

Newbern Sentinel.

BY JOHN A. BACKHOUSE.

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TERMS.

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From Bell's London Weekly Messenger.

THE PREDICTION.

Under the above title, we find in the *Gazette des Tribunaux* of the 18th inst. an abstract of some exceedingly curious proceedings in the Criminal Court of Appeal of the Royal Chancery of Grenada, in Spain. We subjoin a translation of this extraordinary trial, which is a striking illustration of the romance of real life.

Don Gonzalez, Llonidrien lived with his parents in the city of Cordova. He was at once their pride and hope, for he was tall and handsome in his person, and skilful and industrious in his business. He bid fair to be the joy of their old age, for he loved them ardently. His father and his mother were his sole thought, and he had completely concentrated all his affections in them. It perhaps might have been said of him that he was of a serious and melancholy turn of mind, but that was easily overlooked, on account of the excellencies of his temper. About eight years since, at the fête of the Virgin Mary del Pilar, Llonidrien had been to hear mass, and the sermon in that magnificent structure devoted to the worship of our Saviour, but which the Moors had built in honor of their false prophet. Gonzalez passed one part of the day in prayer, and the other in wandering thro' the aisles formed of innumerable columns, which support the arches of the mosque. But *traz la cruz el diablo*—behind the cross is the devil. It was only at night-fall that Gonzalez left the church. In crossing the threshold of the door, whilst his tongue was still uttering the last words of the last prayer, which he addressed to Heaven for the happiness of his parents, and whilst his finger was still wet with the holy water with which he had made on his forehead the sign of the cross, he was accosted by a mendicant, whose copper complexion and strongly marked features indicated that accursed and vagabond race who live only by fraud, robbery, and fortune telling. He was a gipsy—'Signor,' said the latter, after having received from Gonzalez some small alms, 'I have the gift of laying open the future. Are you not curious to learn what will happen to you during your life?' Llonidrien could not account for the vague fears which agitated him. He accepted the offer, in the hope of being able to remedy all ills by ascertaining the future. 'Come with me,' said the mendicant, and Gonzalez followed him. For some time, they passed through narrow and deserted streets, which the *gitano* seemed to prefer.—During the walk, Llonidrien could not refrain from internally blaming himself for the imprudent act of allowing himself to be conducted by a stranger, who might perhaps have the intention of entrapping him. But he did not allow his apprehensions to get the better of him, and, tightly grasping the dagger by his side, he walked with renewed confidence, for he felt assured that this mode of defence would be his resource in the hour of danger. More than once, however, he said to himself that it was a high offence to the Lord to have any thing to do with witchcraft; but this pious thought, this indirect warning from Heaven, did not induce him to retrace his steps. Gonzalez and the mendicant quitted the city; and after reaching a grove of olive trees, soon found themselves in the midst of a band of *gitanos*. Llonidrien having paid the price agreed upon, the most abominable conjuration commenced. In the first instance the young man was told a number of indifferent things, and the whole was concluded by the prediction that he would murder his father and mother.

'Murder my parents,' said Gonzalez, 'thou liest—thou liest! I infamous sorcerer.'

The latter coolly replied, 'Do not put yourself in a passion, my young signor, for the event must happen.'

'What have I done to merit such a severe indication?'

'The good, replied the *gitano*, suffer for the faults of others. You parents have sinned, and you must expiate the sins of others. Heaven punishes in your person the offspring of a nun defiled and a monk who has broken his vows.'

'Thou liest!' Gonzalez said, while with his left hand he seized the gipsy by the throat, and with his right endeavored to grasp his scabbard, but he was grasped by the arm and violently shaken off, and weapons as long and as bright as his own, flashed before his eyes. The match was not equal. He retreated, and entered his father's house much more sad than usual. He could not erase from his restless and superstitious mind the impression which the *gitano* had made upon him, and for several days he was haunted by the most dreadful thoughts. At length they became altogether unendurable, and he wished to find some means of testing the truth of the prediction. Time only could show the whole of what had been foretold as to the future, but it was easy to ascertain what reliance could be placed as to the past. Gonzalez threw himself at the feet of his father, and with tears asked him if it were true that he had taken the holy orders, and whether his mother had really taken the veil? Gonzalez fondly hoped that the answer he was about to hear would restore peace to his mind, and he awaited the reply with anxiety.

