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*His Royal Highness the Prince Regent
of Portugal & Brazilian Dominions.*

A
CONCISE AND ACCURATE
ACCOUNT
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE SQUADRON
UNDER THE COMMAND OF
Rear Admiral Sir Sydney Smith, K. S. &c.
IN
EFFECTING THE ESCAPE OF
THE
ROYAL FAMILY OF PORTUGAL
TO THE BRAZILS,
ON NOVEMBER, 29, 1807;
AND ALSO THE
SUFFERINGS OF THE ROYAL FUGITIVES, &c.
DURING THEIR
Voyage from Lisbon to Rio Janeiro:
WITH A VARIETY OF
OTHER INTERESTING AND AUTHENTIC FACTS.

By LIEUT. COUNT THOMAS O'NEIL,

Of the Royal Marines; Author of the "Treatise on the Eighteen
Manceuvres," and of "An Address to the Inhabitants of the United
Kingdom," &c.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY J. BARFIELD, 91, WARDOUR-STREET,
FOR THE AUTHOR,
15, CARLISLE-STREET, SOHO-SQUARE.

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TO THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES

THE

DUKES OF CLARENCE & KENT.

May it please your Royal Highnesses,

WITH the deepest sentiments of respectful deference, permit me to express my sensations of gratitude, for your illustrious protection on various occasions; and particularly for the honour conferred on me, when I published the "Narrative of my Imprisonment in France."

The sufferings I experienced there, with many of his Majesty's subjects, have, I make not the least doubt, convinced the inhabitants of the United Kingdom of the atrocities committed by the French government; and by your indulgent protection of me, that you have ever the interest of your beloved Sovereign's subjects at heart.

Your sanction of the small work that has now the honour to come from the press under your beneficent patronage, demands and has my warmest acknowledgments. Such condescension from your Highnesses, and my noble Subscribers, will be ever borne in remembrance with heartfelt respect, and with the deepest sentiments of gratitude, by

Your Royal Highness's
most obliged, obedient, and
devoted, humble servant,

THO. O'NEIL,
Lieutenant, Royal Marines.

BURTON OF CHANCE & KNIT

My dear Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. BURTON

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE design of this small Work is briefly to communicate to the Public an account of every material occurrence connected with the emigration of the Royal Family of Portugal to the Brazils; and to give a concise account of such observations as the author was enabled to make on the customs and manners of the polished and native Brazilians, during a residence of sixteen months at Rio de Janeiro.

It has invariably been the author's practice, since he embarked in the service of his country, to make daily remarks on passing events; and having been employed as first Lieutenant of the Marines on board the London, which bore Rear Admiral Sir Sydney Smith's flag, he had reason to believe that the squadron was destined for some particu-

larly important enterprise, that might furnish occurrences not altogether unworthy of being recorded, he was on that account the more anxious to obtain correct information of the preceding political events, and to minute with exactness every circumstance that came within his personal observation.

He takes this opportunity of presenting his unfeigned heartfelt thanks to his Royal, most illustrious, and benevolent Suscribers, for their humane protection; and he flatters himself, that the present little work will be found to contain many important facts, which have never yet been presented to the Public.

AN

ACCOUNT,

&c. &c.

BEFORE I enter on my nautical journal, I shall briefly state, it was well known in England by his Majesty's ministers, that his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal, and his august house, were in danger, by the ferocious, unrelenting spirit of subjugation which possessed the demoniac mind of that arch-fiend of the world, Buonaparte, of being doomed to that slavery with which he had already shackled a great part of Europe: indeed, by the dispatches which Lord Strangford, the British minister at Lisbon, forwarded, and from the most authentic

private accounts, it became evident, the unprincipled usurper would realize his nefarious intentions, if not prevented by the prompt assistance of the British government, who, at all times most anxious to alleviate the sufferings, even of strangers, were, in the cause of the sacred principle of well-regulated liberty, which they enjoy and idolize, in this instance more particularly stimulated to assist their old and faithful ally, who was likely to be annihilated, on account of her refusing to league in the cause of hypocritical villany, and break the long-established ties of peace and friendship with the United Kingdom, originally entered into from the soundest principles of political wisdom, and long since approved of and cemented by mutual acts of faith and honour.

The Prince Regent, aware of his perilous situation, and the alarming state of suspense in which his subjects were kept, at a moment when the fate of any country was never more seriously at stake, had been compelled, in order to gain a respite from that destruction which finally awaited it, to purchase an insecure promise of the delay of an invasion. But how futile was

such an engagement on the part of the perfidious Corsican, who actually, on receiving the stipulated sum, ordered his troops to take possession, by force, of the devoted kingdom; and if they could not succeed in trepanning the Royal family into slavery, at all events to massacre them in their capital; which determined the Prince, in September, 1807, to quit his European dominions, and to remove his aged, afflicted mother, his Royal consort, and their illustrious offspring, to the Brazils, with the remainder of his family, and as many of his loyal subjects as voluntarily chose to accompany them. But the Prince not being finally prepared for embarking, was obliged to temporise, and induced, on the 8th of November, to sign an order for the detention of the British subjects, and such part of their property as then remained at Lisbon: on the publication of which order, Lord Strangford directed the arms of England to be removed from his palace, and presented a final remonstrance against such conduct.

Intelligence of the Prince's secret intentions having previously reached London, preparations were made by his Majesty's ministers to act as

circumstances might require; and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having appointed Rear Admiral Sir William Sidney Smith to take the command of the under-mentioned ships and vessels, then lying at Cawsand Bay, viz.

The London (which bore	
the Admiral's flag)	- Capt. Western
Marlborough	- - - - Capt. Graham Moore
Elizabeth	- - - - Hon. Capt. Curzon
Bedford	- - - - Capt. Walker
AND THE	
Monarch	- - - - Capt. Lee.

The Confiance joined off Cape Finisterre.

This squadron sailed at eleven o'clock A. M. the 11th of November, 1807, without any officer having the slightest idea of their destination; a system of secrecy which was never before more strictly observed, and which, when rigidly persevered in, cannot fail of producing the most beneficial results. A fine breeze wafted the squadron down the Channel. We saw several small sail off the Lizard Point, whence we steered for Cape Finisterre; and after commu-

nicating with two of his Majesty's ships that were stationed off the Cape, we parted company; saw the Burling rocks on the 13th of November.

At eight P. M. the squadron brought-to off the rock of Lisbon, and after lying by for some hours off the mouth of the Tagus, made sail at ten in the morning of the 14th of November; and the Admiral was informed by the crews of some fishing boats, that the ports of Portugal were shut against his Britannic Majesty's ships and vessels. This circumstance excited no small surprise in the Admiral, and now *only*, for the first time, did the officers conceive any idea of their destination.

The sentiments which this measure produced in the mind of Sir Sidney Smith, may be more easily conceived than described. The situation of Portugal at this time was singularly critical; her sovereign, as before observed, on the point of adding one more to the number of captive monarchs, whom the desolator of empires had insidiously seized; whilst her ports being closed against Britain, effectually prevented any communication with the only power that could serve

her, and which had uniformly evinced herself to be the steady friend and faithful protector of the house of Braganza; a sentiment congenially and reciprocally felt by his Royal Highness.

November 15th. The wind continued to blow almost a gale for several days directly into the harbour of Lisbon; from which quarter it never shifted, excepting a few hours from the eastward, *which afforded the Royal fugitives an opportunity of escaping the snares which Napoleon had so artfully laid for them*: and on the morning of the 15th, the Admiral received a Portuguese pilot on board, and made signal for the *Confiance* sloop of war to close. Her commander, Captain Yeo, came on board, and having received from the commander in chief dispatches for Lord Strangford, he made sail for the Tagus, bearing a flag of truce; and in pursuance thereof, on the 18th, his Lordship having demanded and received his passports, he embarked with Captain Yeo, and joined the British fleet; when having communicated with the Admiral, it was judged expedient to establish a most rigorous blockade at the mouth of

the Tagus: which having been enforced, it was next thought advisable that his Lordship should propose to the Portuguese government, as the only condition upon which the blockade could cease, the alternative, either of surrendering the Portuguese fleet to his Majesty, or of immediately employing it to remove the Prince Regent and his family to the Brazils; it being deemed the first object of moment to save the Royal house of Braganza from the fraternal embrace of France.

