

NEW-YORK, June 3.

MASSACRE OF ALL THE WHITES OF ST. DOMINGO.

By the pilot-boat Grey Hound, Capt. Sandford, in sixteen days from Cape-Francois, we have a confirmation of the massacre and pillage at that and other places of the Island, by gen. Dessalines' troops, which commenced on the 19th of April, and was continued without intermission until the 14th of May. All the French inhabitants, including men, women, and children, to the number of between 2000 and 2,500 were put to the sword or bayonet at the Cape, during the above period. On the 14th inst. after the work of destruction was completed, Dessalines left the Cape on his way to his headquarters, by way of Port-de-Paix, and Gonaives. On the 23d of April Fort Dauphin was pillaged, and all the whites to the number of about 90 men, women, and children, were massacred, and a part of the town destroyed. A few days after, the French inhabitants of St. Jago, and other parts of the interior were escorted to the Cape, and there destroyed in the most wanton manner.

On the 12th of May, Dessalines issued a proclamation (a copy of which follows) calling upon the Spanish inhabitants of the city of Santo Domingo, to declare themselves for, or against him, allowing them fifteen days to determine. This proclamation was made in consequence, it was said, of his having received dispatches from Port-au-Prince, informing him of the arrival of a reinforcement of French troops at Santo Domingo.

To enter into a full detail of the particulars of the massacre and plunder of the Cape, would be a painful task, and afford no pleasure to our readers; but we are assured, that from the beginning to the end of the hellish work, the most unparalleled cruelties were inflicted upon the whites in a manner too shocking to relate.

Men, women, and children were hacked down with swords, and plunged with bayonets. Women with children in their arms were seen flying through the streets to avoid their pursuers; and being overtaken by them, one thrust of a bayonet has pierced both mother and child.

After this dreadful massacre, the dead were lying in the streets for three days, when the inhabitants were ordered to remove those within a certain distance of each dwelling—which were afterwards dragged off and thrown into a ditch at the foot of a mountain.

Previous to the massacre, certain of the blacks in order to obtain the property of the whites, which was secreted, called on them individually, and promised to spare their lives if they would give it up; which having obtained, not one of them was exempted from the general massacre! The property thus perfidiously obtained, (consisting of gold, jewels, and plate) was said to be immense. Gold was brought to the town in hatfuls by the blacks, and offered in exchange for silver for less than half its value.

We are informed that Dessalines has decreed, that any Frenchman henceforward who shall arrive in St. Domingo shall be put to death.

To show further the vindictive cruelty of the blacks, and their inveteracy against the whites, we shall mention the following fact: Just before the massacre took place a Danish schooner belonging to St. Thomas, having on board a number of French passengers, after sailing was pursued by armed boats, overtaken and brought back, and the Danish captain, crew, and passengers, were all put to death.

The few Americans that were at the Cape, remained unhurt. With the exception of the Painter, and a few mechanics at the Cape, whose services were too useful to be spared, not one Frenchman survived the general wreck.

At the date of our advices, Dessalines was erecting strong fortifications in the mountains. His force is said to consist of 60,000 men.

From the New York Mercantile Advertiser of June 4.

The intelligence of the indiscriminate massacre of the white French inhabitants of St. Domingo, which we were the first to notice, is confirmed by the arrival at this port of the schooner Greyhound from Cape-Francois. The letters of our correspondents and the verbal accounts of the passengers who escaped, agree in re-

presenting it as one of the most horrid which has occurred in modern times. It began on the 19th of April, and continued without intermission until the 14th of May following. On the 28th April, gen. Dessalines issued a proclamation explanatory of his motives, and of his future conduct, of which the following is a copy:

Translated for the Mercantile Advertiser.
LIBERTY OR DEATH.
PROCLAMATION.

Jean Jacques Dessalines, Governor-General, to the inhabitants of Hayti.

Crimes the most atrocious, such as were until then unheard of, and would cause nature to shudder, have been perpetrated. The measure was over-heaped. At length the hour of vengeance has arrived, and the implacable enemies of the rights of man have suffered the punishment due to their crimes.

My arm, raised over their heads, has too long delayed to strike. At that signal, which the justice of God has urged, your hands righteously armed, have brought the axe upon the ancient tree of slavery and prejudices. In vain had time, and more especially the infernal politics of European, surrounded it with triple bras; you have stripped it of its armor; you have placed it upon your heart that you may become (like your natural enemies) cruel and merciless. Like an overflowing mighty torrent that tears down all opposition, your vengeful fury has carried away every thing in its impetuous course.— Thus perish all tyrants over innocence, all oppressors of mankind!