'Alas!' said the father, 'we wished to have concealed this secret from you, as well as from the world; but since some evil genius has

told you the story, I must communicate to you the whole truth. I was about twenty years old, in the year 1706, when I was placed in a convent in Navarre, where I remained till 1808.—At that desolating period, the convents were sacked by the troops of our un pitying invaders, and it was absolutely necessary to take refuge in flight. Your mother had also been compelled to quit her monastery, and it was then that I saw her for the first time. The similarity of our destinies naturally brought us together, and gave rise to a mutual attachment. We were married in order to struggle together against adversity with more energy. In the eyes of some persons our conduct will appear blameable, but there is mercy for all sinners. We changed our abode to this city, where we were unknown, and owe our existence to honorable labor and economy. God has favored the business which I took to, and it is a happiness for us to know that you will enjoy without trouble as we have done, the fruits of our industry.'

This recital, although it shocked the religious sentiments of Llonidrien, did not in any degree lessen his attachment to his parents, but it filled at the same time his breast with grief, for he could not but believe that the *gitano* had been able to tell the truth. Absorbed by the remembrance of the prediction, which left him but little repose as his affection for his parents became stronger and more sincere, he at length took the firm resolution to set at defiance the gipsy, and to render the accomplishment of the prophecy impossible. To effect this object he was determined to quit Cordova forever, and he raised the pretence of wishing to see the world, to induce his parents to grant his pressing request for permission to travel.

'Why quit us!' said his parents. 'Remain with us, we beg. Be content with the bread you eat, and recollect that the rolling stone does not gather moss.' They added several other reasons, supported by many proverbs, so characteristic of the Spanish language; but, Gonzalez remained unmoved. They were at length obliged to yield to his wishes; and, after having received their blessing and a considerable sum of money, he took his departure ostensibly for Madrid, with the avowed intention of going to France; but he had scarcely got half across the Venta del Carpio, when he turned off to the right; gained Castro Rio in the direction of Grenada, then went to Baena, Las Ventas, and afterwards to Alcala Real. At the latter place he again quitted the high road, and penetrated the most unfrequented localities of the Sierra of Grenada. He bought, in the midst of the mountains, a hut, to which was attached a small garden, surrounded by a thick hedge. At this spot he resolved to live as a hermit, and to do penance; in order to avert the misfortune with which he felt himself threatened. He subsisted by nursing and by the produce of his garden. The time that was not given to the chase, or to the cultivation of his land, he passed in praying in a small chapel which he had himself erected, dedicated to the Virgin, at the end of the garden. In this manner he passed six years, in utter solitude, only going on Sundays to hear mass at Campillo de Arenas, or at Carcheligo. He went also once or twice a year to Benalva to buy gunpowder, lead, some clothes which were absolutely necessary, and to sell at the same time the skins of animals which he had killed. Such was the life of Llonidrien, and, notwithstanding the most strict enquiries by the court of justice, there was not room for the least reproach.

It was in one of his excursions to Campillo de Arenas that Gonzalez became acquainted with Catalina Azabache, a very handsome brunette, with black hair, good figure, and a modest demeanor. She was the daughter of poor but honest parents, and Gonzalez asked their consent for his union with her, and Catalina soon became his wife. For some time true happiness reigned in the hermitage, but it was of short duration. At the end of a year he was jealous, and said to himself that so fair and good a wife could not love only him, and this notwithstanding Catalina gave him not the least cause of complaint. He was continually on the watch to discover whether there was any ground for his suspicions, but he found Catalina always faithful and ready to receive him with a smile, while he returned unware.