His Lordship accordingly requested an audience of the Prince, with assurances of protection; which being immediately granted, he proceeded to Lisbon in a flag of truce, and so influenced his mind, that all his hopes seemed to be centered in the protection of the British fleet, his only dread being that of the invading French army.

To confirm his Royal Highness in this decision, it was guaranteed to him, that the English squadron should escort him from Lisbon to the Brazils; and a proclamation was consequently issued to the Portuguese nation, announcing

his intention of proceeding to Rio de Janeiro, and appointing a regency during his absence.

On the morning of the 19th, his Majesty's ship *Hibernia* joined the squadron; and on the 22d, the Admiral shifted his flag on board her: but, on the 21st, having received fresh advices, with assurance that the French troops were rapidly marching to Lisbon, and that the commanders of the different provinces had not only applied to the prime minister for arms and ammunition, but also had actually written to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, apprising him of the imminent danger which threatened him, his family, and country. Yet, through circumstances easily accounted for, on principles of treason existing in his councils, those representations never reached his Royal ear, and he was thereby (which evidently it was intended he should be) near falling a victim to the ambition of the unprincipled Napoleon, whose machinations had influenced the chief of his Royal Highness's ministers.

Intelligence like this, as it demanded, so it received, the utmost promptitude of decision.

Accordingly, on the 22d, signal being made for the *Confiance*, Captain Yeo received the dispatches for his Royal Highness, who was with his family at a country seat, called Mafra, some miles distant from Lisbon. When the dispatches were landed, they were announced by telegraph, and immediately forwarded by Lieut. Smith, of the Royal navy.

The following circumstances were communicated to me by a gentleman of the Royal bed-chamber, who was present when the dispatches reached the Prince Regent. He demanded whence and from whom they came. Being answered, "from the British Admiral, Sir Sidney Smith," he withdrew, and perused them alone. A few minutes after he returned, and summoned his consort and family, whom he addressed to the following purport:

"We are deceived, we are actually betrayed; the French troops are on their march to Lisbon. Take care of the Queen, my beloved mother, and you and your daughters follow me without loss of time."

The news was instantly spread through the palace, where the utmost confusion and distress

prevailed. All persons, of every rank and description, were eagerly anxious to save themselves and their effects. The Prince Regent and his sons proceeded immediately to Lisbon; her Majesty the Queen, the Princess of Brazil, the Dowager Princess, and the younger Princesses, made every preparation for their departure; and in less than five hours, 700 cars, laden with their effects, were on their route for the capital.

On the arrival of his Royal Highness and his sons at Lisbon, a council was immediately summoned, when he announced that himself, his family and country, were betrayed, and that the French troops were within four days march of his capital.

This intelligence was immediately communicated to the inhabitants of Lisbon, and the alarm and distress it occasioned may be more easily conceived than described.

On the 23d, at five in the evening, orders were given to have his Royal Highness's squadron in readiness to put to sea at a moment's notice, or at least as soon as circumstances would admit. At the same time, a second

council of state was convoked, when it was discovered that all communications and letters, which had been addressed to the Prince Regent and the government, from the frontiers and provinces, and which conveyed intelligence that the kingdom of Portugal was actually invaded by the French armies, had been intercepted. It was clearly demonstrated, that the intention was to allow the French invaders to seize the capital, and the illustrious Royal family.

On this discovery, orders were issued by his Royal Highness, that every valuable should be embarked on board the *Princepe Real*. A scene of distress now ensued, which a feeling, generous heart can alone conceive: females of Royal and most dignified birth, nourished in the bosom of rank and affluence, educated in principles of honour the most refined, habitually accustomed to think with enthusiastic adoration of their religion, and venerate with sacred awe its pastors, who, from the refinements of their habits, shrink with delicacy even from the glance—many of them tottering with the feebleness of age, others too young to lisp their sufferings, and some nearly sinking under the

pressure of years!—Such women, compelled to encounter November colds, and tempests through unknown seas, and exposed to inclement skies, deprived of all the delicacies and most of the necessaries of life, without a change of raiment or even beds to lie on—constrained to huddle promiscuously together on board shipping totally unprepared for their reception—to quit their homes, refinements, and comforts—to abandon their native country, held most dear even by the untutored savage, never again to revisit it—forced at once to burst through the bands of pure and innocent love, to tear asunder the strong ties of consanguinity, and of friendships formed in early years—or encounter the brutal excesses of an infuriated rabble soldiery, led on by Junot, that merciless commander, any traces of humanity in whom (if such were in his nature) would have been punished with death by his remorseless master. O Buonaparte! thou infamous emblem of Lucifer, what hast thou to answer for?

The whole of the Royal family arrived that evening at Lisbon, and every possible preparation was made for their departure to the Brazils.

A third council was summoned, wherein his Royal Highness declared his determination to embark, and (if Providence should permit) to place himself under the protection of the British flag. He added, that all who were disposed to follow him, and share his reverse of fortune, had his Royal permission; but to those who remained behind, his orders were not to make any resistance to the French. Resistance indeed, he believed, was too late; but he trusted, that when an opportunity offered, his faithful subjects would revenge their country's cause; and although himself and family should be obliged to fly for safety, the interests of his people would be always most dear to his heart.

The Royal declaration caused such a sense of sorrow and distress, as is impossible to describe; all ranks became anxious to share the fate of their sovereign, and to evade the barbarous treatment which they could not but expect from the perfidious French.

The following circumstances were related to me by an officer in the service of his Royal Highness, a gentleman, in whose veracity I can place the most implicit confidence. He ob-

served, that as soon as the Prince's intention of embarking for the Brazils became known, a dreadful scene of confusion and affliction pervaded every rank; thousands of men, women, and children, were constantly on the beach, endeavouring to escape on board. *Many ladies of distinction waded into the water,* in the hope of reaching the boats, but numbers unfortunately perished in the attempt; and from the 25th to the 28th instant, not less than ten thousand distressed objects were constantly on the beach, endeavouring to effect their escape. At length, the ships of war became so crowded, that with the most painful reluctance the officers were compelled to refuse their admittance.

He remarked what scenes of distress and vicissitudes of fortune now prevailed: numerous ladies of distinction, who were in the extremes of splendour and affluence a few days before, were now reduced to the greatest necessity, having given up their all to follow their much-loved Prince.

Many of the females who had actually embarked, were totally destitute of any change of apparel, and had to undertake a passage of five

thousand miles on board ships, whose officers had only three days notice given them to prepare for such a voyage; and what infinitely increased their terror was, that they momentarily expected the French to arrive and seize on them as prisoners.

The Portuguese fleet consisted of

	guns.
Princepe Real	84
Railma de Portugal	74
Conde Henrique	74
Medusa	74
Alfonso de Alburique	64
De Jose de Castro, Princepe de Brazil	74
Martin de Fretos	64
Minerva	44
Golfinho	36
Urania	32
Ubador	22
Vingonca	20
Le Bre	22
Lieuna Cimoza	12

By the 27th, the Royal family were all em-

barked; his Royal Highness the Prince Regent and his sons were on board the *Principe Real*; her Majesty, the Princess of Brazil, and the Infantas, were in the *Alfonso*; the Dowager Princess on board the *Conde Henrique*; and the ladies of distinction were accommodated as circumstances would admit in the respective ships.

There were about four thousand troops of the line on board the fleet, which transported in all from sixteen to eighteen thousand of the subjects of Portugal: all the ships were crowded. On board the *Principe Real*, there were no less than 412 persons, besides the crew. Among the noble emigrants, were the minister of marine, Admiral Almeida; the venerable General Forbes, at the advanced age of seventy-five, who had been at the head of the Portuguese army for many years. The fleet was accompanied by about thirty sail of large Portuguese merchantmen.

The very day on which the Court embarked, General Junot reached the capital, and brought intelligence of the arrival of the French troops at Santarem, about fifty-six miles from Lisbon:

he was infinitely disappointed and surprised to learn, that the Royal family had been informed of his approach with the French troops. His mortification was beyond description, on finding that the Prince had embarked; the seizing of his person being the principal object of his expedition, if the wind had not providentially allowed the fleet to quit the Tagus.

