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## THE STAR,

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### Execution of Henry Fauntleroy, Esq.

From the British Traveller of Nov. 30.

This morning, at the usual hour, Henry Fauntleroy, Esq. late partner in the house of Marsh, Stracey, Fauntleroy and Graham, underwent the dreadful sentence of the law. The unprecedented spectacle of a London banker condemned to die for forgery—that offence to which the property of a class of individuals at once so respectable and important in society is peculiarly exposed; excited a degree of interest in the public mind, beyond example. The multitude surpassed in extent and in density any crowd we ever saw within a space so limited. Although the justice and the necessity of this melancholy expiation, were generally recognised, the sympathetic commiseration of the vast concourse assembled to witness the last moments of the culprit, was manifestly pervading every bosom, and may be truly said to have been universal.

During the whole of yesterday many hundreds of individuals had collected in the open space before Newgate—composing groups of ten and twenty persons, all waiting with anxious curiosity for information and particulars respecting the unhappy prisoner, tho' without any reasons for their anticipations. The buzz of expectation, communicated from ear to ear, nevertheless, continued, and by midnight the whole space was crowded with people, though not with that density of pressure which the crowd subsequently assumed.

At two o'clock this morning, the workmen, issuing from the court-yard that separates Newgate from the Session-house, gave "dreadful note of preparation." The timbers that had been prepared were now brought forth, and were distributed at the respective places at which it had been decided to erect extra barriers to divide the pressure of the crowd. The carpenters began their operations at these points. This prudent and necessary precaution, resulted from the melancholy experience of that fatal catastrophe, which, as will be in the recollection of our readers, occurred at the execution of Holloway and Haggerty, where so many lives were lost by the undivided pressure of the crowd. From this time, until four o'clock, the crowd continued to increase; the workmen, nevertheless, proceeded without material interruption, and by that hour the additional barriers were completed. A profusion of links and flambeaux cast a lurid glare over the countenances of the multitude, while the clank of crow-bars raising the pavement to receive the posts—the dull heavy reverberation of falling planks and timbers—with the increasing blows of axes and hammers, formed altogether a scene of awful and gloomy horror in perfect unison with the approaching consummation of the law.

Until half past three the sky was clear and bright with stars, although the moon had disappeared. It now became overcast, rain began to fall, and was succeeded by total darkness.

At four o'clock every public house in the immediate vicinity was crowded, to overflowing, and the reflection of the light shewed a close compact arrangement of livid countenances, at every window within view of the awful scene. The crowd continuing to increase, those who had hitherto experienced no other inconvenience than that of weariness of legs, now began to feel a pressure which excited no slight degree of trembling.

At half past four the gates of the court between the prison and the Old Bailey being suddenly thrown open, the fatal platform came forth drawn by three horses, and was slowly dragged to its destination opposite the Debtors door. The heavy roll of this ponderous body, moving as it does on wheels of less than two feet diameter, is such as to have been felt in every part of Newgate, when slowly passing that massive building.

The erection of the fatal tree on the scaffold now dissipated the doubts of the few sceptics who still cherished the hope of a commutation, and from the early hour at which the gallows was prepared to receive its destined victim, an erroneous expectation became prevalent, of the execution in

king place at an earlier hour than that which has been customary. The rain continued to pour down in torrents—yet, as far as could be judged by appearance, the ardour of those who had patiently waited for hours on their station, was not in the slightest degree abated.

Six o'clock—The crowd had now increased in a degree which rendered the felon's door wholly inaccessible. Mr. Baker, who arrived at this time, in vain endeavored to penetrate the close-pressed phalanx by which all passage was impeded. At length with great difficulty, aided by much courtesy on the part of the surrounding multitude, who were apprised of the humane and charitable object of this truly benevolent and pious gentleman's visit, he obtained an entrance through the private door of Mr. Wontner, the Governor's house. Immediately proceeding to the room of Mr. Fauntleroy, he found the unhappy culprit in a state of resignation and comparative tranquillity that was highly satisfactory, as evincing the salutary effects of that religious consolation which had been so anxiously and so kindly administered by the united efforts of his spiritual comforters, the Rev. Mr. Cotton, the Rev. Mr. Springett, and Mr. Baker. Mr. Fauntleroy received his excellent friend and consoler with a degree of fortitude which manifested perfect resignation to his fate—thanking him with an air solemn, yet wholly divested of embarrassment, for the ready punctuality of his attendance in this his final exhibition of Christian friendship.

