to the owners, and to continue as such.

Answer. Agreed.

18. Shall the police of this island continue to perform their official duty with the same authority as under the Danish Government, and with the known usages of the colony?

Answer. Agreed, unless ordered otherwise.

19. The property afloat considered to be given into the hands of the British Commanders will be considered, it is hoped, as left under sequestration, and not be disposed of, but in case of a declaration of war, and all such property to be treated in the same manner as was usual, in case of declaration by British cruizers before the present misunderstanding between the British and Danish nations.

Answer. The property afloat will be detained agreeable to his Majesty's instruction in the hands of agents who are responsible for their conduct, and are only to dispose of perishable articles. It will probably be found expedient to send part of this property to Europe, to wait his Majesty's decision.

20. In regard to the twelfth article of the capitulation, referred to the determination of his Britannic Majesty, it is hoped their Excellencies the Commanders in Chief will give a provisory order to admit all traders with provisions as heretofore, because this island from immediate wants of provisions might be exposed to inconveniences and sufferings.

Answer. The Commander in Chief will take the matter into consideration, being disposed to do what may be of advantage to the colony.

21. The King's Surgeon to the garrison having great practice in this island, will be suffered, it is hoped to remain undisturbed as a particular regarded practitioner in the colony.

Answer. Agreed, taking oath of allegiance.

22. For the use of this and other Danish islands has been issued by his Danish Majesty a paper currency, whereof a considerable sum is now in possession of the community, and as such paper money has hitherto passed to the great use & convenience of the inhabitants, it is hoped that it will henceforth be ordered to pass as current money.

Answer. The Commanders in Chief permit the paper money of Denmark to pass current for the convenience of the colony, but do not mean to compel merchants to take it in large payments or English seamen for their wages.

St. Thomas, 28th March, 1801.

G. M. Von Schotren
Fred. Maitland, Brig. Gen. E. D.
King, Capt. R. Navy. Retired,
John Thos. Duckworth R. Ad.
Thomas Triggs, Lieut. General.