Junot, with the usual arrogance of French republicanism, demanded an audience of the Regent. It was conceded, on condition that some noblemen should be present, one of whom it would be injustice not to mention, he being an honour to his country, and a faithful friend to the British nation; Don Roderico de Lonza Continho, at present the minister of war and for foreign affairs in the transmarine dominions; whose character (though it had long been known to me by report) I have experienced, from personal knowledge, to correspond with every thing that has been related, or can be said of his fidelity to his sovereign's interests, and his honourable disposition towards the English nation.

At nine o'clock in the morning of the 28th of November, the French general came on board

the Princepe Real, and was introduced to his Royal Highness. In an arrogant tone, he demanded why his Highness had embarked, and what were his reasons for quitting his kingdom? He expressed his regret for his Royal Highness's resolution, expatiated at considerable length on the greatness of the French nation, and the honourable sentiments of the Emperor his master towards his Royal Highness, and the kingdom of Portugal; and concluded with observing, that he expected a *private*, and not a *public* audience.

During the general's insolent speech, his Royal Highness remained perfectly silent, but afterwards addressed him as follows :

“ Pray, General, have you said all you wish to express ?”

Being answered in the affirmative, his Royal Highness thus proceeded—“ In reply to your question, General, why I quit my kingdom, I will ask you, why your perfidious master invades it without my knowledge? Are such proceedings honourable? Are they the principles of an honest man? Have I not shut my ports against the British nation, in order to maintain my neu-

trality with your master? Yet that is not sufficient for the overbearing views and disposition of Napoleon. I therefore command you to retire from my presence, and to tell the French Emperor from me, that I disdain *his* alliance, whose restless ambition aims at the destruction of the universe. I scorn his protection, and will to-morrow, if Providence favours me, put myself, family, and fleet, under the protection of his Britannic Majesty's Admiral, who is my faithful friend, and is now waiting to receive me. Rather, indeed, would I perish, than listen to your master's delusive promises; and if you, General, did but consider the base mission on which you are sent, and the dishonourable character you are compelled to sustain, you surely must think with me, that you are acting the part of a dishonourable man. Retire, therefore, from my presence, and never presume to appear before me again."

His Royal Highness then gave directions that Junot should immediately quit his ship, and that if he ever attempted again to approach it, to sink him and the boat that should convey him; a decided proof this of his Royal High-

ness's magnanimity in the hour of imminent danger, as the French were, in fact, at that moment advancing rapidly towards his capital, and his family and fleet had no prospect of escape if the wind should continue in the same quarter.

The object of Junot's mission clearly was, if he could not intimidate, at least to amuse his Royal Highness with new overtures, until his retreat should be cut off, by the French troops getting possession of Forts St. Julien and Caseaes, which they were strenuously endeavouring to accomplish; for by this time they had approached within a few miles of the city, but fearing to create a sudden alarm, and with a view, no doubt, to deceive the Prince Regent, instead of proceeding directly to the capital, they took a circuitous rout to Loires, from which place they intended to march to Fort St. Julien and Caseaes. The Prince, in the mean time, dropped down the river, and lay with the ships at single anchor.

Providentially, as if to render abortive these unjust designs, at two o'clock, A. M. on the 29th, a fair wind sprung up from the eastward,

blowing directly out of the Tagus. His Royal Highness instantly commanded his Admiral to get every ship ready to weigh anchor by day-break: he walked the deck at intervals during the night, and when the welcome day appeared, every possible effort was made for all the ships to get under weigh. His Highness observed, that the ship he was in should be the last, and that he would follow, encouraging every individual to exert himself; observing, that it was the usurpation of Buonaparte had caused their distress, but that with the blessing of Divine Providence, he would now place himself, his family, and fleet, under the honourable protection of the British flag.

To prevent the painful necessity of recurring to the following circumstance again, I think it necessary to mention it here, although I was not in possession of it until the 11th of December following, when it was related in my presence on board his Majesty's ship *Solebay*, by a very respectable Portuguese gentleman, of unquestionable veracity.

Buonaparte had charged General Junot to "*put the Royal family aside,*" the moment they

were in his power; saying, that whilst *they* were in the land of the living, *his* views would never be accomplished.

All the particulars of this detestable plan were related to me, with every protestation of their veracity; and farther, that Junot had said the shipping alone had prevented his designs from having their desired effect, and that his master would be much disappointed when he heard his orders could not be complied with.

Of the correctness of this last assertion, neither my informant nor myself entertained the slightest doubt; nor, I apprehend, can any reflecting reader hesitate as to its probability, when he considers the conduct of the Corsican usurper towards their Spanish Majesties, as well as his subsequent infamous proceedings towards that unfortunate branch of the house of Bourbon. To return, however, to the observations I had an opportunity of making on board his Majesty's ship London.

On the 29th, at seven, it was a beautiful morning: a fine breeze blew from the eastward, which wafted the Portuguese ships directly out of the Tagus. Signal was made for two sail,

which shortly afterwards was repeated for three ships of the line, and we saw Portuguese colours. At nine the signal was repeated for six sail, at ten for nine; and a telegraph from the *Confiance* announced, that the Royal standard was flying on board one of the ships. Signals were repeated for several ships of a smaller class, which were composed of brigs, schooners, and merchant ships, together with the Lisbon packet.

We had now the heartfelt satisfaction to see, that our hopes and expectations were realized to the fullest extent: the whole Portuguese fleet arranged itself under the protection of that of his Majesty, whilst firing a reciprocal salute of twenty-one guns, which announced the friendly meeting of those powers, who were but one day before on terms of hostility.

To any heart but a Buonaparte's, the scene was sublimely beautiful; impressing every beholder, except the French army on the hills, with the most lively emotions of gratitude to Providence, that there yet existed a power in the world capable, as well as willing, to protect the oppressed. A more interesting spectacle than that

afforded by the junction of the two fleets, has been rarely beheld.

Lord Strangford, who had hitherto accompanied the Prince, now repaired to the Admiral on board the *Hibernia*, but returned immediately, accompanied by him, whom he presented to the Prince, and was received with the most marked and gracious condescension. His Royal Highness expressed every sentiment, that the most cordial feelings of gratitude to, and confidence in, his Majesty and the British nation, could be supposed to dictate. He informed the Admiral, that himself, his family, and fleet, came out to place themselves under the protection of his Britannic Majesty's ships, and that his intention was to proceed to Rio de Janeiro; trusting that part of the squadron would be allowed to convoy him to the place of his destination.

Sir Sidney answered his Royal Highness in the name of his King, that every assistance should be given; that the British nation were his *real friends*, and that the whole kingdom would have been distressed, had the French seized on his Royal Highness's person.

The Portuguese men of war presented a wretched appearance, as they had only three days to prepare for their escape: scaffolds were still hanging by their sides, and in short, they rather resembled wrecks than vessels of war. Signal was now made from the commander in chief's ship, for the marines of the London to repair on board his Majesty's frigate Solebay. The officer under whom I had the honour to serve (Major Malcolm), Lieut. Baynon, and myself, together with eighty privates, three serjeants, three corporals, and two drummers, left the London, so soon as circumstances would admit, for the frigate; and on our arrival on board, we were given to understand, that our destination was to take possession of Fort Boujai, situated at the entrance of the Tagus.

At four we made sail; at six the wind came round to its original point, and the combined Portuguese and English squadrons stood out to sea.

May I be permitted to hazard the remark, that it appeared as if Divine Providence had changed the wind, in order to relieve an oppressed nation, and to crown the British arms

with more honourable laurels ; as it continued to blow a gale of wind from the same quarter for the additional space of ten days.

At seven in the morning of the 30th, the frigate was close in with the fort: it blew a tremendous gale, with a heavy sea, that rendered it impossible for us to disembark. At eight we saw the French flag flying on every fort; and I have since been informed by the same respectable gentleman, that the French troops were not twenty miles distant from Lisbon, on Sunday the 29th, when the Royal family left the Tagus. At nine the gale increased, at ten the ship was in imminent danger, expecting every moment to be cast on shore: but Providence protected us, she worked out, and at seven in the evening we considered ourselves out of danger. During this period, we lost sight of the combined squadron, and saw no more of them until the 25th of December.