At the beginning of October last, Gonzalez had gone hunting at an early hour. Night had come on—he had not returned. The wind bl w with force from the west, and the rain fell in torrents. Catalina was not alarmed at the absence of her husband, for he was often in the habit of spending the night in grottoes, or in the huts of some goat-herds. She suffered no uneasiness, but she listened with pain to the rain which beat against the windows. She was about to sit down to the solitary evening repast, when she heard a knocking at the door. An old man and woman, worn out with fatigue, asked for shelter. 'Gomez has pillaged Cordova,' said they, 'and for two days we have wandered about, without knowing where to find a refuge. Whatever may be your opinions, whether you be Carlist, or that you wear the *cachucha*, for pity's sake do not send us away.' Catalina had learnt from Gonzalez to practice this maxim—'Do good when you can, and then forget it.' She did not hesitate about admitting them, and hastened to change their wet dresses by giving them her own and those of her husband. 'Here,' said she to the old man, on presenting him with a cloak made of skins, 'you are much about the same figure

'The name of "Cachucha" was given to a kind of helmet, worn in 1804 by the "voluntarios," and by zealous partisans of the constitution. These helmets have, perhaps, given the name to the dress which Donkey performed with as much grace and skill at Drury Lane, in the "Devil upon Two Sticks," as it is just possible that the dress originated the name of the helmet. We will not say positively how the name really is, for two reasons—the first, because it is unimportant, and the second, because we do not know.

as my Gonzalez. His pellice will fit you (*como demorde*) as if it were made from the same model.' 'Alas,' said the old people, 'we have a son named Gonzalez, but he has left us, and we have not heard from him for eight years. "Ah," replied the young wife, "it is certainly not my Gonzalez: for a day does not pass without his praying for Don Vicente Llonidrien, his father, and for his mother, Donna Dolores de Azarun." At the mention of these names, an exclamation of joy and surprise escaped at the same time from the lips of the two comers. "Our son! our son!" they exclaimed together. They soon convinced the young wife that they were really the parents of her husband, and with tears in her eyes, and mad with joy, she kissed both their hands. As the night was far advanced, she insisted that her guests should sleep upon her bed, as it was the only one in the hut. "As for me," said she, "I joy would hinder me from sleeping, and I shall pass the night in prayer. I will go and thank the Virgin for the present happiness." She then went to the bottom of the garden to fall on her knees in the little chapel which her husband erected.

During this time Gonzalez had taken shelter in an obscure hollow of a rock, and there he abandoned himself with more violence than ever to his jealous imaginings. He told the Corregidor, by whom he was afterwards examined, that he felt this moment as if his bosom were torn with red hot pinners, and he thought that he heard a demoniac voice say to him sneeringly that he was dishonored by Catalina. As soon as the rain had a little abated; he set out to return to his abode, thoroughly determined to have revenge for the offence which a diabolical delusion had conjured up to his senses. On arriving near the door, he changed the powder of his double barrelled gun, for fear that the wet had spoiled that which he used in the morning. At length he opened the door, and on entering his chamber, the first objects which met his view, by the light of a dim lamp almost burnt out, were the clothes of a man near his bed, and mixed with a dress which he knew to be that of Catalina. Two heads, half concealed by the coverings, were reposing on the pillow. He had not the least doubt of his dishonor, and each of the heads received, almost from the very muzzle, the contents of one of the barrels. Without looking behind him, he flew into the adjacent chamber, and fell into a chair, pale, trembling and chilly. He remained in this state for about a minute, when Catalina opened the gate of the garden, and entered, laughing good naturedly. "I heard you," she said, "discharge your gun, and I hastened to meet you." "Away, away! perturbed spirit," said Gonzalez, with haggard gaze. "Away! I will have masses said for you—many masses—the chapel shall be fitted up in black—" "My dear, awake," cried his young wife, taking his hand who wished to repulse her, and she then threw her arms around his neck. "I have good news to tell you; thy father and mother—" At these words the cold perspiration, which had already trickled down the forehead of Gonzalez, became more abundant, and his teeth began to chatter. "Well, well!" said he. "They are there," said Catalina, pointing with her finger to the chamber where they had gone to bed. "My father!" shrieked Llonidrien, falling senseless to the ground. When he became sensible, he told his wife the horrible truth. Catalina pressed him to take flight. "No!" said he, "justice has been done to heaven, and now that of man must be satisfied." He went to the Corregidor of Alcala Real, to whom he related all that had passed. Upon a strict inquiry, all the facts we have narrated were found to be correct. The Alcalde Mayor, however, was of opinion that Gonzalez should be condemned to the punishment of parricide. But the Court of Chancery of Grenada decided he had not the intention of murdering his parents, and that it could not even be called a premeditated murder. He was, therefore, only condemned to five years imprisonment. The sentence has just been referred to the Supreme Council of Castile, and, taking into consideration the political matters with which the capital is agitated, this trial will not be decided for some time. The friends of the condemned, confidently believe that a fresh examination of the affair will be altogether favorable to Gonzalez, and that the Upper Court will pronounce him not guilty on a review of the whole facts. If such a happy result is not generally expected it is at least generally wished. The magistrates themselves, who, in administering the law, have fulfilled a most painful duty, have openly declared that they would support with all their influence the petition for pardon, which will be presented to the Princess Regent, should their sentence not be mitigated.