The arrival of Mr. Baker afforded great and necessary relief to the Rev. Mr. Springett, who had passed the entire night in the prison—the greater portion of that gloomy period in the room of Mr. Fauntleroy, who during the interval between life and death had for some short time layed down upon his bed, but the awful sensations of his mind forbade the repose he sought—and the very few hours thus devoted were perceptibly restless.

He had been shaved at five o'clock, and having washed and dressed, felt greatly refreshed.—Nearly an hour was spent in devotional exercises after the arrival of Mr. Baker, in conjunction with the Rev. Mr. Springett—the unhappy object of their solicitude manifesting throughout extraordinary fervour and attention. His expressions of thankful gratitude to gentlemen, thus, as it were, devoting themselves to consoling his last hours, were fervent—evidently from a heart deeply and sincerely impressed with a just appreciation of their merits. But, as if conscious of the inadequacy of words to the expression of his real feelings, he endeavored to commit to paper that which verbal language could not express. During the night or very early in the morning, he contrived to write a letter, which was found addressed to those gentlemen. In this he poured out his thanks with a powerful expression of feeling.

A few minutes before seven, the Rev. Mr. Cotton, the Ordinary, entering Newgate, proceeded to the condemned room in which prisoners spend the last hour, previous to execution, and there waited the arrival of Mr. Fauntleroy—who shortly after approached, supported by his religious friends. Previous to entering the condemned cell, he put his hand into his pocket, and drawing out some gold, delivered it to Mr. Baker, with a request that he might apply it to the aid of such individuals in the prison as should appear objects of distress and meriting relief.—Mr. Baker replied by a warm assurance of scrupulous adherence to his desire. On entering the condemned cell, Mr. Fauntleroy advanced towards the Reverend Ordinary with a solemn air, but with an alacrity strongly expressive of a grateful wish to recognize the kind intentions of the Reverend Gentleman. Preparations were then made for administering the sacrament, but previously to entering on that last solemn duty, Mr. E. requested that his favorite hymn might be sung, beginning—

"God moves in a mysterious way,  
His wonders to perform;  
He plants his footsteps in the sea,  
And rides upon the storm.  
  
Deep in unfathomable mines  
Of never failing skill,  
He treasures up his bright designs,  
And works his sovereign will.  
  
Blind unbelief is sure to err,  
And scan his work in vain,  
God is his own interpreter,  
And he will make it plain.

This finished, he expressed his desire to partake of the sacrament, and then joined in the service with the most profound solemnity.—When the General Confession was read from the Communion service, he pointed significantly to the

following part of it, and varying his voice very much:

"We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, and the burden of them intolerable. Have mercy upon us," &c.

There were other parts of the sacred ritual which he also repeated with great emphasis, appearing to derive much consolation for this last act of solemn devotion. After the service was concluded, he seemed comforted, and serenity sat upon his brow.

Engaging in religious conversation, he expressed the strong hope and consolation he experienced, observing that he looked up to Heaven with a confident expectation of being shortly admitted a guest in the glorious mansion! The short interval which elapsed previous to the arrival of the sheriff, he spent chiefly in meditation. During this time he took off his silver mounted spectacles, and requested Mr. Baker to accept them as a dying token of his sincere and grateful regard, accompanying the gift with the following emphatic expression: "Remember, sir, these are what assisted me to read the precious truths of the Gospel."