In their absence, the Solebay detained several Brazil Portuguese merchant ships, on board one of which (the Olivira, Capt. Belham) I was ordered, December the 16th, with twenty marines, accompanied by Lieut. Kirwin of the

Royal navy, the frigate having no seamen to spare. With the risk of the marines' lives we arrived on board, and were instantly given to understand, that they were in the greatest distress for provisions, being destitute of bread, meat, wine, and spirits, and having only sixteen gallons of water, and twenty quarts of rice. The gale increased to such a degree, that no farther communication could be had with the ship we had left.

We were now forty-nine persons on board, and had nothing to subsist on but the scanty articles above specified. The gale increasing, the Lieutenant was obliged to put her before the wind, as she was in such a bad state, we all expected to go to the bottom every moment. We saw no more of the frigate, or any part of the squadron, until Christmas-day; during which interval, our only sustenance was three spoonfuls of boiled rice per day for each person.

On the 25th of December, in the morning, we saw the squadron from the mast-head; made signals of distress, and fired several guns, but

the distance was too great to be observed. Throughout the 24th and the 25th, we took no food, our scanty stock being expended. At seven A. M. we passed under the stern of a British man of war, and hailed her. A Lieutenant from her came on board, to whom we described our urgent distress, and craved relief. The officer returned to his ship, and after some time had elapsed, we were hailed by the captain, who ordered us to proceed to the Admiral, *without contributing to our wants!* This ship had the look-out during that night, but for the honour of the British navy and the nation, she shall be nameless.

The *Olivira* joined the squadron early in the morning, and Lieut. Kirwin repaired on board the commander in chief's ship. As soon as the Admiral was acquainted with our distress, *his* benevolence was far different from the apathy of the former, and he ordered every thing necessary for us.

Had it been our misfortune to have parted from the squadron, previous to our speaking with the Admiral, every soul on board the Portuguese vessel must have inevitably *perished*.

At ten the Solebay came within hail; and on Capt. Sprole being made acquainted with the situation we had been in, he applied to the Admiral to have us instantly removed on board the frigate; which request the Admiral granted. As soon as circumstances would admit, in the evening of the 26th, we returned to the frigate, and were informed that the London, Marlborough, Bedford, and Monarch, had parted company, and were on their passage, convoying the Prince out to Rio de Janeiro. Thus were my commanding officer and myself, together with the detachment, left without any other apparel than what we wore; a situation of the most unpleasant nature.

Our distresses were represented to the Admiral, who informed us that the frigate must take dispatches out to the Brazils, and that we were all to remain on board; every assistance that lay in his power should be rendered to us, and the moment he was ready, we were to sail.

1808. January 12th.—Signal being made for the ship to close, the captain went on board the Admiral's ship, and received his orders. We parted company at three, and made the island

of Madeira on the 16th; we took in a supply of water, and sailed on the 18th. We passed the Canaries on the 23d, and saw the rock of Teneriff, and Cape de Verd Islands. We put into Port Epre, in the island of Santa Jago, took in more water, and sailed thence for Rio de Janeiro, where we arrived on the 29th of February, and found the London, Monarch, and Marlborough, with part of the Portuguese squadron; the Bedford and the remainder had parted company with the Prince Regent in a gale of wind, but had arrived at St. Salvador, which place his Royal Highness was obliged to put into, being destitute of all kinds of provisions.

On the same day we rejoined the London, it was a most gratifying sight to us when we first beheld her lying at anchor, having then been absent thirteen weeks without any change of apparel, except what had been given us by the liberality of the officers on board the Solebay. Here, however, I experienced a new disappointment; I found my chest had been forced, and every article of my linen, that was of any value, had been taken away. There were se-

veral hundred emigrants on board the London, chiefly females; but through the generosity of the officers, they obtained every necessary in their power to afford.

A very remarkable circumstance was communicated to me here, that the Queen, whose mental ailments have been for many years two well known, after having been a few days at sea, experienced a very great improvement in her intellectual faculties. How infinitely good the all-wise Creator, who, in suffering her to be deprived of one earthly throne, beneficently was pleased partially to restore her reason to its throne—an exchange how preferable!

The following letter, addressed to me from St. Salvador, I found on board the London on the evening of the 29th of February, 1808.

H. M. S. Bedford, St. Salvador.

“ I embrace the favourable opportunity of writing to you, by the brig of war which conveys dispatches from this place to Rio de Janeiro, and with every hope that you have rejoined the London. I will give you the particulars of our voyage.

“ We had the good fortune to keep company with his Royal Highness, who put in here, being in want of provisions. My pen is inadequate to describe the distressed situation of the poor females, with whom the ship was crowded: and as they were without proper provisions, I am astonished that they have been able to surmount their difficulties. This morning the Duke de Caraval died, literally broken-hearted. I have heard that he was one of the first noblemen in Portugal, and a man of exemplary character. I really think he was starved in his passage, and hope the Prince will land them here, to prevent any farther scenes of distress. I have this moment heard, all the ladies in the vicinity are collecting clothes for the distressed females; God reward their humanity!

“ This morning the Prince and his family landed; they were received with every mark of respect, and have taken up their residence in the governor's house. The inhabitants have already offered to build them a palace, and grant the Prince an immense revenue out of their private property, until he can arrange his future government.

“The good people here pay the greatest attention to the British officers. The Royal fugitives having announced to Capt. Walker their intention of visiting the Bedford, which took place the third day after landing, they left the shore under a royal salute from the batteries and from the ships, and were received on board with the greatest respect, where a cold collation had been prepared for them. His Royal Highness visited every part of the ship, and expressed his approbation of the cleanliness which prevailed throughout.

“Capt. Walker’s attention to the Prince has been very great, not only to the ship which his Royal Highness was on board, but also to every one of the Portuguese men of war. In grateful acknowledgment of his assiduous attention, the Prince has presented him with a gold medal of a very ancient Portuguese order of knighthood. His Highness consults with him on all occasions, and seems glad to receive his advice.

“Thus, my friend, while Buonaparte endeavours to annihilate all crowned heads, we, on our part, exert every nerve to protect them; and I trust, we shall always imitate the generous

disposition of our noble patron, and beloved sovereign.

“As you will perhaps be gratified with a few remarks on the town of Bahia, I will now offer the best description my situation has enabled me to make. It is a large, well-built, populous city, far beyond my expectation, and stands on the side of a hill; the lower part is not very clean, but contains excellent shops of jewellery; the upper part of the town is delightful, commanding the finest possible views. The country abounds with the finest fruits: I have seen groves of orange-trees for two miles in length, where I could walk and be skreened from the heat of the sun. Being situated so near the equinoctial line, the weather is intensely hot. The town lies in W. lon. 38. lat. 11. though till now I always considered it in 12.; our geographical writers, therefore, are mistaken. The harbour, which is called St. Salvador, is very spacious, but not calculated for the Royal residence, the coast being too open, and the town much exposed. You may expect us soon, as the Prince will shortly leave this for Rio de Janeiro.”

* * * * *

The preceding extract, it is hoped, will not be thought irrelevant, as it exhibits some facts which are not, I believe, generally known; while it evinces that gratitude and humanity, with the finest feelings of the human heart, can and do exist in a part of the world, which we have hitherto been led to regard as being in an almost savage state.

March 5, on board the London.—This morning a signal was made from the heights for five sail of the line. At twelve came in sight the Princepe Real, Alfonso, Railma de Portugal, Conde Henrique, and Bedford. His Royal Highness led the line, with his standard flying at the main. Signal being given from the Marlborough, Commodore Moore, to prepare for a general salute, at one we saluted, which was returned by the forts. The Commodore and Captains then proceeded in their boats to congratulate his Royal Highness and family on their safe arrival.

The Viceroy came off in the state barge to tender his resignation, when an officer of the London was sent on board to offer his assistance, and was with the Regent when the Commodore

and Captains waited on him. His Highness was deeply affected, and expressed in the strongest language the satisfaction he felt, in the kind attentions he received from every one in this part of the world. Yet, though *he* was out of the power of the usurper, he felt sensibly for his faithful subjects whom he had left behind.

