WILMINGTON, FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1852.

## THE BEST FRIEND:

A TALE, TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

FOR THE COMMERCIAL. BY A LONG CREEK CORRESPONDENT.

CHAPTER III.

It is very easy now to understand the embarrassment of Victor at the appearance of Mr. Benn. Indeed surprise constituted a considerable part of his emotion. Victor could not, for the life of him; understand how the odious creditor had, after his long absence come to the knowledge of his immediate return, and his very residence; and his subterfuge of announcing himself as his best friend was little calculated to give him an assurance thereof.

On the other hand Mr. de Corvelles was still under the sweet influence of those dreamy thoughts, that occupied his soul at the foot of the Pyrenees, and of those dulcet hopes with which the love of Miss Auvrey had inspired his heart.

Although he had not yet deemed it opportune to ask that final, important and difficult question, whose answer-involves so much happiness or misery; yet, from the happiness which Miss Auvrey seemed to experience in his company; her lovely eyes radiating, as it were, towards him; the bright rays that streamed from her bosom's love, and the pure tender affections of her artiess angelher fascinating countenance-and from the important service rendered to her father, he had reason to hope that on some future day his happiness would be consummated in becoming her sworn devoted protector from the world's rude assaults-her inseparable companion through the thorny paths of life-her proud, obstinate, obdurate heart of man. pearest, dearest, most sincere friend; in one word, her husband.

Now, the apparation of the usurer, not only recalled to his mind those cares and troubles an inevitable outbreak with the austere mer-

Nevertheless, after endeavoring to banish from his mind his first trouble. Victor sum-

extacy at the sight of the young man, look eclectric shock, and extending his arms toward Victor so straight as to leave half of ing too short.

Ah! Victor, how glad I am to see you! You are very kind, Mr. Benn, please be

Oh! thank you, thank you, I am not fagued. Permit me rather to gaze on you at four health is good, is it not?

Excellent, Mr. Benn.

How delighted I am! Ah! your absence alls caused me great uneasiness! To go off thus without seeing anybody and to remain away two years without sending us any account? Do you know that I thought you were dead? [Poor Mr. Benn!] You can therefore imagine my joy, when I saw you Passing by in a post-chase, as I was loitering by the shops in St. Houseius Street .-At first my intense emotion was near prostraing me, but my strength soon returning I hot off like an arrow in pursuit of your carriage. Ah! I have run hard, but a' ength I find you; at length I see you again. Now I am satisfied, now I am happy; all my meties, all my fatigues are forgotten.

as he was pronouncing these last words he wiped away a tear and fixed on Victor ; ook of admiration and tenderness. As to letor he had not yet recovered from his

How! Mr. Benn. you ran after my car-

Yes sir; altho you had three horses! My we for you must have nerved and strength-

Really Mr. Benn I am at a loss for words

express my gratitude. Oh! it is very easy for you to be grateful

wise; take good care of your health; live ong time; live forever, if you can: this is

Faith Mr. Benn you are not very exact-

Ah! My God! No; but listen to me, conned the creditor in a wheedling tone; we e had some little differences.

I beg of you to forget them, as I shall Mr.

Is your uncle still living & asked the usurer fixing stealthily at the same time a gearching look on the young man. Yes, to my grief!

to pay me.

Indeed I have not!

Well, well, no matter, said the old man. encouragingly, a smile for the first time during the conversation, flitting over his countenance-I do not want you to pay me now; any future time will do to arrange that busi-

Certainly Mr. Benn.

I must go now; good bye Victor-I hope we shall see each other often.

I shall be always very happy to see you

Should you ever at any time stand in need of any assistance within my power to render, do not I entreat you forget to call on me. I shall not Mr. Benn.

Am I not your best friend?