What then? bent for many ages under an iron yoke; the sport of the passions of men, of their injustice, and of the caprices of fortune; mutilated victims of the cupidity of white Frenchmen; after having fattened with our toils these insatiable blood-suckers, with a patience and resignation unexampled, we should again have seen that sacrilegious horde make an attempt upon our destruction without any distinction of sex or age; and we, men without energy, of no virtue, of no delicate sensibility, should not we have plunged in their breasts the dagger of desperation? Where is that vile Haytian, so unworthy of his regeneration, who thinks he has not accomplished the decrees of the Eternal, by exterminating these blood-thirsty tigers? If there is one, let him fly; indignant nature discards him from our bosom; let him hide his shame far from hence; the air we breathe is not suited to his gross organs; it is the pure air of liberty, august & triumphant.

Yes, we have rendered to these true cannibals, war for war, crime for crime, outrage for outrage; yes, I have saved my country; I have avenged America.— The avowal I make of it in the face of earth and heaven, constitutes my pride and my glory. Of what consequence to me is the opinion which contemporary & future generations will pronounce upon my conduct? I have performed my duty; I enjoy my own approbation; for me that is sufficient. But what do I say? The preservation of my unfortunate brothers, the testimony of my own conscience, are not my only recompence: I have seen two classes of men born to cherish, assist, and succour one another—mixed, in a word, and blended together—crying for vengeance, and disputing the honor of the first blow.

Blacks and yellows, whom the refined duplicity of Europeans has for a long time endeavoured to divide; you who are now consolidated, and make but one family, without doubt it was necessary that our perfect reconciliation should be sealed with the blood of our butchers. Similar calamities have hung over your proscribed heads: a similar ardour to strike your enemies has signified you; the like fate is reserved for you; and the like interests must therefore render you forever one, indivisible and inseparable. Maintain that precious concord, that happy harmony amongst yourselves; it is the pledge of your happiness, your salvation, and your success; it is the secret of being invincible.

It is necessary in order to strengthen these ties, to recall to your remembrance the catalogue of atrocities committed against our species; the massacre of the entire population of this island, meditated in the silence and sang-froid of the cabinet; the execution of that abominable project to me unblushingly proposed, and already begun by the French with the calmness and serenity of a countenance accustomed to similar crimes. Gauda-

loupe, pillaged and destroyed; its ruins still reeking with the blood of the children, women, and old men put to the sword; Pelage (himself the victim of their craftiness) after having basely betrayed his country and his brothers—The brave and immortal Delgrece, blown into the air with the fort which he defended, rather than accept their offered chains. Magnanimous warrior! that noble death, far from enfeebling our courage, serves only to rouse within us the determination of avenging or of following thee. Shall I again recall to your memory the plots lately framed at Jeremie? The terrible explosion which was to be the result, notwithstanding the generous pardon granted to these incorrigible beings, at the explosion of the French army; the deplorable fate of our departed brothers in Europe; and (dread harbinger of death) the frightful despotism exercised at Martinique? Unfortunate people of Martinique, could I but fly to your assistance, and break your fetters! Alas! an insurmountable barrier separates us. Perhaps a spark from the same fire which consumes us, will alight into your bosoms; perhaps at the sound of this commotion, suddenly awakening from your lethargy, with arms in your hands, you will reclaim your sacred and imprescriptible rights.

After the terrible example which I have just given, that sooner or later divine justice will unchain on earth some mighty minds, above the weakness of the vulgar, for the destruction and terror of the wicked; tremble tyrants, usurpers, scourgers of the new world; our daggers are sharpened; your punishment is ready! Fifty thousand men equipped, hurried to war, obedient to my orders, burn to offer a new sacrifice to the manes of their assassinated brothers. Let that nation come who may be mad and daring enough to attack me. Already at its approach, the irritated genius of Hayti, rising out of the bosom of the ocean, appears; his menacing aspect throws the waves into commotion, excites tempests, and with his mighty hand disperses ships, or dashes them in pieces; to his formidable voice the laws of nature pay obedience; disease, plague, famine, conflagration, poison, are his constant attendants. But why calculate on the assistance of the climate and of the elements? have I forgot that I command a people of no common cast, brought up in adversity whose audacious daring frowns at obstacles and increases by dangers? Let them come, then, these homicidal cohorts! I wait for them with firmness, and with a steady eye. I abandon to them freely the sea shore, and the places where cities have existed; but woe to those who may approach too near the mountains! It were better for them that the sea received them into its profound abyss, than to be devoured by the anger of the children of Hayti.

"War and death to tyrants!" this is my motto—"Liberty, Independence!" this is our rallying cry.