Commodore Moore was most graciously received, a circumstance that must afford infinite satisfaction to every one who has the honour of being known to an officer, whose character is held in such high estimation in his Majesty's service: the Captains were also received with every demonstration of respect. Immediately after, his Royal Highness waited on her Majesty and the Princesses on board the *Alfonso*, and thence proceeded in the state barge on shore, under a royal salute from the ships and batteries.

On his landing, he was welcomed by the troops with three feu-de-joies; the principal magistrates and gentlemen of the town of St. Sebastian conducted him to the palace prepared for his reception: and after his Royal Highness

had given audience to his officers, and every person of distinction in the city, he proceeded to the cathedral to return the Omnipotent thanks for his bountiful mercy, in facilitating his escape, and for his safe arrival. He remained in meditation for a considerable time, and then exclaimed in a tone of voice which every one distinctly heard, "Here I return my sincere thanks to God for my preservation, and also to my faithful English friends, and finally to my affectionate subjects for their kind reception!"

The scene was truly affecting, almost every eye was bedewed with tears; and at that instant the sacred music commenced, which added to its solemnity. His Royal Highness returned in the midst of a most splendid procession, and re-embarked, greeted by all the inhabitants and troops. Every ship's yards was manned, a royal salute was fired from all, and in the evening superb fire-works were displayed, and the whole city was illuminated.

March 6th.—This day the whole of the Royal family disembarked, under a Royal salute from the ships and batteries. On their landing, the pavement was covered with crimson velvet, and

a superb canopy was supported by four officers ; her Majesty was perfectly composed, and with a graceful dignity paid every attention to her dutiful subjects, while tears plenteously bedewed her aged cheeks.

The sight of fallen Majesty is at all times calculated to awaken the tenderest sympathies ; nor can we withhold our compassion, even though its fall should have been produced by the errors or the crimes of its possessor. In the present instance, however, all these affections were aroused to the highest degree, for surely no feeling mind can, unmoved, contemplate an amiable and benevolent Prince, with an aged mother, a beloved wife, and five small children, driven from their hereditary, lawful dominions, and obliged to seek refuge in a distant part of the globe, almost entirely secluded from the continent of Europe !

The inhabitants of Santa Sebastian received the illustrious fugitives with open arms ; every thing which zeal and loyalty could prompt them to do, had been effected ; and the Royal family took up their residence at the palace usually occupied by the viceroy, a building, which for

magnificence far surpasses any that Europeans would expect, when it is considered that the different viceroys had been almost entirely precluded from intercourse with any other nation.

March 12th. Intelligence came, that a squadron of French ships was on the coast; the Commodore put to sea in the Marlborough, accompanied by the London, Bedford, and Monarch, together with a Portuguese brig, and stood for St. Salvador. We arrived there on the 7th of April, but did not receive any information respecting them. I found the harbour as my friend represented; the view from the sea is delightful; a strong fort is situated on the eastern side of the harbour, and there are several forts up to the town. Our stay here was eleven days, during which time the London was full of visitors, she being the first English three-decker that ever crossed the equinoctial line.

The Commodore put to sea, and arrived at Rio de Janeiro the 12th of May, where we found that several merchant ships had arrived, whose Captains informed us of the conduct of Buonaparte, as well to the Spanish monarch and

his unfortunate family, as to the Portuguese nation after the departure of their beloved Prince: by which it appeared, that a decree was signed by Buonaparte at Milan on the 23d of December, 1807, and published at Lisbon; in which he declared the throne of Portugal abdicated by the family of Braganza, which was never more to reign; and that thenceforward the kingdom of Portugal was to be united to and considered as part of the dominions of France.

Junot had, in consequence, dissolved the regency established by the Prince Regent at his departure, and a new administration was formed, the members of which were selected from such of the Portuguese traitors, who had always shewn a predeliction for the French interests; proper associates for that remorseless, unblushing villain, Buonaparte, who, to reward them, immediately levied a contribution of forty millions of crusades!

May 17th.—A signal was made for two sail being in sight, which proved to be Admiral Sir Sidney Smith in the Foudroyant, and the Agamemnon, Captain Jonas Rose. The Ad-

miral was received by all the officers with the greatest joy; his Royal Highness the Prince Regent particularly expressed the satisfaction he felt on the Admiral's joining us.

May 24th.—Orders came on board the London from the commander in chief, to employ every artificer in the fleet to prepare the ship for the reception of the Royal family, who had been invited by him to dine on board the 4th of June, in commemoration of (my most gracious sovereign) his Britannic Majesty's birth-day; and which invitation they had condescendingly accepted. Accordingly, all the guns from the middle deck and upper cabin, as also from the quarter-deck, were removed. The cabins were decorated with the English, Portuguese, and Spanish colours, and a picture, containing the likenesses of all our naval heroes; and, in honour of the Royal visitors, the deck was covered with French flags.

The Royal table was placed in front of the upper cabin, and tables for the reception of the nobles attending the Royal family, were set the full length of each side the quarter-deck. A platform was raised from the main to the fore-

mast, the railing of which was ornamented with English, Portuguese, and Spanish colours. In the centre, a table was placed with one hundred and sixty covers; the awnings, the full length of the ship, were lined with English and Portuguese ensigns united, the borders of which were festooned with different coloured signal flags; the sides of the ship on the quarter-deck were covered with the Royal standards of England, in the front of which was his Britannic Majesty's arms over the Royal table. On the poop was raised a marquee, for the reception of the attendants of the illustrious visitors; and no pains were spared to render the appearance of the ship most nautically magnificent.

On the 4th of June, the standard of England, in conjunction with that of Spain, were hoisted. At two o'clock, the Regent and his family embarked, under a royal salute from the ships and batteries; and upon his Highness's arrival on board, the standard of Portugal was hoisted at the fore, when they were received with sincere demonstrations of heartfelt respect. His Highness remarked, that the decks were covered with the colours of the French nation. The

Admiral answered in the affirmative, and the Prince replied, he was indebted to his faithful ally and his brave subjects, which enabled him to trample them under his feet; a reply, which feelingly evinced his grateful sentiments for British friendship.

At four o'clock the Royal family seated themselves at table, the Admiral superintending, until commanded by his Highness to sit at the table, which was placed at his right hand, with Mr. Hill, the British minister, the nobility taking their places according to their rank; and the Royal family were attended by British naval officers.

In front of the table was placed the memorable standard which the Prince had flying on board the *Princepe Real*, when he was compelled to quit his native country; the arms of Portugal and Spain were suspended over the Royal guests, and when the English and Portuguese officers were seated, nothing could exceed the happiness his Highness and family manifested, and the whole of their misfortunes seemed to be forgotten.

On this festive occasion, various appropriate

toasts were given; which the indulgent reader may, perhaps, not be displeased to peruse, as they serve to convey more accurately than description could effect, the grateful sentiments of the Royal visitors. His Highness the Prince Regent, the Princess of Brazil, and the Princesses, severally gave—

“The King of Great Britain, and may he live till time shall be no more !”

The Prince of Spain gave—“Prosperity to the British arms, who are fighting for my family’s cause.”

The Infantas gave—“May our father and his family ever retain the esteem of all his British Majesty’s officers.”

These were returned with Royal salutes. At sunset, his Royal Highness requested that the Royal standard, which had been flying on board the London, might be brought before him. This request being complied with, his Highness commanded that the standard should be laid on the deck, and then addressed the Admiral in the following impressive manner :

“Admiral, the honour that you and the British officers have this day conferred on me and

my family, is more than we ever expected, when so short a period has elapsed, and I had the gloomy prospect before me, of being surrounded by my enemies; to prevent which, and procure my neutrality, I was constrained to shut my ports against the British nation, with a hope that it would satisfy the exorbitant demands of the French Emperor; yet my compliance did not secure my country from being invaded.