As he finished these words, he stretched his hand to the young man, and after having pressed his most tenderly and affectionately

Confound yourself and your friendship! murmured Victor as he closed the door after him. Hang me if I know what that old m

The conduct of Mr. Benn, particularly is soul gushing forth through every pore of after the just motives of resentment he had against Victor, was highly calculated to elicit the astonishment of the latter; but the designs of Grd arg imponetrable, and never does he appear more omnipotent in his miracles than when thro the gracious influence of his spirit, he transforms and mollifies the

Now behold how this wonderful metaphosis of the usurer was accomplished. The sudden disappearance of Victor plunged Mr. Benn at first into a deep stupor; this flight from whose distracting influence he once of his appeared to him a flagrant act of bad strove to escape by his flight from Paris and faith; and spoiled as he was by the habit of his tour through Europe but also threatened deceiving others, the crafty old man could not now lorgive himself for having been, this uted among the stockholders. time, duped in turn.

Formerly, when they intended to punish a Knight guilty of felony, they hanged his moned up all his courage and prepared him- esquire. Mr. Benn, to be avenged of the self to withstand bravely, the shock of the fugitive, made a general sweep of all his debtors, and sent them indiscriminately to Mr. Benn, replied he, what do you want? Clichy, to an establishment fitted up there Mr. Benn, who had been for some time for such folks; this was really murdering the past, statue like, and plunged in a kind of innocent. But this blind and ferocious humor was of short duration; it was too exed all at once, as if he had experienced an pensive. Besides Mr. Benn had, in the interim, time for reflection.

Indeed there are some reckless men and them exposed; the sleeves of his old coat be- giddy females to whom the elegant and bustling life of cities is so necessary that they would sooner die than live otherwise. Now Victor was of this number; it was then highly probable, he would sooner or later return to fly around the fatal lamp of dissipation and pleasure, which, from the stern influence my case. How fresh and well you look! of habit one can scarcely abandor, until the wings of passion are either scorched or conconsumed.

It was then a question of time and nothing Therefore, Mr. Benn. knowing this, waited patiently. However. Victor's absence. increasing beyond all expectation, he could no longer doubt that his debtor had died and borne away with him to the tomb his six thousand crowns.

Such precisely were the reflections of Mr. Benn at the moment he recognized Mr. de Corvelles riding by in the post-chaise. It would be impossible to describe the

change that took place in the old creditor, at the sight of Victor; he instantly repudiated from his mind all the inexorable designs and the crafty intentions he had formed against him; formerly the cruelest of creditors, he now assumed, as we have seen, the kind st and most affectionate demeanor towards Victor. Was not Victor, in effect, the truest representation of his credit? Were not the Reports. thirty-thousand francs so united to his exis tence as to partake of all its changes and to undergo all the influences of its destiny ?-The debtor being sick, the thirty-thousand franes necessarily underwent an incalculable depreciation, and he being dead, they were

When Mr. Benn met Mr. de Corvelles, the thirty-thousand francs appeared, as it were fresh, rosy cheerful, and healthy; how necessary it was, then, to nourish such flourishing health and to avoid every think that might affect it! Besides, it was but an affair of patience, and it would be always time enough to make that carefully cultivated garden return with usury the precious deposit confided to its bosom.

completely lost.

the motives of his creditor's conversion. He this subject. resolved therefore, to avail himself of those moments of respite which the real or pretended tenderness of Mr. Benn, seemed to promise, to put into effect that project which he

And doubtless you have not money enough had been for a long time past, cherishing and maturing in his heart. This project, as easi ly perceived, was to ask thehand of Miss Auvrey in marriage.

(To be Continued.)

- RAIL ROAD MEETING.

SUMTERVILLE, S. C., Thursday, March 4th, 1852. The fourth annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Wilmington & Manchester Railroad Company, assembled at Sumtermeeting called at Marion C. H., on the 28th the rates of freight at present charged.

January last. On motion of Gen. W. Harlleg, Maj. Wm. Haynsworth was called to the Chair, and J. pany, a Committee of three persons be ap- abolition philanthropy.-Richmond Repub. D. Blanding, of Sumterville, and S. D. Wal- pointed to audit semi-annually the accounts lace, of Wilmington, were requested to act of the Treasurer, who shall be allowed five as Secretaries of the Meeting.

On motion, the Secretaries with Mr. John MacRae, Jr., the Treasurer of the Company. were appointed a Committee to receive and verify proxies, and to report the number of shall be at some time shortly previous to the shares represented in person, and by proxy next annual meeting to pass over with the -and if there was present, a majority of the Engineer that portion of the Road which whole shares of the Company.