Generals, officers, soldiers, a little unlike him who has preceded me, the ex-general Toussaint Louverture, I have been faithful to the promise which I made to you when I took up arms against tyranny, & whilst the last spark of life remains in me I shall keep my oath. Never again shall a colonist or an European set his foot upon this territory with the title of master or proprietor. This resolution shall henceforward form the fundamental basis of our constitution.

Should other chiefs, after me, by pursuing a conduct diametrically opposite to mine, dig their own graves and those of their species, you will have to accuse only the law of destiny which shall have taken me away from the happiness and welfare of my fellow-citizens. May my successors follow the path I shall have traced out for them! It is the system best adapted for consolidating their power; it is the highest homage they can tender to my memory.

As it is derogatory to my character and my dignity to punish the innocent for the crimes of the guilty, a handful of whites commendable by the religion they have always professed, and who have besides taken the oath to live with us in the woods, have experienced my clemency. I order that the sword respect them, and that they be unmolested.

I recommend anew, and order to all the generals of department, &c. to grant succours, encouragement and protection to all neutral and friendly nations who may wish to establish commercial relations in this island.

Head-Quarters at the Cape, 28th of April, 1804, 1st year of Independence.
The Governor General.

(Signed)
DESSALINES.
The Secretary General.
(A true Copy.)
JUSTE CHAULATTE.

This proclamation had the effect which was intended; it served the arm of the already two enslaved negro, and extinguished in his bosom the last spark of humanity. The work of death was accelerated; and on the 14th of May, when the Greyhound left the Cape, the infuriated soldiery had sacrificed to their unrelenting policy no less than two thousand five hundred human beings. The work of destruction then ceased from necessity for no more victims remained to be afflicted.

The details we have received of these transactions are shocking to the ear. Indeed no language of which we are capable, can describe with accuracy the horrors of the carnage, which had no respect to the infirmity of age, or the innocence of childhood; but involved in one common ruin, and frequently with the same sword, the infant sucking at the breast, and the unoffending mother from whom it derived its nourishment.

On the 14th of May, Dessalines left the Cape by way of Port-de-Paix and Gonaives, for the purpose of enforcing the terms of the following proclamation, which he had caused to be issued in that part of the island of St. Domingo inhabited by Spaniards. He also had ordered that the occupiers of houses should remove with all possible speed to a ditch at the side of the mountain, the dead bodies of the murdered which remained in the streets, that they might not be either devoured by the dogs, or be suffered to produce a pestilence.

LIBERTY OR DEATH.
PROCLAMATION.

Jean Jacques Dessalines, Governor-General, to the inhabitants of the Spanish part.

Scarce had the French army been expelled, when you hastened to acknowledge my authority; by a free and spontaneous movement of your hearts, you arranged yourselves under my subjection. More careful of the prosperity than of the ruin of that part which you inhabit, I have given to this homage a favourable reception. From that moment, I have considered you as my children, and my fidelity to you remains undiminished. As a proof of my paternal solicitude within the places which have submitted to my power, I have proposed for chiefs, none but men, chosen from among yourselves. Jealous of counting you in the rank of my friends, that I might give you all the time necessary for recollection, and that I might assure myself of your fidelity, I have hitherto restrained the burning ardour of my soldiers. Already I congratulated myself on the success of my solicitude, which had for its object to prevent the effusion of blood; but at this time a fanatic priest had kindled in your breasts the rage which predominates therein; the incensed Ferand had not yet instilled into you the poison of falsehood and calumny. Writings originating in despair and weakness, have been circulated, and immediately many amongst you seduced by perfidious insinuations, solicited the friendship and protection of the French—they dared to outrage my kindness, by coalescing with my cruel enemies. Spaniards! reflect! On the brink of the precipice which is dug under your feet, will that diabolical minister save you, when, with fire and sword I shall have pursued you to your last entrenchment? Ah! without doubt, his prayers, his grimaces, his relics would be no impediment to my career. Vain as powerless, can he preserve you from my just anger, after I shall have buried him and the collection of brigands he commands under the ruins of your capital?

Let them both recollect that it is before my intrepid phalanxes that all the resources and skill of Europeans have proved ineffectual; and that in my victorious hands the destiny of the captain-general Rochambeau, has been surrendered. To lure the Spaniards to their party, they propagate the report that vessels with troops have arrived at Santo Domingo. Why is it not the truth? They little imagine that in delaying to attack them until this time, my principal object has been to suffer them to increase the mass of our resources, and the number of our victims—to spread distrust and terror, they incessantly dwell upon the fate which the