“Such extremity was, to my mind, a source of the most poignant sorrow—that I should be forced to break off an alliance which had so long subsisted between my mother’s court and that of his Britannic Majesty; but the snares of Buonaparte compelled me, as his perfidious conduct gave me reason to suppose, in the event of my refusal, he would invade my mother’s kingdom. On the part of Great Britain, I had not any thing to fear, the honour of that nation being unquestionable.

“Admiral, your advices, which I received by dispatch, gave me information, that Portugal had in part been taken possession of by the

French. Such intelligence convinced me I was betrayed.

“ But to you, Admiral, I and my family owe our liberty, and my mother her crown and dignity. We are this day come on board the London, to celebrate his British Majesty’s birthday; and on this joyful occasion my Royal standard has had the honour to fly in conjunction with that of England. It now lies on the deck; and permit me to return you and the officers thanks for all the services you and they have conferred on me, my family, and my faithful subjects.

“ As a mark of my respect, accept this standard from me; and from henceforth, quarter the arms of my house with those of your own: it will remain as a memorial for your posterity, that your exertions preserved us from falling into the snare which Buonaparte had laid for our destruction.”

This address was honoured with a salute from all his Majesty’s ships. It was most truly affecting to see the Princesses, the Princes, with the Prince of Spain, while his Royal Highness

was addressing the Admiral; and although the entertainment was the most magnificent that was ever given on board any of his Majesty's ships, yet when a sovereign addressed the British Admiral in such terms of respect, it was sufficient to cause a retrospective sigh to be heaved at the calamities his Highness and his family had been compelled to undergo, and the loss of their ancient hereditary dominions. But the Admiral revived their cheerfulness, by recommending the British officers to drink "Prosperity to his Royal Highness and his dominions;" which was most graciously received by the Royal visitors.

At eight in the evening, these illustrious personages left the ship, and invited the Admiral, Captains, and officers, to attend them to the opera; which had been previously commanded on the occasion, in honour of the day, boxes having been prepared for their reception.

An address, by way of prelude, was delivered on the occasion; of which the following translation will, it is hoped, be found to exhibit a tolerably accurate idea.



“This day has been a joyful one: our sovereign has cordially united in celebrating the birth-day of George the Third, the sovereign of the British Isles—the father of his people, and the protector of the house of Braganza! May his flag always continue triumphantly to sway over the heads of his enemies! The laws of Britain are just, their sovereign governs with justice and humanity. All ranks of oppressed men address him, whose views are just, and are sure to obtain relief; and those whose designs are base and dishonourable, his arms can scourge, and cause them to dread the name of a Briton. Don John, Prince Regent, enjoys his liberty, which he owes to the arms of England. May it never be disturbed by any power of the universe! May the two sovereigns and their posterity live in peace and friendship, until time shall be no more! And may the ill-acquired power of the usurper meet a rapid fall, and the united powers avenge their countries' wrongs.

“Unhappy Spain! thou hast been deceived. Thy country has been robbed of its sovereign, and that sovereign and his family have been dragged from their faithful subjects, and doomed

to ignominious imprisonment; for what end the Omnipotent can only decide.

“Don Carlos, Prince of Spain, should ever Providence restore you to your country, and place you on the throne of your ancestors, remember the protection of Britain: her amicable connections will ensure your country’s happiness; your commerce will flourish, your arms by land and sea will regain their original power, and the brave Spaniards will then remember their ancient dignity.

“Illustrious Princess,* descended from a long line of Spanish sovereigns, and you the descendants † of the Royal house of Braganza, may your offspring ever learn to venerate the Royal house of Brunswick!

“And now, on the evening of the 4th of June, a day of joy, a day of grateful respect, as our Royal master and family have honoured us with their illustrious presence, may our performances afford to their august audience equal pleasure, and be crowned with success, like the British flag, which has hitherto protected and preserved our Royal master!”

* The consort of the Prince Regent.

† The Infantas of Portugal.

Having been sixteen months in this delightful country, during which I made excursions upwards of one hundred and fifty miles into the interior beautiful but uncultivated parts, I wish to make some observations as to its embellishments, and the customs and manners of its inhabitants; but conscious that my poor powers of description are totally inadequate to do justice to its numberless natural beauties, and the ingenuous philanthropy which bespeaks the truly good sense of its inhabitants, I shall (though with the greatest diffidence) presume to offer the following observations, the result of my personal remarks, and minute inquiries.

As the different viceroys, who were nearly absolute in their government, had, from political motives, always precluded the inhabitants from any intercourse with other nations, inasmuch that no European, except a Portuguese, was ever suffered on shore without a centinel to follow him, the manner of the natives must necessarily retain their original characteristics of unadulterated innocence.

Rio de Janeiro was the capital long before the Royal family left Lisbon, a description of which I shall briefly attempt to state, from my

experience during the course of a long residence.

The first grand object that attracted my notice, when ten leagues distant from the land, was an immense rock, called the Sugar-loaf, which the natives name Pan Assugar; which points out the entrance of the harbour, and is a landmark for such persons as have not navigated that part of the seas. The rocks appear round the Sugar-loaf, like the ruins of some grand edifice, and most of them are inaccessible. On passing them, the scene changes every moment. On the southern side of the entrance of the harbour, there are numerous batteries and delightful cottages.

The entrance of the harbour is narrow, defended on each side with batteries; the one on the eastern side is called Santa Cruz; the fortifications are raised of fine white stone, and are mounted with eighty pieces of cannon, of twelve, eighteen, thirty-six, and sixty-eight pounds. All ships that pass and repass are brought-to by this fort, by which means an enemy would find it difficult to obtain access.

After passing Santa Cruz, the fort on the southern side is called Santa Jana: then the

beauties of the harbour open to view a most magnificent picturesque scenery, not to be equalled in any other part of the world. The harbour is sufficient to contain one thousand sail of the line, and four times a greater number of smaller vessels. There are numerous islands in it, and some of them fortified.

The island of Boa Voyga has a very fine church, dedicated to Santa Antonia; and it is invariably the custom for all Portuguese navigators to pay a small tribute to the divines of that church, imploring their saint to ensure them a safe voyage. This, to Protestants in particular, and all enlightened people, appears ridiculous; but the custom of countries, especially religious ones, however they may appear to others as superstitious or useless, should be, if noticed at all, at least treated with respect; and I recommend it to the British navigators. if they cannot feel reverentially for those ceremonies, not by any means to permit the most trivial deviation from external respect; for were we to examine the idle modes and customs of our fellow-countrymen with a discriminating, impartial eye, many of the prejudices now entertained

and practised,* would appear as absurd to foreigners, as theirs do to us; and whether essentially right or not, religious ceremonies should be held sacred, and all insulting, trivial observations on them most severely punished, which would tend in time to wear away the dislike the lower orders of the inhabitants of Spain and Portugal have, on that account alone, to those of the United Kingdom; and more than any thing does ensure a facility to extended commerce, and extension of universal brotherly love.

The climate of South America is both agreeable and healthy, being free from many inconveniences that are incident to other tropical countries. Although situated under the tropic of capricorn, the air is seldom immediately hot, as the sea breeze regularly begins to blow in the morning, and continues until night, when it is succeeded by a pleasant land wind.

The surrounding country is the most romantic imaginable; some of the mountains are exceedingly high, and covered with a great variety of trees; the vallies are adorned with magnifi-

* The English credulity in prophecies—Mother Shipton, Southcott, Brothers, &c. &c. The Scotch Visionary, Fore and Second-sight men, &c. &c. The Irish belief in banshee and fairies, &c. &c.

cent country seats ; they also contain plantations of sugar cane, Indian corn, rice, peas, beans, yams, sweet potatoes, salads, cucumbers, and herbs of every description in the highest perfection. All tropical fruits are luxuriously abundant, and the markets are daily plentifully supplied with poultry, fish, and flesh of all kinds in great perfection, and at a very cheap rate.

Gardening is much practised and delighted in, and the gardens in and about the town are laid out with great judgment, and beautified with choice flowering shrubs. For the recreation of the public, there is a most delightful public garden, surrounded with a high, strong, white wall ; the gate, which is guarded by two centinels, is ornamented on the top with basso relievos of the late King and Queen of Portugal, in exquisite workmanship : the walks are kept in excellent order, and are illuminated in the evening with innumerable lamps, suspended from the branches of the trees.