As for the unfortunate Gonzalez, who was quite indifferent about the whole proceedings, he had been for some time quite insane, but the affectionate attention of Catalina has partially restored his senses, so true is the saying of Melendez—"Woman is a divine emanation, sent down to the earth to alleviate misfortune, and console the unhappy."

THEATRES, CLUBS, AND NEWSPAPERS OF LONDON.

Scrap from "The Great Metropolis." The present population of London is about two millions of inhabitants. The yearly rental of the houses exceeds £7,000,000. The number of Scotchmen in London is estimated at 130,000; of Irishmen at 200,000, and of Frenchmen at 30,000.

THEATRES.—The number of persons who on an average attend the theatres every night all the year round, is about 25,000. There are twenty-two theatres in London. The nightly receipts of the King's Theatre average £500. This theatre is now solely confined to the representation of Italian operas and ballets. Persons who visit it must always go in full dress.

It was built at the expense of 100,000l, and rents for 8000l. The season annually commences towards the end of February, and ends in August.—The theatre is open only three nights in a week. The expense of building Drury-Lane theatre was nearly 800,000l. It will accommodate upwards of 3000 persons. The present rent is 6000l. per annum. Covent Garden theatre cost about 300,000l.—It is not quite so large as Drury Lane. The present Haymarket theatre was opened in 1831. It is capable of accommodating about 1500 persons with comfort. The season usually begins in April and ends in October. The present English Opera House was erected in 1834. It is capable of containing about 1800 persons. Braham's theatre will accommodate about 1200 persons. The Olympic theatre is capable of containing about 1200. About 1500 persons can be accommodated in the Adelphi. The new Strand theatre is the smallest in London. It is not capable of containing more than 800 persons with comfort. Astley's theatre is large and commodious. About two thousand persons can find room in it, without pressure. The season begins at Easter, and ends in September. The Queen's theatre is very small, incapable of containing more than 600. The Victoria Theatre, (formerly the Coburg), has accommodations for 2000 persons. The pit of the Surrey Theatre is perhaps the largest of any house in Europe. When crowded, it contains 2000 persons. The remaining theatres, (all small ones), are Sadler's Wells, the Pavilion, the Garrick, the City Theatre, the Clarence Theatre, and the Minor Theatre. No theatre can be opened in that part of London within the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain, without a license from him, and no new piece can be produced at any of the theatres without the approval of the dramatic censor. That office is now held by Charles Kemble.

CLUBS.—The principal Clubs are Brooke's, White's, Boodle's. The Carlton Club, the Reform Club, the Athenium Club, the Clarence Club, the United University Club, the Oriental Club, the Traveller's Club, the Union Club, the United Service Club, the Junior United Service Club, the Oxford and Cambridge University Club, and the Wyndham Club.

