

TO FRIENDSHIP.

HAIL holy Friendship! bliss sincere, That kindly wipes the falling tear; That gilds the gloom of sorrow's night; With genial consolation's light; And wrests with mild and healing art, The pointed arrow from the heart!

EXCENTRICUS.

If, says a most eloquent writer, we survey the various regions of the globe; what dreadful scenes of wretchedness every where present themselves to our eyes! In some we see thousands chained to the oar, and particularly suffering from the inclemency of all weathers and their more inclement masters; in some, not fewer condemned to wear out their miserable lives in dreary mines, deprived of air and day light; and in others much greater numbers, torn from their native country, their families and friends, and sold to the most inhuman of all tyrants, under whose lash they are worn out with fatigue or expire in torments.

EXTRACT

From Dr. MILLER'S Excellent Discourses on Sins, recently published.

BESIDES the injury done to society in general, he who destroys his own life, seldom fails to inflict the deepest wounds upon all who stand more immediately related to him in domestic and social life. Say, miserable man! who art contemplating the crime of self-murder, hast thou no PARENT, the evening of whose days, by this crime, would be embittered, or whose grey hairs would be brought down with sorrow to the grave? Hast thou no amiable PARTNER of thy life, who would be precipitated by this step into the deepest affliction? Hast thou no TENDER NURSING, who, by thy desertion, would be left fatherless, and exposed to all the dangers of an uncapable world? Hast thou no WARRIORS or STEWARDS to share in the grief, and the disgrace of time unworthy conduct? Are there no FRIENDS who love thee, who would weep over thy fall and see, and feel themselves wounded by thy fall? In short, would the execution of thy wicked purpose disturb the peace of no family? For what a baseness of sensibility or kindness? D. fraud no creditor? Have no friend in difficulty? Has no fellow creature of happiness? Did thy conduct extend only to thy own person, tho' still a crime, it would be comparatively small. But the consequences of such a step would probably extend beyond thy conception, and last longer than thy memory.

—Let us go to consider victim of impetuous and despair, who, in silent, melancholy and alone, meditating the termination of his sorrows by the pistol or poisonous draught—let us approach, and enquire why he is disgraced with life?—You are embarrassed in your circumstances; you have been robbed of your property by fraud, or by other distressing occurrence; you have been precipitated from the height of affluence to abject poverty; you cannot see, to beg you a subsistence; and therefore resolve to die. But before you take this dreadful and irrevocable step, pause a moment, and answer me the following questions: Is a large portion of property indispensably necessary to happiness? Have not many—been contented and happy with a small pittance as that which you yet possess? Say, have not some found more real enjoyment after being thus reduced, than they found in the days of their affluence and prosperity? Was not the SAVIOUR of the world, when he's poured upon earth, without a place where to lay his head? And has he not by his example, made poverty and sufferings honorable? Besides, though

you are now in straitened circumstances, may not a kind Providence hereafter smile upon you, and reward your industry with comfort and plenty? Who can tell, but that, like Job, your latter end, in this respect, may be more blessed than your beginning? But even supposing the worst; will you destroy a life on which so much depends, for the sake of treasures which are transient and unsatisfying; for a little glittering dust, which perishes in the using; "For so much trash as may be grasped thus?" Miserable estimate! Live, and exhibit the sublime, the edifying spectacle, of one struggling with want, and yet holding fast his integrity!

FROM A LONDON PAPER.

FRAUD ON THE UNDERWRITERS.