At the end of the walk opposite the gate, are two triangular pyramids of white marble, about twenty feet high ; on their bases are sundry figures, executed in a very superior style, discharging water into surrounding basons. At

the back of those there is an artificial mount, on the front of which there are two large alligators of brass, vomiting a stream of clear water through their frightful tusks, falling on fragments of rock into a pond, to the banks of which numerous aquatic birds constantly resort. On the top of the mount is an uncommonly majestic, luxuriant cocoa-nut tree, spreading its extensive branches over the whole, and affording a most pleasing shade to the benches on the banks of the pond, at which all the works terminate.

We next from this ascend two flights of steps to a terrace, which commands a view of the greatest part of the harbour, and a spacious street fronting the sea, leading to a beautiful church, called Gloryo; the top of the wall (whose base is washed by the sea) is planted with a profusion of flowers, intermixed with pine apples in large marble pots. Upon a pedestal, in the centre, stands a very finely executed statue, of white marble, holding a turtle by one leg, from whose mouth issues water into a cistern of beautiful variegated marble. At the extremity of the garden are two temples, the one containing highly finished paintings of the town and harbour, and the marine productions

of the adjacent seas ; the roof of which is inlaid with the most exquisite shell work ; and the roof of the other is embellished in the same elegant manner with paintings and feathers, but the paintings are views of manufactories and land productions. These temples form salubrious, cool retreats, the floors and benches being of marble, and in the centre are tables and chairs for the accommodation of the promenaders.

About a mile to the eastward of the public garden, is a suit of apartments used as assembly rooms ; they are fitted up with great taste, and ornamented with some very fine prints, amongst which I had the pleasure of seeing the portraits of four of our British naval heroes, Howe, St. Vincent, Duncan, and the immortal Nelson : indeed, these rooms are furnished more in the English style than any others I have seen at Rio de Janeiro.

Contiguous to this building is a flower-garden, in which is an engine worked by horses, nearly of the same construction as a chain pump, for raising water to the height of about one hundred feet, where it is distributed to sundry water-works through the different gardens. Not far from this is a grand aqueduct, which de-

serves the attention of the traveller : it is composed of eighty arches, in two rows of about forty feet each, and is seen from the entrance of the harbour with a beautiful effect, rising majestically above the loftiest buildings in that quarter of the city : it was built to convey water from an abundant spring in a neighbouring mountain, across a valley. This I believe might have been done at a much less expence by lead pipes ; but, indeed, money is a matter of little consideration in this country, where gold is so abundant, and manual labour so very cheap. By this aqueduct the inhabitants are plentifully supplied with water, as are also the numerous shipping which frequent this port, for the sake of trade and refreshment.

Opposite the landing-place is the Princess's palace, a large oblong building of two stories ; part of the lower story is occupied by military officers, and a numerous train of servants, and the rest as a guard-house and the mint ; there is nothing attractive in its outward appearance, but it contains a series of spacious and stately apartments.

The building at the bottom, which was formerly a convent, is now converted into a resi-

dence for the Queen. His Royal Highness has built an arched way over the street which leads to the apartments of her Majesty. Near the palace is the opera house, an edifice of no superior external appearance; but the interior is neat, and has excellent accommodations. The performance was in a very superior style, and far beyond my expectation.

The market place extends from the north end of the square along the shore, and is found very convenient for the boats coming from the other side of the harbour with vegetables and fruit; as also for the fishing craft.

Negroes are almost the only people employed in selling the different commodities exposed in the market, and they employ their leisure time in spinning cotton, and making straw hats: in a word, every kind of manual labour is performed by them, and those who have good masters are allowed a part of particular days to enjoy themselves, which they certainly do in a very superior degree.

After the heat of the day is over, they meet in a spacious green in the vicinity of the city, where they form themselves into dancing parties, it being an amusement they are extravagantly

fond of: their music is a sort of pipe, and drums of various sizes, all of their own construction. At night they return home in good order, dancing as they proceed along the streets; and although these people are called negroes, and are considered slaves, yet in reality they enjoy their amusements far superior to the generality of the lower orders of the people of the United Kingdom, inasmuch as intoxication is considered a very great crime.

I cannot applaud the military force or system as it was conducted before the arrival of the Prince Regent; but I have not any doubt his Royal Highness will soon place it on a respectable footing.

The manners and customs of the inhabitants are generous, hospitable, and kind to strangers in a very great degree. One instance in particular attracted my attention; I passed a house where a band of music was playing, and as the curiosity of a stranger is here, with a liberality almost unknown in other countries, commonly excused, I presumed to intrude myself, to ascertain the reasons of the mirth; and as my regimentals were my passport, I had an opportunity to observe a numerous assemblage of

people of both sexes seated at a table, which was profusely spread with wines and preserved sweetmeats; at the head of the table was placed a small image in a glass case. I was invited to partake of their hospitality, including some good wine, which they were passing freely round, and was informed they were celebrating the feast of St. Anne, and that the image at the head of the table was her representative. Impressed with esteem for my kind host, I took my leave: and such was the hospitable treatment I met with during my residence in this country. In fact, the disposition of the inhabitants is such, that they all vie who shall pay the most attention to a stranger: their houses, tables, and horses are devoted to the service of a Briton.

The greatest part of the houses are well built, and chiefly with stone; the rooms are lofty and commodious, and the streets regular. The dwellings of the inferior ranks of people are of wood, with lattice windows, as glass is unnecessary, on account of the free admission of the air. The shops, such as gold and silver-smiths, and those of topazes—aquamarinas, crystals, amethysts, and diamonds, are magni-

ficent. The mechanics are ingenious and clever, but not equal to Europeans.

Over the town stands an immense hill, which at first appears a strong fort; but on approaching, I found it was a state prison, and not a gun in it, which much surprised me, as it completely commands the town and harbour. Near it stands a church, which is called Santa Sebastiano, being the mother-church of that country. The views from those two hills are fine beyond description, and present an immense field for the genius of an artist.

The city abounds with convents, all noble buildings; the churches are magnificent, and since the arrival of his Royal Highness, every thing is much improved. The shops discover considerable industry and embellishments, from this town having become the Royal residence. There were a great number of truly respectable English merchants settled there during my stay, owing to the protection and great indulgence they daily experience from the Prince Regent, whose grateful feelings and humane disposition are evinced by the kindest attentions to the British.

The barber's shops are singular, as they are

designated by the sign of a bason ; and the barber unites in himself the three professions of a surgeon, dentist, and shaver. The operation under their hand is singular : the person is fixed in a chair, and the bason (in the edge of which is a place cut out for the purpose) is fitted to the throat ; the head is in this manner pillored against the back of the chair ; the beard is then moistened with warm water, and the operator rubs a piece of soap several times over the face, when the beard is dexterously taken off.

The funerals of the poorer people I must particularly notice : they are usually interred without a coffin, and the dying man generally requests to be buried in the habit of a monk. If this has been accidentally omitted, his pious children seldom fail to purchase one of the fathers, who for this lucrative purpose are plentifully supplied with them. An old is preferred to a new garment, having, as is supposed, imbibed a greater portion of sanctity. A virgin has her body covered with the white habit of a carmelite, with a wreath of myrtle round her temples, and a sprig in her hands.

In the city there are numerous fountains for the accommodation of the inhabitants ; one in

particular, which deserves notice, is in the front of the palace square, close to the sea, where shipping are supplied by the means of leather tubes, conducted from the fountain into the boats. On the northern side is an island, well fortified, named Couberg, where there is a prison for criminals. This island is inaccessible, and of the highest consequence to the city; but the custom-house is in its infancy as yet, of course the English merchants are at present put to many inconveniences.

I once, on the obliging invitation of Senhor Francisco Philegoso, dined with him at the convent, when the friendly hospitality of both him and his brothers would have done credit to old English good fare: there were above forty dishes served up one at a time; their pastry and fruits were delicious; and amongst their more substantial dainties, was a large pig roasted whole, and stuffed with various aromatic herbs.

We had a great variety of wines, all excellent in their kind; and after the cloth was removed, they circulated the bottle amidst songs, bon mots, and conversation, until I found myself almost dizzy, which induced me at a late hour to take leave, against the most warm

pressures to stop, and with such friendly invitations to repeat my visit, as I am satisfied were truly sincere.