A little before eight, standing at the extreme corner of the room in discourse with his Rev. Attendants and Mr. Baker, he beheld the Sheriffs, with their Under Sheriffs and Officers approaching; looking wistfully toward them, he bowed respectfully, & then proceeded to express his grateful acknowledgments for the humane attention to his comfort which he had received. At this moment Mr. Wontner, the Governor, and Mr. Barrett, Clerk of the Papers, accompanied by some other gentlemen, entered the room. The officers then moved towards Mr. Fauntleroy, with the cords for pinioning the arms and wrists of the unhappy criminal, which duty they performed in a manner as little offensive as possible, the prisoner moving his hands with a view to facilitate their object, and throwing back the cuffs of his coat. He was at this time engaged in ejaculatory prayer, frequently exclaiming—"Lord Jesus receive my spirit,"—which he repeated several times before he arrived at the extremity of the prison. His hands and arms having been secured, he cast a serene look on his spiritual attendants, who supported him between them. Soon after the clock had struck eight, every thing was prepared; the sheriff then intimated that the time had arrived when they must proceed to the fatal platform, and leading the way were followed by the Reverend Ordinary of the prison; next followed the criminal, who raised his eyes, and his hands as far as he could, towards heaven, and walked forwards with a firm unshaken step; as he passed the several turnkeys, he appeared to give them a look of recognition. Having arrived midway between the press-yard and the debtor's door, the bell of death sounded its first solemn knell, announcing to the crowd, which now filled the whole space between Ludgate-hill and the pens in Smithfield, the advance of the mournful procession. The Rev. Ordinary, in a deep sonorous voice, (which echoed through the avenues of the prison,) read that part of the burial service which commences—"I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord, he that believeth in me, tho' he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth, and believeth in me, shall never die." The prisoner raised his eyes to Heaven, when the following beautiful passage was read: "I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though after my death worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another." By this time the procession had arrived at the outer door, when the Rev. Mr. Cotton proceeded up the steps to the platform, and was instantly followed by Mr. Fauntleroy, who, still supported by his friends, ascended the fatal scaffold with a firm step, apparently not regarding the crowd and perturbing clamor with which he was surrounded. He was dressed in a new suit of black—coat, waistcoat, and trousers—under which he wore silk stockings of the same color, and a pair of light pumps.

Being placed under the cross beam, the executioner proceeded to divest his neck of his white cravat, and putting on the cap, he immediately drew it over the face of the criminal. The name of the halter was then put over his neck and properly adjusted; the assistant executioner suspended the cord by fixing the hook at the extremity into the wrive prepared to receive it.—These awful preliminaries did not last more than three minutes, during which time Mr. Fauntleroy stood unmoved. The executioner then taking his station within reach of the fatal salt,

the Rev. Ordinary read as follows:—"Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery," &c. "But spare us, Lord most holy! O God most mighty! O holy and most merciful Savior! thou most worthy Judge eternal! suffer us not at our last hour from any pains of death to fall from thee!"—On uttering the last word the bolt being suddenly withdrawn, Henry Fauntleroy was launched into eternity!

Thus fell this unhappy man beneath the avenging arm of the law—in a few minutes motion and life became extinct. At an early hour in the morning the reporters of the daily morning and evening papers were admitted to the prison—one from every journal.

In the course of yesterday, a communication was made, as we are informed, by some of the Bank Directors, accompanied by a request that Mr. F. would be pleased to explain some transactions recorded in books which were sent, and which were involved in considerable mystery.—Of the precise nature of the application we are not aware, but he did not hesitate to comply with the requisition, observing that he must suspend his religious duties for a short time, which he resumed again as speedily as possible.

CONGRESS.  
SENATE.  
Wednesday, Jan. 19.  
Mr. Brown, from the select committee on Roads and Canals, to whom was referred the memorial of the inhabitants of Wilkes county, in North Carolina, on the subject of a road to New Orleans, made a report thereon; which was read.  
Mr. Benton submitted the following resolution for consideration:  
Resolved, That the committee on Indian Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of procuring, from the Indians south of Lake Superior, the privilege of exploring the country for the discovery of copper mines, and for the use and occupation of the same by the United States, if discovered.  
Thursday Jan. 20.  
The bill from the House of Representatives for the relief of the Niagara sufferers, was twice read and referred.  
Monday, Jan. 24.  
The bill from the House authorizing the subscription of stock to the Delaware and Chesapeake Canal Company was read and ordered to a second reading.  
The bill from the House for the continuation of the Cumberland Road was read and ordered to a second reading.  
The Senate then again took up the bill allowing a drawback on cordage manufactured from hemp imported.  
The debate on this bill occupied the remainder of the day's sitting.  
Tuesday, Jan. 25.  
DRAW BACK ON MANUFACTURED HEMP.  
The Senate resumed the unfinished business of yesterday—the bill for allowing a drawback on the exportation of cordage manufactured from imported hemp.  
Messrs. D'Wolf, and Lloyd of Mass. spoke in favor of the bill, which was opposed by Messrs. Edwards, and Johnson of Ken.  
The question being taken on engrossing the bill for a third reading, it was decided in the negative—yeas 18; nays 25.  
INTERNAL TRADE WITH MEXICO.  
The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill reported by Mr. Benton, from the committee on Indian Affairs, on the 11th inst. to authorize the President to cause a road to be marked out from the frontier of Missouri to the confines of New Mexico, and making appropriations therefor. The bill having been read through, Mr. Benton rose and addressed the Senate in a lengthy speech.  
The bill was then laid over until to-morrow.  
Wednesday, Jan. 26.  
The Senate again proceeded to the consideration of the bill to authorize the President of the United States to cause to be marked out a road from the line of the State of Missouri to the confines of New Mexico.  
On motion of Mr. Lloyd, of Mass. to strike out the second section of the bill, (which provides for making out that part of the road in the Mexican Territory,) a debate arose on the bill, which continued nearly the whole of the remainder of the sitting.  
The motion of Mr. Lloyd was negatived, yeas 15, nays 25, and the bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time—yeas 30, nays 12.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.  
Wednesday, Jan. 19.  
George Outlaw, a member elected from North Carolina, in place of Hutchins G. Boyton, resigned, appeared this day, and took the seat.

