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A TALE—BUT NO FICTION.

Edward was the son of Mr. G——, a distinguished citizen of Richmond, Va. He possessed a mind lofty and enterprising; and from his childhood evinced an ardent thirst for adventure. His father, seeing the bent of his mind, procured him a birth in the navy, and at the age of sixteen, Edward left the home of his nativity with a beating heart, and an imagination glowing with the prospects before him. Glory held out to him her allurements, and beckoned him to the theatre of daring deeds and adventures; and in the buoyancy and exultation of youthful fancy, he had already grasped the laurels of applause.

But we must take leave of our nautical hero, who for a while was buffeted on the ocean. His several adventures and narrow escapes on that dangerous element; the character he acquired among our gallant tars, for his courage and exploits, must be passed over in silence, as unessential to the present narrative.—Suffice it to say, that after a two year's service, he obtained leave of absence, and returned to his native home in October, 1811, being previously promoted to a lieutenant's rank.

Although Edward possessed all the glowing qualities of a hero, and his bosom panted for glory, yet a delicate and tender sensibility held dominion in his heart, that easily responded to every softer emotion. The pen cannot express the rapture which thrilled our young hero's soul, when, from wandering over the deep, he neared his native shore, and the scenes of his childhood caught his ravished eye; or when mingling in the embraces of his family and friends, he received the kind welcome of a devoted mother.

Soon after his return to Richmond, he became acquainted with Matilda M., of that city, an intimate friend of his mother, and a young lady of great beauty and accomplishments. Edward had for the last two years been exiled from the society of the softer sex. There he would listen with emotion to the tales of his messmates, as they spoke with animation of their absent idols;—indulge sometimes in the transporting reveries of fancy, or dream of the powerful charms of beauty. The reality was now to be presented to him, and he was on a sudden unguardedly exposed to the fatal shafts of beauty, for Matilda was indeed all that was *dangerous* to a youth so situated. Though possessed of great personal charms, this was not her loveliest property. "True she was fair," but of her it might be said as of Jacqueline's

> "Oh! she was good as she was fair,
> None—none on earth above her!
> As pure in thought as angels are,
> To know her was to love her."

The consequence of Edward being introduced to a lady of such powerful charms, may readily be conceived. Unschooled in the arts and disguises of the world, his heart was untainted by affectation—and unused to the society of woman, novelty painted the shafts of beauty. As when in the Garden of Eden, Eve first blessed the sight of our great progenitor,

> "——transported he beheld,
> Transported touched; here passions first he felt.
> Commotions strange! in all enjoyments else
> Superior and unmoved, here only weak,
> Against the charm of beauty's powerful glance."

As their intercourse continued, the "silken chains" insensibly wound closer round their hearts. A new feeling usurped the breast of our nautical hero,—the laurel was displaced by the myrtle in his fancy, and a spell seemed thrown over all his actions. Nor was Matilda insensible to his addresses. His heroic ardour first caught her admiration, and her heart soon melted before the fervid and persuasive eloquence of his looks. "She never had found such love and truth together," and they loved—he, with the devotedness of a hero,—she, with the tenderness of an angel. A romantic and tender passion was mutually cherished. Edward's life seemed bound up in her charms. A calm sunshine was diffused over that bosom, which had been almost reared by the beams of glory; and, for a time, he revelled in the rich luxury of affection's happiest visions.

But how transient are all our dreams of bliss! This paradise was soon to be violated by the rude hand of fate; and thorns to take the place of flowers. Edward had a dream.—It was the harbinger of wo—an apparition, that haunted his thoughts, and bore with a leaden weight upon his mind. He was not a child of superstition, although a seafaring life exposed him to its sway; but this vision, unaccountably, made an indelible impression on his imagination. Thenceforth, a deep and settled melancholy pervaded his bosom; horror was in all his thoughts; his peace of mind had fled.