Bonds of the Company, reported that there with any suggestion that may seem advisa- son, who also spoke in favor both of the Cheraw were present, represented in person. eleven hundred and sixty-four Shares. Seven thousand two hundred and

8,391 making the total number of Shares present, eight thousand three hundred and nine-

twenty-seven shares under proxy

That the Shares owned by the State o South Carolina, were not represented. That there was present a majority of the

shares of the capital stock of the Company. The Report of the Committee was received, and the Chairman declared the meeting to be open for business.

Gen. W. W. Harllee submitted the annual Report of the President and Directors, cf.

On motion, the reading of the Reports was dispensed with -

Mr. Baldwin submitted the report from the Committee appointed at the meeting held at Marion C. H., on the 28th of January last, to examine and report upon the state of the Treasurer's accounts, which stated that the Committee had examined the accounts of the Treasurer for the preceding year, and found them correct. And recommended that a Committee be appointed at each annual meeting, to audit and report upon the Treasurer's accounts to the succeeding meeting.

The report was received and laid on the Gen. Harllee moved that a Committee of five (5) be appointed to examine and re-

port upon the Reports of the President, and

resident Engineer and Treasurer. Mr. Mullins moved to amend, by making the Committee to consist of nine, (9) to wit, 3 from Wilmington, 2 from Marion, 2 from Darlington, and 2 from Sumter, and stated that there was no one present from Colum-

The Resolution as amended, was adopted gentlemen to constitute the Committee, to wit-Alex. MacRae, M. Costin and S. D. Wallace, of Wilmington; Wm. Evans and W. S. Mullins, of Marion: J. M. Timmons and A. E. McIver, of Darlington; S. R. Chandler and A. J. Moses, of Sumter. Mr. W. L. Brunson, submitted the follow-

Resolved, That an inquiry be instituted as to the contract for superstructure at this lished the proceedings of this meeting. place, to ascertain whether it progresses according to the specifications.

After discussion, on motion of W. A. Muldrow, the resolution was laid on the table, to he taken up after the Committee on the reports of the President, Engineer and Treasurer had reported.

On motion, the meeting adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M. J. P. BLAND'NG, Secretaries.

S. D. WALLACE, The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3 o'clock P. M. Mr. Mullins, for the Chairman, submitted the following Report from the Committee on

The Committee to whom was referred the reports of the President and Directors, Engineer, and Treasurer; as also the report of the Committee appointed to admit the Treasurer's accounts, beg leave to Report.

That after the brief examination, they have been able to give the matters referred to them, the affairs of the Company seem to them to have been managed with discretion and fidelity, during the last year.

The general prospects of the Road are evidently brightening, and we trust that the Stockholders are soon to begin to realize the reward of their exertions.

Your Committee deem it a matter of great importance to the interest of this Company, that a connection should be made with the South Carolina Rail Road at some other point than the present inconvenient junction in the Wateree Swamp. They trust that the President and Board will renew their ef-

Unfortunately, Victor did not understand forts to make a satisfactory arrangement on

With regard to the Treasurer's Report they have to rely entirely upon the report of 18, says: the Committee heretofore appointed to audit "The Senate to-day, after considerable his accounts. The suggestion therein made. debate and a good deal of excitement, passare, in the opinion of this Committee, deserv- ed the celebrated Kidnapping Bill, repealing of the approval of the Stockholders, and ing only the sixth section of it, which forbids

The locations of the termini stations is always a difficult matter and more especially sed by the Legislature last year, and Goverwhere interests are varied and conflicting; it nor Johnston put it in his pocket, refusing to is therefore gratifying to the Committee to give it his signature." observe in the Reports of the President and Engineer, that at Wilmington, the location has been so arranged as to give general satisfaction to the citizens of that town. Your Committee recommend the adoption hall."

of the following Resolutions: ville S C., on Thursday the 4th of March 1. Resolved, That the Board of Directors 1852, agreeably to adjournment from the be instructed to revise, as soon as practicable,

> al meeting of the Stockholders of this Comdollars per diem for every day they are actually engaged in the execution of this duty. Committee of three persons, whose duty it shall then be completed, and make an Ex-

All of which is respectfully submitted. ALEX. McRAE, Ch'm'n.