On the first symptoms of a rupture between England and Russia, in the year 1800, such outward bound vessels as got intelligence of the embargo at sea put into various ports of the Baltic, particularly Dantzic, for refuge. Mr. Johan Lades, an eminent merchant, then had one cargo in this predicament consigned to him, estimated at six tons of gold, which he shipped again as Prussian property, on board the Swedish ship Louisa, captain Parris Torngren, for St. Petersburg—this vessel sailed the 23th June, 1801, with several others;—at a certain distance at sea, captain Torngren parted company, and taking a course quite opposite to that of the remaining ships, proceeded to the Swedish Island of Oeland, and arriving at Boda he cast anchor. His crew consisted of five men and a book-keeper named John Ahlstedt, who went on shore there, and continued his route to Carlscrona, from whence he shortly returned with two merchants, named Orter and Kurstrom, and the ship's broker Lovell; the following night these persons had almost all the goods taken out of the Louisa and put into two lighters, which carried them to Carlscrona. During this interval, Torngren gave himself out as only mate of the ship, and Ahlstedt as captain, reporting that they came from Riga with corn. The day after, Ahlstedt having returned on board, they put to sea again. In a short time a misunderstanding arose between the captain and Ahlstedt, when the latter was beat, hit used and disabled—had his arm broken, his head wounded, and his money which he entrusted to two sailors, to take charge of for him, plundered and carried off. Torngren now bored holes in the ship, and put stoppers in, which when they got to the latitude of Natelga, he took out, and made the men enlarge the holes so as to sink the ship—he then forbid them ever to mention the name of Ahlstedt, or to say any thing of what had passed, and taking out some watches with other valuable light goods the crew all abandoned the vessel, and left her to go to the bottom, with the unfortunate man lying helpless and bed ridden in his cabin on board.

Capt. Torngren, with all his crew, except Jonas Larsson, the mate, who left the party here, and went away, now proceeded to Natelga, where they took the usual oaths that the ship's unavoidable disaster was not produced by the neglect of any individual on board, that they had with much difficulty saved their own lives, and that the mate was unfortunately gone down with the ship as he was endeavoring to bring of a compass out of the cabin. The insurance to a large amount had been made at L. Beck—but Mr. Lades' suspicion was first awakened by an underwriter there requiring a part of 70,000 marks, and declining for a while to tell his motives, till vigorously pressed for an explanation, he declared experiencing a strong presumption that some mischief would befall the Louisa. The circumstance soon after being so legally confirmed, and getting to the ears of Mr. P. Dalay, a very active merchant at Carlscrona, he excited himself to discover the captain and the supposed drowned mate, who were apprehended immediately, upon which the two other merchants took flight, but Kurstrom, was presently discovered and arrested, as were likewise most of the vessel's crew. A special commission of the inquiry was appointed, to bring the conniving parties to trial, and the following sentence has just been adjudged as an exemplary punishment of an act so systematically nefarious, viz. Capt. Torngren to be beheaded and his body exposed on a wheel, his property to decay the expenses of prosecution; the mate, and another sailor most active in the crime to be beheaded; the merchant to pay a fine of four times the value of the lying fraudulently taken off, or to receive forty stripes, three to the palm, and to do penance on a Sunday at the church door, after which he is to work three years at the hulk in Carlscrona, and his property to answer all judicial expenses. The broker J. Lovell, with his brother F. Lovell, the district crown executor, for complicity, to be deprived of their offices, to be confined for one month on bread and water, and to do three years hard labour at the hulks; the post-chamber, and the two lightermen, who conveyed the goods off in the night, to be imprisoned 25 days on bread and water; the strand surveyor, for neglect of duty, 15 days of the same penance; and the pilot 12 days; besides a number of pecuniary fines on all such as were proved to have bought any of the goods composing this cargo.

BOSTON, March 27.

Capt. P. Deager, in the schooner Fame, from Malaga, William Malcolm, late master of the ship Fortune, of Portland; who failed from Liverpool on the 21st of