His friends observed the workings of his mind, with anxiety and apprehension. His mother, with all the tenderness and solicitude that characterise the maternal breast, pressed her son to reveal the cause of his grief. Her importunities at length prevailed, and he told her his dream.—It was simply this,—"A murderer had rushed upon him, with a broad axe in his hand, in an attitude to take his life!" This was the dreadful apparition that was continually before his eyes—its features and appearance were imprinted on his mind in the awful shades of reality—nothing could erase it.—There

> "——Black, it stood, as night,
> Fierce as ten furies, terrible as hell,
> And shook a dreadful dart——"

His kind mother, with infinite care, strove to dispel his gloom and melancholy. No resort was left untried to restore his wonted gaiety and cheerfulness. She importuned him to mingle in society, and to visit the theatre; but, though in every other instance a dutiful son, in this instance she was disregarded.

His mother was not a stranger to the ardent love and devotion he bore to Matilda, and, fertile in expedients, resolved to procure that lady's aid in banishing a melancholy, that was rapidly preying on her son. Her object was to induce him to go to the theatre, hoping it might divert his mind from the horrid phantom that haunted it. This he had always refused to her; but he could not refuse the *idol of his heart* in a solicitation that was imperious even in common gallantry,—and they went. This was the only night of that season that the unhappy trio had visited the theatre, and they were entirely ignorant of the play that was to be performed. It was a night, alas! pregnant with sorrow. Nothing remarkable occurred, until, in the course of the performance, one of the actors, in the character he represented in the play, rushed upon the stage with a broad axe in his hand! This wonderful coincidence startled Edward (whose mind had hitherto been totally abstracted) in a surprising manner. Terror-struck, he sprang from his seat, drew a pistol from his pocket, and with an air of wildness and desperation, cried out:—"there is my murderer again, come to kill me"—every feature, and every gesture of the actor, was identified in his mind with that of the apparition that was haunting him. And preparing to discharge his pistol, he swore like a maniac he would shoot him. The astonished audience had scarce arrested him from this act, when, in the bustle that ensued, the alarming cry of "fire!" resounded through the house!—It was that dreadful fire which, in December, 1811, destroyed the theatre, and so many valuable lives of the citizens of Richmond, among whom was the Governor of Virginia—that fire, at the remembrance of which, the blood of many still runs cold!

Mrs. G. was saved. She says she knows not how, but indistinctly remembers her son to have borne her out, and then to have rushed back into the flames to rescue Matilda. Alas! it was too late. The building already began to fall in; and next day the skeletons of the unhappy Edward and Matilda were discovered among the ruins, and were identified by the jewels upon them.

THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE AT LISBON IN 1775.

Many natives of Portugal yet remember the morning of the first of November, 1775. The day dawned clear and beautiful. The sun shone out in its full lustre; the whole face of the sky was perfectly serene, and no one conceived of the horrible contrast, which was soon after to present itself. The earth had trembled at short intervals for a year. An English merchant, who resided at Lisbon, gives the following account of the approach of the final catastrophe:

"It was on the morning of this fatal day, between the hours of nine and ten, that I was sat down in my apartment, just finishing a letter, when the papers and table I was writing on, began to tremble with a gentle motion, which rather surprised me, as I could not perceive a breath of wind stirring. Whilst I was reflecting with myself what this could be owing to, but without having the least apprehension of the real cause, the whole house began to shake from the very foundation; which at first I imputed to the rattling of several coaches in the main street, which usually passed that way, at this time, from Belem to the palace; but on hearkening more attentively, I was soon undeceived, as I found it was owing to a strange frightful kind of noise under ground, resembling the hollow distant rumbling of thunder. All this passed in less than a minute, and I must confess I now began to be alarmed, as it naturally occurred to me that this noise might possibly be the forerunner of an earthquake; as one I remembered, which had happened about six or seven years ago, in the island of Madeira, commenced in the same manner, though it did little or no damage.