Crockford's is the largest gaming establishment in London. The celebrated Ude is chief cook of this establishment, and he receives a salary of a thousand guineas per annum. The wines in Crockford's cellar are valued at 70,000l. Crockford has realized an immense fortune from his gambling establishment. It is said that on one occasion a million pounds sterling changed hands in one night, at this establishment. Crockford commenced life a poor fishmonger. He has realized his immense fortune at the gaming table. The Athenium is the hell next in importance to Crockford's. It is on a less expensive scale than Crockford's. Besides these, there are numerous minor gambling houses. These houses are rarely indicted, and still more rarely are their keepers punished.

The lower classes in London are represented as being sunk in ignorance, poverty, and crime. It is computed that three millions sterling a year are expended by them on the article of gin alone.

NEWSPAPERS.—The Times is first in talent and influence. Its present editor is a Mr. Barnes. Captain Sterling has written many of its ablest editorial articles, but he has no control over its columns. Its daily circulation, is about 10,000. The proprietorship of the Times is divided into 16 shares. The estimated value of this paper, is 250,000l, and its annual profits between 20,000l and 30,000l. The daily circulation of the Morning Herald is about 7000 copies. The leading editor of the Morning Chronicle, is a Mr. Black. He has a number of coadjutors. The circulation of the Chronicle is about 5500 copies daily. The Morning Post, has a circulation of less than 3000, principally among fashionables. Its principal editor is a Mr. Biddleston. The Morning Advertiser, is edited by a Mr. Anderson, with two assistants. It has a circulation of about 6000 copies. The Public Ledger, is almost exclusively a mercantile paper. These are the morning papers. The young set of them has been in existence half a century. Every attempt made during that time to establish new morning papers has failed. "The Times" contributed to the revenue (for stamps and duties on advertisements) in 1828, nearly 70,000l. The Daily Evening papers are the Globe, the Courier, the Sun, the Standard, and the True Sun. The Globe is under the editorial management of Mr. Wilson. It has a circulation of nearly 3000. The Courier is under the editorial management of Mr. Stuart, (the author of Three Years Residence in America), and Mr. Hodgkins. The Sun is owned by Mr. Young, who is assisted in the editorial department by another gentleman. The literary notices in this paper are written by a Mr. Deacon. The Standard is edited by Dr. Gifford, assisted by Dr. Maginn. The True Sun is edited by Mr. Gadsley, assisted by Mr. Murphy. The weekly papers are the Examiner, edited by Mr. Fonblanque, assisted by Mr. Foster. The Spectator, edited by Mr. Sinton, and several assistants. The Atlas, edited by M. Bell. The Observer, (editor not named.) Bell's life in London, edited by Mr. Dowling. The Weekly Dispatch, edited by Mr. Smith. Bell's Weekly Messenger, (editor not named.) The Sunday Times. The John Bull, edited by Theodore Hook. The Age, edited by Westmacott. The Satirist. The News. The Weekly True Sun. The Court Journal, edited by Mr. Blanche. The Naval and Military Gazette. The United Service Gazette, edited by Alaric Watts, and several others of less note.

FEELING FOR ANOTHER.—A quaker once hearing a person tell how much he felt for another, who was suffering and needed his assistance, daily asked him, "Friend, hast thou felt in thy pocket for him?"

Inaugural Address,

DELIVERED BY

MARTIN VAN BUREN.

President of the United States, the 4th of March, 1837.