October last past, and had very boisterous weather; on the 5th of November, being in lat. 46, N. long. 40, W. a violent squall came on, which almost drove his ship on her beam ends and carried away some of his sails. On the 6th of December, at 3 P. M. under close reefed topails and courses, in lat. 40, 14, long. 53, 30, his ship sprung a leak, so that they were obliged to fet both pumps at work; likewise found their salt settling down very fast on their starboard side; at 10 A. M. saw no prospect of gaining their port, by means of contrary winds; and the leak gaining on them, they bore away for the Western Islands. On the 9th inst. having the weather more moderate, they prepared a sail with thumbs and oakum, which they tattered the ship with, but all to no purpose, as they could not find out the leak. On the 16th they made the Island of St. Michaels; ran down for it; night coming on, and dark squally weather, could not run for the harbour. On the morning of the 17th, they were within a mile of the east end of said island, but it blew such a violent gale, attended with thunder, lightning and hail squalls, that their ship could not safely fall by the wind, and made so much water, that it became indispensably necessary to bear away for Lisbon; but it continued to blow a violent gale from W. N. W. to N.—They hove to on the 18th; though the sea ran over them, flogging; yet they could not keep her to, laying to; after laying 6 hours, bore away again, and stood S. E. E. which was before the sea. On the morning of the 19th discovered a ship lying to, run down, and made a signal of distress, and hove to. On the 20th, at 8 A. M. the weather more moderate, applied to the above ship for some assistance of men, as his men were not able to stand much longer at the pumps, but could not obtain any—by this time the ship had gained on them four feet of water—they made sail in order to follow the ship—at ten they found still more water—then the crew all gave out, and said, this would probably be the only chance of saving their lives—at midnight, found six feet water in the hold, to their great distress. After fifteen days hardships of this kind, they were obliged to renounce all hope, and repair on board the aforesaid ship which proved to be the Duggon, of Bourgen, in Swedish Finland, commanded by John Christopher Petrey, bound to Cadix, but by distress of weather was drove to the eastward, and arrived at the port of Madeira, on the 31st of December, 1804.

LANCASTER, March 12.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in Kentucky, to his friend in Philadelphia, dated Feb. 15.

"The oldest Inhabitants in this Country do not recollect a Winter so severe as the present."

"The Ohio broke up about the 10th ult. and the damage sustained thereby is incalculable. It was my misfortune to be an eye-witness to nearly all of it: In the course of one day, I saw more than 2 flat bottomed and 4 keel boats, some of which were loaded, 10 ferry boats, between 60 and 80 canoes, and a house, descending the river during the ice."

"In one trunk, boxes, &c. with People frozen to death, floating down, was sufficient to melt the steepest heart."

"Three families, from Virginia and Maryland, rowing to this Country, containing 31 souls in one boat, had it stove, and every soul perished. Two boats more were stove, about 2 miles above where I was; boats, cargoes, and crew all lost. I lost my boat; but, in other respects, sustained very little damage."

THE board of Doctor Nesbitt and his letter to Mr. Jonah Clark, (concerning a certain mulatto woman called Hannah, who formerly belonged to said Clark) having lately been put into my hands, and understanding that Dr. Nesbitt still threatens to make another attempt to carry her off in a clandestine manner, I have thought proper to lay them before the public through the medium of the Wilmington Gazette.

JOHN MPFARLANE.

Wilmington, April 16, 1805.

KNOW all men by these presents, That I, Robert Nesbitt, of the State of South-Carolina, Physician, am held and firmly bound to Jonah Clark, of North-Carolina, planter, in the sum of Four Hundred pounds, current money of the State of North-Carolina, for the payment of which sum to the said Jonah Clark, his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, I the said Robert Nesbitt, do hereby bind myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, firmly by these presents, sealed with my seal, and dated this 24th day of April, 1797. The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas, I, the said Robert Nesbitt, have purchased and possessed myself of a certain Mulatto Female slave, named Hannah, late the property of the said Clark, which said mulatto slave, I, the said Nesbitt have agreed with the said Clark, to manumit and set free, free, whensoever he, the said Clark, or any person for him or his representatives, or any person for them shall pay, or cause to be paid to the said Nesbitt, the sum of Three Hundred and Forty Spanish milled dollars, or in case of my death, to my representatives; now, therefore, if I, the said Robert

Nesbitt, or my representatives, shall at any time after the date of these presents, apply for said Clark or his representatives, and the payment by him or them, as aforesaid, of the sum of Three Hundred and Forty dollars aforesaid, manumit, emancipate and set free, or cause to be manumitted, emancipated and set free agreeably to law, the said mulatto slave Hannah, so that she shall not be thereafter subject to the control or command, or debt, or demand of any person whatsoever as a slave. Then the above obligation to be void, otherwise to remain and abide in full force and virtue.