"Upon this I threw down my pen and started upon my feet, remaining a moment in suspense, whether I should stay in the apartment or run into the street, as the danger in both places seemed equal; and still flattering myself that this tremor might produce no other effects than such inconsiderable ones as had been felt at Madeira; but in a moment I was roused from my dream, being instantly stunned with a most horrid crash, as if every edifice in the city had tumbled down at once. The house I was in shook with such violence, that the upper stories immediately fell, and though my apartment (which was the first floor) did not then share the same fate, yet every thing was thrown out of its place in such a manner, that it was with no small difficulty I kept my feet, and expected nothing less than to be soon crushed to death, as the walls continued rocking to and fro in the frightfullest manner, opening in several places; large stones falling down on every side from the cracks, and the ends of most of the rafters starting out from the roof. To add to this terrifying scene, the sky in a moment became so gloomy that I could now distinguish no particular object; it was an Egyptian darkness indeed, such as might be felt; owing, no doubt, to the prodigious clouds of dust and lime raised from so violent a concussion, and, as some reported, to sulphureous exhalations, but this I cannot affirm; however it is certain I found myself almost choked for near ten minutes."

During the whole of November the shocks continued to be violent. Lisbon was reduced to a heap of ruins. The loss of lives was computed at upwards of 30,000. In the lower part of the town not a street could be traced but by the fragments of broken walls, and the accumulation of ashes and rubbish. Palaces, churches, convents and private houses, appeared as if the angel of desolation had just passed by. The falling of St. Paul's church buried a great part of the congregation, which was very numerous, beneath its walls.

At night the city was deserted by the surviving inhabitants, and only infested by robbers who proceeded in gangs to break open and plunder. The heights around Lisbon were so covered with tents, that they seemed a continued encampment. The great aqueduct over the valley of Alcantara remained entirely unshaken, though its height is so great and its line of arches so extensive. It was remarked, that during the month of November, the tides did not observe their proverbial regularity.

The terrors of a conflagration were added to those of the earthquake. On the night of the 1st of November, the whole city appeared in a blaze, which was so bright, that persons could see to read by it. It continued burning for six days, without the least attempt being made to stop it. The people were so dejected and terrified, that they made no exertion even to save their own property. Dead bodies remained unburied in the churches, in the streets, and among the rubbish. The scene inspired melancholy even into dumb animals.

The property of all kinds consumed or engulphed was of immense value. Many years elapsed before Lisbon recovered from the calamity, and the traces of it are still visible in many places.

THE UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA.

The Washington Globe of 25th ult. contains the President's Proclamation, publishing the new treaty negociated by Mr. Buchanan with the Emperor of Russia on the 18th of December last (N. S.) The ratifications have been duly exchanged. The Treaty contains thirteen original articles, and one separate one. They are to the following effect:

The first article establishes a reciprocal liberty of commerce, navigation, and trade—extending to the inhabitants of each State sojourning or trading in the territories of the other, the same security and protection enjoyed by natives, on condition of obedience to the laws.

The second article places the vessels of both countries in the same port on an equality as to tonnage duties. In regard to the light house duties, pilotage, custom house fees, port charges, and all other fees and charges of every description and for every purpose, they are to be placed on the footing of the most favored nations, with whom there are not specific treaties on the subject now in force for establishing a complete reciprocity.

The third article abolishes discriminating duties on importations, and stipulates that no greater charge of any kind whatsoever shall be levied on merchandize &c. imported in the vessels of one country than on the same articles imported in vessels of the other. By the next article it is explained that these stipulations in both cases, apply as well to arrivals in either country, from ports foreign to both, as to direct voyages.

The same reciprocal stipulations for abolishing discriminating duties are by the fifth article extended to exports from both countries.

The sixth and seventh articles provide that no higher duties shall be paid on importations or exportations of the produce or manufactures of either country to or from the other, than are paid on like articles from or to any other foreign country. None of these stipulations relate to coastwise navigation—that is expressly excepted and reserved to both nations.