NIAGARA SUFFERERS.  
The House passed to the order of the day, which was the third reading of a bill "farther to amend the act authorizing the payment for property lost, captured, or destroyed, by the enemy, whilst in the service of the U. States, and for other purposes."

The bill was accordingly read a third time, and the question being, "Shall this bill pass?" considerable debate ensued. After which, the question was taken, and decided in the affirmative—yeas 123, nays 69. So the bill was passed, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Thursday, Jan. 20.  
On motion of Mr. Vance, of N. C. it was  
Resolved, That the committee on the Post Office and Post Roads be directed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a post route from Asheville, North Carolina, by the way of Gen. Philip Brittain Charles Carson, and across the mountains, at the Eastern base thence, to Major M'Kinney's, on Lenoir's thence, on the west side of said River, by the high Shoals on Little River thence, crossing Snowe, at Boonsford, to Pendleton Court House, S. C.  
Friday, Jan. 21.  
Mr. Cooke rose and observed, that he had at his last session made some remarks on the subject of the President's accounts, and that those observations were founded on certain documents which he now held in his hand. He moved that these documents be referred to the select committee, to whom was committed the message of the President, on the subject of his accounts with the United States. The motion was agreed to.  
On motion of Mr. Call, of Florida, it was  
Resolved, That the committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of opening a Canal across the peninsula of Florida, to connect the Waters of the Gulf of Mexico with those of the Atlantic.

CHESAPEAKE AND DELAWARE CANAL.  
The House then took up the unfinished business of yesterday, which was the engrossed bill authorizing the subscription to the stock of the Delaware and Chesapeake Canal, and the question being, shall the bill pass?  
The debate was resumed and continued till about three o'clock, when  
This question was taken by yeas and nays—Yeas 115, Nays 74.

Continuation of the Cumberland Road.  
The engrossed bill to continue the Cumberland Road was then read a third time, and the question being on its passage.  
Mr. Forsyth, of Geo. expressed his regret that he had not been present when the yeas and nays were taken on passing the bill to a third reading, that he might have had the pleasure then of recording his vote, as he should vote upon the present question in the affirmative.

Mr. Archer, of Va. demanding the yeas and nays, they were taken accordingly, and were yeas 97, nays 72.  
So the bill was passed, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.  
Monday, Jan. 24.  
Mr. Hamilton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill providing for the gradual increase of the Corps of Engineers, and for equalizing the rank, pay, and emoluments of the Professors of the Military Academy at West Point, and for other purposes; which was twice read and committed.

Mr. Carter, of S. Carolina, laid on the table the following resolution:  
Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House any correspondence, in his possession, which he may not deem it improper to disclose, which has taken place between the government of the United States and that of France, touching the interpretation of the 8th article of the treaty for the cession of Louisiana.  
Mr. Livingston, offered the following resolution:  
Resolved, That the Committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation sufficient to enable the President to send four of the Cadets, graduated at the Military Academy, to Great Britain, for the purpose of examining the improvements made, in that Kingdom, in the roads, railways, canals, and other branches of engineering.

The resolution was not agreed to.  
UNITED STATES PENAL CODE.  
The House proceeded to the consideration of the bill making further provision for the punishment of certain crimes committed against the United States; and, after considerable debate, adjourned until to-morrow, without coming to any final decision on the bill.  
Tuesday, Jan. 25.  
The resolution yesterday offered by Mr. Carter, calling for the correspondence respecting the 8th article of the treaty for the cession of Louisiana, was taken up and agreed to.  
On motion of Mr. Miller, of Tenn. it was  
Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be directed to inquire into the expediency of repealing so much of the act, entitled "An act to regulate the collection of duties on imports and to have approved March 3d, 1799," as requires the issuing, by the carriers or chief agents of inspection in

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