The Report and Resolutions were con-G. R. French.

Committee to audit S. D. Wallace, Treasurer's account. W. W. Baldwin, Col. John McRae, Gen. Wm. Evans. Com. upon the Road

W. L. Brunson,

ed to apply to both of the Legislatures of the people of Charleston are crying out, that the the States of North and South Carolina du North Eastern Road must be built to counteract the Resident Engineer of the Road, and of ring the next winter for such amendments of the Treasurer of the Company, to the Stock- our Character as may produce conformity in holders, for the year 1852; and stated that the mode of voting at the general meetings of and Manchester Road must have. Gen. HARLLEE they had been printed and generally distrib- Stockholders, and on such other points as went on to say, that so soon as the Road should greater approximation to uniformity in the Manchester Rail Road could compete with the wo acts of Incorporation.

On motion, Resolved: That a Committee to consist of 3 from Wilmington and 2 from each of the Districts of Sumpter, Darlington, and Marion, be appointed to nominate for carried by any other route. He also gave some and 1-6 cents. the ensuing year.

Committee ; Wilmington .- Dr. DeRosset, Miles Costin, Gilbert Potter.

Sumpter.-J. B. Witherspoon, Henry

Darlington .- A. E. McIver. Jessee Keith. Marion .- Wm. Evans, W. S. Mullins. The Committee, after consultation, nomi- Horrible Tragedy in Virginia-Six Persons nated for President, W. W. HARLLEE. Directors .- Taylor Nixon Nutt, Walker,

Smith, Gregg, McCall, Charles, J. J. Moore, W. A. Muldrow. tion, and upon a stock vote being taken, W. spend the night, in Doddridge county, Va., on the

of 8,392 shares. Taylor, Nixon, Nutt. Walker, Smith, Gregg, McCall, Charles, J. J. Moore, W. A. Mul drow, received for Directors the votes of 8. -and the Chairman appointed the following 113 shares; and were declared President

and Directors elect. On motion of Alex. McRae, Resolved. That the President and Directors be, and are hereby instructed to urge rose and indiscriminately massacred every single forward by every means in their power, the speediest possible completion of the Road.

On motion of Gen. Evans, Resolved, That the Chairman and Secre-

On mation of Mr. Nutt, Resolved. That the thanks of the Stock holders be and are hereby tendered to the Chairman and Secretaries for their willing service rendered at this meeting. The meeting then adjourned, to meet in

the second Monday in January next. WM. HAYNSWORTH, Chm'n. J. D. BLANDING. | Secretaries.

S. D WALLACE, man at Deer Island, as he threw his arm in Maine, some two years since. around an old acquaintance. 'it's glad I am

to see you. The embrace not being returned the friend explained by saying that both his arms had been blown off, while blasting rocks. "Oh well," said Pat, "no matter for th

hug, give us your hand, my boy !" "How many mills make one cent?" asked schoolmaster of a promising pupil. "Don' know-guess it takes a good many cents to

make, if they'm built of stone," THE MORMONS.

This people are said to be fast increasing. read nor write. It is thought ten thousand will this year be imperium in imperio-the government within a government-and of the worst kind, tco; a vicious, zealous, immortal hierarchy, full of infatuation, phrenzy, and bitter blood .is over .- Telegraph.

FUGITIVE SLAVES IN PENNSYL-

A dispatch from Harrissburg, dated March

a resolution on this subject is herewith re- the use of prisons for the purpose of detaining fugitive slaves. "This bill, it will be remembered, was pas-

CHARACTERISTIC.

"Colored persons are excluded from the Black Swan's concerts at Smith & Nixon's

This is rich! Here are people patronizing a black songstress, probably as much for sympathy with her color as admiration of 2. Resolved, That hereafter at each annu- people of her complexion to hear her sing. damage to the property amounted to about \$10, It is a happy commentary on the sincerity of | 000.

> From the Sumter Banner. RAIL ROAD MEETING.