By the eighth and ninth articles the liberty is reserved to each country to appoint consuls, vice consuls, agents, &c. with the privileges of the same officers of the most favored nations,—they being liable, if engaged in commerce, to the laws and usages established for native merchants. They may act, too, without the interference of the local authorities, except when the public peace is endangered, or assistance is required to carry their decisions into effect. The parties to controversies before them are not thereby restrained in their judicial remedies at home, for acts done under this authority. Consuls, &c. may require the aid of local authorities for the arrest, &c. of deserters. Demand, in such a case, must be accompanied by written evidence of the claim upon the deserter, and the exhibition of proper official documents. Deserters may be placed by the consuls, &c. in the public prisons, at the cost of those claiming them, until delivered to the claimant, or sent home by another vessel. *Four months* without being sent home is the limitation of this confinement, after which the prisoner, unless detained for crimes, shall be unconditionally discharged, and not subject to arrest again for the same cause.

The tenth article grants to alien residents in both countries the right of disposing of personal estate by will—their alien representatives to inherit and take possession personally or by deputy, without any other charges, duties or obstructions than are imposed on native heirs;—the same laws of intestacy and administration to apply in the absence of the alien heir. The *lex loci* and domestic courts are to decide the rule of desent and apportionment. In cases of *real* estate, an alien heir shall be allowed a reasonable time to sell and withdraw the proceeds, without paying any extra charges or dues. It is provided that this article does not derogate from the existing Russian laws against emigration.

By the eleventh article it is agreed, that if either party shall, hereafter, grant to any other nation, any particular favor in navigation or commerce, it shall, immediately, become common to the other party, freely, where it is freely granted to such other nation, or on yielding the same compensation, when the grant is conditional.

The closing articles extend the force of the treaty to Poland, and fix its duration to the year 1839, provided one year's notice of intention to abolish shall have been given at that date, or until one year after such previous notice shall have been given thereafter.

The separate article for the purpose of removing all ambiguity and subjects of discussion from their commercial relations—explains that the existing civil regulations between Russia and Sweden, Russia and Prussia, the Grand Dutchy of Finland and Poland,—which are now in force, but which "are in no manner connected with the existing regulations for foreign commerce in general,"—are not to be affected by this treaty.

Baltimore American.

LONDON.

FROM THE LONDON MORNING CHRONICLE.

When a stranger from the provinces visits London for the first time, he finds a vast deal to astonish him, which he had not previously calculated upon. Before he sees it he has formed his own ideas of its appearance, character, and extent, but his conceptions though grand, are not accurate; so that when he actually arrives within its precincts—when he is driven for the first time from the Exchange to Charing Cross—he is generally a good deal amazed, and in no small degree stupified. London can neither be rightly described as a town nor as a city; it is a nation, a kingdom in itself. Its wealth is that of half of the world, and its population that of some second rate countries.—Its conventional system of society, by which the human being is rounded down like a pebble in a rapid river, and its peculiarities of different kinds, mark it as quite an anomaly; something to which the topographer can assign no proper title. London was originally a town on its own account. It is now occupied of the cities of London and Westminster—the latter having once been a seat of population on its western confines—besides a number of villages, formerly at a distance from it, in different directions, but now engrossed within its bounds, and only known by the streets to which they have communicated their appellations. All now form one huge town, in a connected mass, and are lost in the common name of London.—By its extensions in this manner, London now measures seven and a half miles in length, from east to west, by a breadth of five miles from north to south. Its circumference, allowing for various inequalities, is estimated at thirty miles, while the area of ground it covers is considered to measure no less than eighteen miles square.