Fellow Citizens:

The practice of my predecessors imposes on me an obligation I cheerfully fulfil, to accompany the first and solemn act of my public trust with an avowal of the principles that will guide me in performing it, and an expression of my feelings on assuming a charge so responsible and vast. In imitating their example, I tread in the footsteps of illustrious men, whose superiority, it is our happiness to believe, are not found on the executive calendar of any country. Among them, we recognize the earliest and firmest pillars of the republic; those by whom our national independence was first declared; him who, above all others, contributed to establish it on the field of battle; and those whose expanded intellect and patriotism constructed, improved, and perfected the inestimable institutions under which we live. If such men in the position I now occupy, felt themselves overwhelmed by a sense of gratitude for this, the highest of all marks of their country's confidence, and by a consciousness of their inability adequately to discharge the duties of an office so difficult and exalted, how much more must these considerations affect one, who can rely on no such claims for favor or forbearance. Unlike all who have preceded me, the revolution that gave us existence as one people, was achieved at the period of my birth; and, whilst I contemplate with grateful reverence that memorable event, I feel that I belong to a later age, and that I may not expect my countrymen to weigh my actions with the same kind and partial hand.

So sensibly, fellow-citizens, do these circumstances press themselves upon me, that I should not dare to enter upon my path of duty, did I not look for the generous aid of those who will be associated with me in the various and co-ordinate branches of the Government; did I not repose, with unwavering reliance, on the patriotism, the intelligence, and the kindness, of a people who never yet deserted a public servant honestly laboring in their cause; and, above all, did I not permit myself humbly to hope for the sustaining support of an ever-watchful and beneficent Providence.

To the confidence and consolation derived from these sources, it would be ungrateful not to add those which spring from our present fortunate condition. Though not altogether exempt from embarrassments that disturb our tranquillity at home, and threaten it abroad, yet, in all the attributes of a great, happy and flourishing people, we stand without a parallel in the world. Abroad, we enjoy the respect, and, with scarcely an exception, the friendship of every nation; at home, while our Government quietly, but efficiently, performs the sole legitimate end of political institutions, in doing the greatest good to the greatest number, we present an aggregate of human prosperity surely not elsewhere to be found.

How imperious, then, is the obligation imposed upon every citizen, in his own sphere of action, whether limited or extended, to exert himself in perpetuating a condition of things so singularly happy. All the lessons of history and experience must be lost upon us, if we are content to trust alone to the peculiar advantages we happen to possess. Position and climate, and the bounteous resources that nature has scattered with so liberal a hand—even the diffused intelligence and elevated character of our people—will avail us nothing, if we fail sacredly to uphold those political institutions that were wisely and deliberately formed with reference to every circumstance that could preserve or might endanger the blessings we enjoy. The thoughtful framers of our constitution legislated for our country as they found it. Looking upon it with the eyes of statesmen and of patriots, they saw all the sources of rapid and wonderful prosperity; but they saw also that various habits, opinions, and institutions, peculiar to the various portions of so vast a region, were deeply fixed. Distinct sovereignties were in actual existence whose cordial union was essential to the welfare and happiness of all. Between many of them there was, at least to some extent, a real diversity of interests, liable to be exaggerated through sinister designs; they differed in size, in population, in wealth, and in actual and prospective resources and power; they varied in the character of their industry and staple productions; and in some existed domestic institutions, which, unwisely disturbed, might endanger the harmony of the whole. Most carefully were all the circumstances weighed, and the foundations of the new Government laid upon principles of reciprocal concession and equitable compromise. The jealousies which the smaller States might entertain of the power of the rest were allayed by a rule of representation, confessedly unequal at the time and designed forever to remain so. A natural fear that the broad scope of general legislation might bear upon and unwisely control particular interests, was counteracted by limits strictly drawn around the action of the federal authority; and to the people and the States was left unimpaired their sovereign power over the innumerable subjects embraced in the internal government of a just republic, excepting such only as necessarily appertain to the concerns of the whole confederacy, or its intercourse, as a united community, with the other nations of the world.

This provident forecast has been verified by time. Half a century, teeming with extraordinary events, and elsewhere producing astonishing results, has passed along; but on our institution, it has left no injurious mark. From a small community, we have risen to a people powerful in numbers and in strength; but with our increase has gone, hand in hand, the progress of just principles, the privileges, civil and religious, of the humblest individual are as securely protected at home; and while