We had the pleasure of attending a meeting of 3. Resolved, That there be appointed a the citizens of Darlington District at the Court House on Tuesday of court week, for the purpose of expressing public sentiment in relation to the Cheraw and Darlington Rail Road. Major Mc-FARLANE (President of the Anson Plank Road The Committee having received the prox- emination of the manner in which the work came first) addressed the meeting in favor of the ies and compared them with the Stock is performed, and report to the Company, enterprise, assisted by Cols. McKnight and Wit. ble to them; and that they be allowed the and Darlington Rail Road, and the North Eastern same per diem as the Committee on accounts. Road. Col. McKnight was a friend to the Eastern Road, not only because it would give the District of Williamsburgh convenient communicapointed there under the following Commit- would unite and bring together the Eastern portion of the State by uniting their commercial in-North Eastern Road. He said, that the project and is incarcerated in the prison of Molino, of building a road from Manchester to Wilmington was, at the beginning scoffed at by the peo-On motion of Dr. DeRosset: Resolved, ple of Charleston, but now that there is every that the President and Directors be request- probability the road will be speedily completed, the effect upon trade, and which the Wilmington they may deem necessary, to bring about a be completed to Wilmington, the Wilmington and North Eastern Road by shipping all the cotton beyond the Pee Dee to Wilmington, from which it would go to New York for less than it could be five is 250, this divided by 60 is 4 10-60, or four information as to the progress made upon the The Chairman appointed the following Wilmington and Manchester Road, giving the

most flattering prospects of its early completion. Here we will add, the Wilmington and Manchester Company could have secured the services of no one whose heart is more thoroughly interested in the enterprise over which they have placed

Murdered!

The Fairmount Banner announces the murder of six men and one woman, who were emigrating The meeting then proceeded to the elec- westward, at a house where they had stopped to fall of Rosas. W. Harllee received for President, the vote night of the 17th instant. The horrible miscreants who committed this wholesale murder are supposed to have stolen \$22,000 from the party murdered. The names of the victims are not ascertained. The murderers left Clarksburg on the morning of the 17th, and the same night stopped at a house at West Union, where the murdered party had also put up. During the night they inmate, robbed them of their all, and escaped .-The same party, it is believed, rescued John Owens from the jail at Clarksburg on the Sunday taries be requested to prepare and have pub- night preceding, who was charged with having set fire to several buildings in that town in November last.

> A Live Snake Ejected from the Stomach-Remarkable Case.

The Charlestown (Mass.) Aurora states that Wm. W. Sanford, of that city, who has been sick for Wilmington, N. C., on the Wednesday after two years, and was supposed to be in a decline took some Indian medicine which caused him to cough and retch violently, when he threw from his stomuch a living snake, about eight inches in length, almost perfectly white, with sharp black "O Paddy, my boy," exclaimed an Irish- eyes. Mr. Sandford drank water from a brook,

The Capturer of Lopez Rewarded.

The man named Castenda, who captured Lopez has returned to Havana, laden with honors. The Queen gave him \$6,000 and made him a captain in the rural militia with a salary of \$110 a month; ten negroes and a tract of land have been given to him. The order of Isabel decorates his per son; his children are to be educated at the expense of the government; and while in Spain, he was permitted the farce of kissing the hands of the Queen and the little princess. He can neither

added to their numbers. They compose the | DREADFUL ACCIDENT AND LOSS OF LIFE NEW YORK, March 26.

This afternoon while the Monsieurs Maillefort, We shall see sad sights with them before all ing rocks at Hell-Gate, a premature explosion the 15th, a Melay man was carried by a tiger at took place, by which all four were instantly killed. Passier Rice, near Changi.

Destructive Fire at Birmingham, Pa.