"The increase of London has been particularly favored by the nature of its site. It stands at the distance of sixty miles from the sea, on the north bank of the Thames, on ground rising gently towards the north; and so even and regular in outline, that among the streets, with few exceptions, the ground seems perfectly flat. On the south bank of the river the ground is quite level; and on all sides the country appears very little diversified with hills, or any thing to interrupt the extension of the buildings. The Thames, which is the source of greatness and wealth to the metropolis, is an object which generally excites a great deal of interest among the strangers. It is a placid, majestic stream of pure water, rising in the interior of the country, at the distance of a hundred and thirty-eight miles above London, and entering the sea on the east coast about sixty miles below it. It comes flowing between two fertile banks, out of a richly ornamented country on the west, and arriving at the outmost houses of the metropolis, a short way above Westminster Abbey, it pursues a winding course between banks thickly clad with dwelling houses, manufactories, and wharves, for eight or nine miles, its breadth being here from a third to a quarter of a mile. The tides affect it for fifteen or sixteen miles above the city; but the salt water comes no farther than thirty miles below it. However such is the volume and depth of water, that vessels of seven or eight hundred tons reach the city on its eastern quarter. Most unfortunately, the beauty of this exceedingly useful and fine stream is much hid from the spectator, there being no quays or promenades along its banks, as is the case with the Liffey, at Dublin. With the exception of the summit of St. Paul's, the only good points of sight for the river, are the bridges, which cross it at convenient distances, and, by their length convey an accurate idea of the breadth of the channel. During fine weather, the river is covered with numerous barges or boats of fanciful and light fabric, suitable for quick rowing; and by means of these pleasant conveyances, the Thames forms one of the chief thoroughfares.

"London consists of an apparently interminable series of streets, composed of brick houses, which are commonly four stories in height, and never less than three. The London houses are not by any means elegant in their appearance; they have, for the most part, a dingy ancient aspect; and it is only in the western part of the metropolis that they assume any thing like a superb outline. Even at the best they have a meanness of look in comparison with houses of polished white free stone, which is hardly surmounted by all the efforts of art and daubings of plaister and stucco. The greater proportion of the dwellings are small.' They are made slips of buildings, containing in most instances, only two small rooms on the floor, one behind the other, often with a wide door of communication between, and a wooden stair with balustrades, from bottom to top of the house. It is only in the more fashionable districts of the town that the houses have sunk areas with railings; in all the business parts they stand close upon the pavements, so that trade may be conducted with the utmost facility and convenience.

"The lightness of the fabric of the London houses affords an opportunity for opening up the ground stories as shops and warehouses. Where retail business is carried on, the whole of the lower part of the edifice in front is door and window, adapted to show goods to the best advantage to the passengers. The London shops seem to throw themselves into the wide expansive windows, and these, of all diversities of size and decoration, transfix the provincial with their charms. The exhibition of goods in the London shop windows is one of the greatest wonders of the place. Every thing which the appetite can suggest, or the fancy imagine, would appear there to be congregated. In every other city there is an evident meagreness in the quantity and assortments. But here there is the most remarkable abundance; and that not in isolated spots, but along the sides of thoroughfares miles in length. In whatever way you turn your eyes, this extraordinary amount of mercantile wealth is strikingly observable; if you even penetrate into an alley, or what you think an obscure court, there you will see it in full force, and on a greater scale than in any provincial town whatsoever. It is equally obvious to the stranger, that there is here a dreadful struggle for business. Every species of lure is tried to induce purchases, and modesty is quite lost sight of. A tradesman will cover the front of his house with a sign, whose gaudy and huge characters might be read without the aid of a glass at a mile's distance. He will cover the town with a shower of colored bills, descriptive of his wares, each measuring half a dozen feet square, and to make them more conspicuous, will plaster them on the very chimney tops, or what appears a very favorable situation, the summit of the gable of a house destroyed by fire, or any other calamity calculated to attract a mob. In short there is no end to the ways and means of the London tradesmen. Their ingenuity is racked to devise schemes for attracting attention, and their politeness and suavity of manners exceeds almost what could be imagined. Yet it is all surface work. Their civility is only a thin veneering on the natural character; for, after pocketing your money, they perhaps care not though you were carried in an hour hence to the gallows. But why should we expect any thing else? It would be too much for human nature. The struggle which takes place for subsistence in London is particularly observable in the minute classification of trades, and inventive faculty and activity of individuals in the lower ranks. Money is put in circulation through the meanest channel. Nothing is to be had for nothing. You can hardly ask a question without paying for an answer. The paltriest service which can be rendered is a subject of exaction. The shutting of a coach door will cost you two pence; some needy wretch always rising up as if by magic, out of the street, to do you this kind turn. An amusing instance of this excess of refinement in the division of labor, is found in the men who sweep the crossing places from the end of one street to another. These crossings are a sort of hereditary property to certain individuals. A man having a good deal the air of a mendicant, stands with his broom, and keeps the passage clear, for exercising which public duty, the hat is touched, and a hint as to payment muttered, which, in many cases, meets with attention; for there are a number of good souls who never miss paying Jack for his trouble. We happen to know a gentleman who never passes one of these street sweepers without having a contribution into the extended and capacious hat.