In witness whereof, the said Robert Nesbitt hereunto set his hand and seal, the day and year aforesaid.

ROBERT NESBITT [Seal.]

(Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of) G. HOOPER.

Mr. Jonah Clark,

I'm surprised me not a little at the return of my boy, without Hannah, after you had promised me so faithfully that she should be sent whenever called for, now after being with you near one twelve months, immediately upon sending for Hannah, down comes Syc with a letter from you mentioning Hannah's unwillingness to come, likewise that Syc would deliver me three hundred and forty dollars at the same time, putting me in mind of justice and honor in the making of the contract between yourself and me.—Gods know if any justice or honor were thought of either by yourself or me when that penal bond was given you by me, as you well know I was obliged to do so, to get my property delivered up to me by you—but again Syc never delivered this money as your letter to me specifies, no it is sent down to an Alston with a letter to them to see this business done and should I refuse to emancipate your daughter Hannah, to commence an action against me immediately for the recovery of the Penalty—but you were too fast; you thought you had things to your wishes, not knowing it was necessary that the wench must be down on the occasion as the law requires.

I would notwithstanding have sent Hannah up for her cloths, not Syc and being apprehensive of the consequence would not venture as you have deceived me more than once, you will deliver the clothes to my servant or cause them to be delivered at the request of Hannah and myself.

You may conceive a great deal of honor in my penal bond, but there is really none except what the laws of my country will make me comply with, which is either to emancipate Hannah or pay the penalty of eight hundred dollars which when paid will be no more than four hundred and sixty out of my pocket, and believe me, should you please and I expect nothing else and indeed it is my wish, will and shall exert myself to pay you in your own coin, that is, will endeavor to procure your antique mouldy papers wherever they may be procured either below or above the value, for am not a little irritated at your conduct after my handsome behaviour to you and yours.—But on the contrary if you will leave it in my breast to emancipate, which I promise you I shall do these conditions—that she continue with me my life, I will return you the money that I have received from you by Mr. Alston whatever intent it might have been given for—I wish you to consider the business maturely as it concerns Hannah's welfare much, like consider if you have any bonds still out unpaid, if you have, be assured I will endeavor to purchase them, I desire consider what an enormous price negroes sell at in So. Carolina, a likely young handsome female with good qualities and disposition will bring a price extraordinary—I have been offered for Hannah 1200 by one 1200 dollars by another but Sir, that and twice as much more will not tempt me to part with her, unless you provoked and find it not safe to keep her (that is to say people of bad stamp should put notions in her head to abscond from me, which I am certain she will never do otherwise.

However to come to a conclusion whatever has been said above is really from a candid mind that never meant to injure you nor yours, but rather were it in my power would assist if occasion wanted and I request you to write me as candidly by my servant, whatever you think on the subject and what you wish to be at, whether you will accede to my proposals or what you first intended, any prepared for either, Hannah says she is satisfied with my offer.

I remain Sir, expecting to hear from you by my servant, your most obedient

ROBERT NESBITT

Waccamaw, 13 Nov. 1801—

Mr. Jonah Clark, North-Carolina

N. B. I have been just now inform in bring the horse across the river to the main, he has got staked and he being the only horse I can spare, the other being rode down, Syc will deliver this to you, unless I change my mind—

Send the clothes belonging to Hannah over to Mr. Howes so that when my boy should come he may not be detained unnecessarily

R. N.

THE Subscribers want to purchase from Six to Seven Hundred tons of PINE TIMBER, to be delivered in two or three months, those who may wish to contract for a part or the whole, will please to call at the subscribers store, next door to the Printing Office.

C. & R. DUDLEY.

Wilmington, March 12.