Pirrssung, March 23. A fire broke out in the town of Birmingham, opposite Pittsburg, last night, which, before the flames could be arrested, destroyed an entire square of buildings, among which, were the extensive shoe store of Mr John Jaques, Mr. Smith's drug store, Mr. Emmon's dry goods store, and the large bakery of Mr. German, besides four dwellings, several stables and a number of smaller tenements. There was a partial insurance on the property destroyed, but the loss falls heavy up-

on the sufferers, many of whom are poor. The boiler in the manufactory of Dewer, Mem & Co., at Trenton, N. J., exploded on Wednesday night, making a wreck of a portion of the building, killing a workman named McCarty, and severely injuring several others. Mr. Mein, one of her musical skill, and yet refusing to permit the firm, received several severe contusions. The

> SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF LIFE. By a telegraphic dispatch to the Underwriters, dated Baltimore, March 24. we learn, that the vessel before reported ashore at Assateague, Md, is the bark Sunbeam, of Boston, Lincoln master, from Matanzas, for Philadelphia. Capt. Lincoln his wife and child, and three of the crew, were drowned. The Sunbang had a cargo of sugar and segars, which with the vessel, is lost. The vessel is probably insured in Boston, and the cargo in

> > ROMAN CARDINALS.

Philadelphia, -N. T. Jo. of Commerce.

Advices from Rome, of the 24th ult, announce the death of Cardinal Castracane, aged 73 years. It is also stated that five new Cardinals are to be appointed, including two for France, viz: M. Donsidered and adopted; and the Chairman ap- tion with Charleston, but because he believed it net, now Archbishop of Bordeaux, and M. Delacroix D' Arzolette, now Archbishop of Anche .-This will add two more ex officio members to the terests. Gen. HARLLEE spoke in favor of the Che- French Senate. The Abbe Montlouis, famous for raw and Darlington Rail Road, but opposed the his social opinions, it is added, has been arrested

From the Raleigh Standard. MR. HOLDEN: - In your paper of the 17th inst. is a communication to the Baltimore Sun giving a plan to compute interest on any number of days

at six per cent per annum. My plan, I think, is shorter and more simple than that. Multiply the amount on which you wish to find the interest and divide by sixty, the result is the interest in dollars and cents-thus what is the interest on \$436 for 27 days? \$436 multiplied by 27 is 11772, this amount divided by 60 is 196 12-60 or \$1,96 1-5. What is the interest on \$50 for five days? \$50 multiplied by

From the Journal of Commerce, IMPORTANT FROM BUENOS AYRES

DEFEAT AND FLIGHT OF ROSAS. We have received a Bahia paper of 10th Feb., which announces the defeat of Rosas, by the allied forces of Brazil and the revolted provinces of the confederation.

We translate from the paper above mentioned, the Justicia, all that it contains relative to this important affair.

On Sunday last, the steamer arrived from the South, bringing the gratifying news of the down-

The Ministry had not time to forward despatches to the different Presidencies, but made known the important and auspicious intelligence to His Excellency the Counsellor Francisco Gonsalves Martias, requesting him to communicate it to the other Provinces of the North. The combat was sanguinary, - the number for

Many of our braves, sealed with their Brazilian blood, this glorious victory. The brute of Palmero, (meaning Rosas,) with his daughter Manoclita, took refuge on board or an English steamer, and thus was safe and fai

killed on both sides amounting to 4000 men .-

from the field of battle. What a vile and infamous coward ! We hear it said that the German troops vied in bravery and courage with our patricians, and with the loyal and valorous soldiers of Urquiza.

Urquiza was reposing quietly at Palermo. Long live His Majesty the Emporor. Long live the patriotic, illustrious, and energet-

ic cabinet of the 29th September. Long live all the Brazilians who glory in this heroic and brilliant feat of the Brazilian arms."

FROM SINGAPORE The Salem Register gives some extracts from late Singapore papers received at that office, from which we quote the following:

We are sorry to learn that fearful ravages are being made in the rural and planting districts by the numerous tigers investing the jungles. Two, coroner's inquests were held last week on view of the remains of persons killed by these fere-

In most instances no portion of the body is recovered to enable us to determine the exact number of persons carried off, but a considerble number of natives employed in planting operations are missing. The present rewards and other aids being manifestly inadequate to arrest the mischief. it behooves the Executive to take immediate and active measures to rid the jungle of these savage beasts, or planting operations will cease in parts assisted by two workmen, were engaged in blast- beyond the immediate vicinity of the town. On