"The constant thoroughfare on the pavements of the city always forms a subject of wonder and curiosity to the stranger. When the town is at the fullest, in the winter and spring, the pavement is chocked with passengers, all floating rapidly on the streams in different directions, yet avoiding any approach to confusion, and in general each rounding any difficult obstruction in the way, with a delicacy and tact no where else to be met with. Many of the strangers who arrive in London from the country are possessed with dreadful notions of the dangers to be encountered in all directions when walking along the streets. In their youth they have carefully perused a tattered copy of "Barrington's New London Spy," a work which, as a matter of course horrified them with accounts of ringdroppers, cut purses, foot-pads, and others who subsist by waylaying simple passengers. Before they leave home, they sew up their money in the lining of their clothes, and resolve never to show more than six pence at a time in public. They also determine to have all their eyes about them wheresoever they go and make up their minds never to appear astonished at any thing, lest they be singled out for robbery, and perhaps murder. Catch them, if you can, good any way, but in the main lines of the street; the Standard and Fleet street are their regular beat, and they would as soon think of crossing the deck of a line-of-battle ship in the time of action, as venture through any of the narrow streets or short cuts. No, no, they know better than to do this.

Strangers make a serious miscalculation when they imagine that they are to be annoyed or plundered in the streets of London. These streets are now as well regulated as those of any town in the empire, if not better, and no one is liable to interruption and spoliation, unless he court the haunts of vice, or remain out at improper hours. You may at all times of the day walk along without suffering the slightest molestation. Nobody will know that you are there. In the midst of the dense and moving crowds, you are as much solitary as in a desert. You are but an atom in the heap; a grain of sand on the sea shore. It is this perfect seclusion that forms one of the chief charms of a metropolitan life. You depart from a retired part of the country where you cannot stir out unobserved, and plunging into this overgrown mass of humanity, you there live and die unobserved and uncared for.

Augusta Geo. May 29

MEDICAL INSTITUTE OF GEORGIA

Dr. Alexander Cunningham was unanimously elected Professor of the theory and Practice of Medicine, by the Trustees of the Medical Institute of the State of Georgia, on yesterday, the 17th inst. in the place of Dr. Dent, resigned.

Dr. George Newton, of this city, was at the same time appointed, with the approbation of the Trustees, Procestor and Assistant to the Professor of Anatomy in the same Intitution.

The Faculty now consist of—

Dr. L. A. Dugas, Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.

Dr. Jos. A. Eve, Professor of Theraputics and Materia Medica.

Dr. Milton Antony, Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children.

Dr. L. D. Ford, Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacy.

Dr. A. Cunningham, Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine.

Dr. Paul F. Eve, Professor of Surgery, and

Dr. George Newton, Procestor and Assistant of Anatomy.

Wonderful Discovery.—Among the late new publications in Paris, we find one with the following title: "Grammaire Conjugale" (Conjugal Grammar) or general principles by the aid of which a wife may be broken in, and made to go with the regularity of a clock, and render her at the same time as mild as a lamb.