There are many new coffee-houses established by the English, that will answer well; in fact, since March, 1808, the whole of the city is considerably altered and improved. Opposite to the Royal palace on the eastern shore are several villages; one called Santa Dominga, another named Reo Grand, inhabited by planters and mechanics. The surrounding country abounds with delightful seats; the passage over the river is extremely pleasant, having the sea breeze for twelve hours the one way, and the land wind for the same time the reverse. I travelled a vast number of miles up the country, and the interior of it is delightful; the ground rich to extreme, but the greater part uncultivated; and the inhabitants universally as hospitable in their dwellings, as the citizens were elegantly generous. The women of this country are, in my opinion, very lovely; they are generally *brunette*. Most of them are handsome, and though light and small, are elegantly formed, and seem coyly to invite love. They are graceful in their appearance, and walk with a *jauntée* air ex-

tremely engaging. Their dress, in its extreme of fashion, as also that usually worn, is always black; and their old fashioned habit no modern refinement can add grace or beauty to. The deeply fringed satin petticoat, ornamented with the richest lace, seems indicative of their native taste; and a loose mantle of black satin falling as if by chance over their shoulders, adds, if possible, to that superior elegance of form with which nature has blessed them. It is much to be regretted that such women, formed to impart the finest sensations to our nature, should not have minds equally cultivated; and that, with the advantages which nature has so abundantly bestowed on them, they should, from a remnant of Italian jealousy still hovering over the minds of the men, be debarred from the exercise of those privileges which my fair countrywomen so eminently possess, and which render them intellectually and personally the glory, pride, and ornament of the earth.

Their veil, intended, by concealing, the more to make their beauties sought for, is pinned to the head dress, and falls gracefully behind; and

their brunette complexion is solely owing to their not having any other shade than their fans to skreen them from the vertical sun, for in infancy they are as fair as those of Europe.

A person totally unacquainted with their customs, might be induced to suppose them prone to licentiousness, their native innocence being much less restrained than that of nations having a more general intercourse.

I have sailed several hundred miles along the coast, and as the London was the guardship of his Royal Highness, whenever his court removed from Rio Janeiro to his country house, called Santa Cruz, the London sailed round to Maram Bay, a description of which, and the plains of Santa Cruz, I trust will not be unacceptable.

The river Maram is very difficult to navigate, serpentine continually, in consequence of the numerous islands with which it is studded, and the innumerable rocks which obstruct it. At the Isle de Grand it is broad and spacious; but as no ship larger than small merchantmen had ever sailed up this river, Captain Western, who is a most excellent navigator, took the pre-

caution to sound the channel, and found it narrow but safe. After several tides we worked up the distance of thirteen miles; the scenery on each side is picturesque, though the land is not cultivated; and on account of the numerous islands in the channel, each mile the ship was land locked.

Maram Bay is about 100 miles in circumference. The inhabitants at Santa Cruz were so much alarmed at the sight of a ninety-eight gun ship at first, that they would not venture on board. They are chiefly native Indians, whose dispositions, particularly the females, are truly obliging; and the women in general are extremely handsome, modest, and benevolent.

The residence of the Prince was formerly the property of the Jesuits; but a considerable time back, during the viceroyalty of the Marquis of Pombal, he discovered that they had become so powerful, they were endeavouring to render themselves independent, and found it necessary to expel them, and their estates were confiscated to the crown. The convent, now the palace, stands on an eminence in the centre of an extensive plain, about twelve miles long. The ground was cleared by the

industry of the Jesuits, and through it runs the celebrated river Tagwawe, which is navigable for small craft about nine miles, being entirely the work of their hands.

This plain is a very rich meadow, and I have seen feeding on it fifty thousand head of fine oxen. It would be ungenerous were I not to state, that each time his Royal Highness visited this beautiful place, his liberality to the officers, seamen, and marines, was truly bounteous; they were plentifully supplied with beef, veal, mutton, and all kinds of vegetables. The inhabitants were profuse in their kindness, their houses, tables, horses, and mules, were at command; and every curiosity in the country was, as far as in their power, procured for us; even the negroes shewed their zeal to serve us. The inhabitants live to a great age: I was introduced to one family, where the great grandmother was 110, the grandmother 94, the mother 71, and she had a family of nine children, men and women.

The service of my country allowed me to remain but a short time at Bahia, generally called St. Salvador, my first intention was to embrace every opportunity of inspecting the manners and customs of the inhabitants, having had so favourable an account of them in the letter already quoted on the Prince Regent's arrival there. The entrance of the harbour is good, but the navigation to strangers critical; the squadron under the command of Commodore Moore was

in imminent danger, for want of a knowledge of the channel; for by keeping too far to the eastward, they found themselves in but four fathoms water, at which time I could distinctly see the rocks, close under the stern of the London.

The landmark from the channel is a magnificent convent, called Santa Teresa, which stands on a peninsula, and renders the harbour more picturesque. On the eastern side is a fort, of little importance, the breadth being too great for the guns to do any execution; this rendered it necessary to remove the seat of government to Rio de Janeiro for its safety many years back, as the land along the coast is flat, and very accessible to an enemy's landing. From the grand fort on the eastern shore up to the town, there are several strong forts well constructed, but not in sufficient repair to resist an invading army. The harbour is very spacious, and capable of containing several thousand sail of the line. The view of the town from the harbour is grand, as it is built on the declivity of an immense hill; the streets appear distinctly in rows, and the houses rise one above the other. The landing place is called the dock yard, but it is in its infancy at present. There is every convenience to make one of the most commodious arsenals in the universe, as the tide allows a ship of the first magnitude to be launched all times of the year. The passengers from ships

of war are allowed to land at the dock yard; and to the honour of the Portuguese nation, the utmost possible respect is ever paid to the British by all ranks. The entrance of the arsenal from the main street of the lower town is very handsome; the arch is built of fine white stone, of exquisite workmanship.

The main street along the shore is nearly two miles in length: in this part dwell all people called coasters, and the major part of the slaves; and in it are shops of various descriptions, the most worthy of notice being the gold and silversmiths, and diamond merchants, which are rich beyond description. The coffee houses are not the best, yet for one vintin (about three halfpence) you are treated with as much respect as if you spent ten pounds. From this street there is a serpentine walk to the upper town, which as you ascend, opens the finest view that can possibly be conceived: the spacious harbour, highly enriched by the land scenery, by degrees presents a view of the shipping, and a boundless expanse of sky and water, unruffled by a cloud. The upper town is inhabited by the most respectable merchants and planters. Their churches are magnificent, but in no respect different from those at Rio de Janeiro: their friars, however, are the most hospitable men I ever met with; one instance of which I beg leave to relate: a divine, called Pedro Francisco Gomes,

who generally resided some distance from the capital, and has also a magnificent town residence, displayed a scene of benevolence uncommonly attractive. Two very respectable officers of the London travelled some distance in the country for information, and being overpowered by the excessive heat, called at the country residence of this worthy clergyman, who received them with genuine good nature. Fruits, wines, and sweetmeats were served up, and on their departure, a horse was loaded with oranges and fruits for their refreshment: the oranges are peculiarly large and fine flavoured, without seeds, and are called virgin oranges, being natives of this part of South America, and each generally yields about half a pint of delicious juice.

The landscape on the borders of the ocean is enriched by many truly magnificent seats: one of them, the residence of Sonhor Lisbon, deserves notice; it is built of fine white stone, embellished in the front with several marble statues: one is Pomona, another Industry, and in the centre a highly-finished group, representing the present Queen of Portugal, surrounded by her family. The garden and groves are laid out in European taste.

St. Salvador was some years back in the possession of the Dutch, who cut a canal round the town; but the Portuguese rose and expelled them. The canal caused great epidemical dis-

eases by its stagnated waters, so that the Portuguese have been compelled to commence filling it up, which was not completed in 1808. I enquired of Dr. Barbensoe, a very respectable medical man, what complaints were chiefly prevalent! His answer was, "In this part of the world, all professions are better than mine; I am the physician of all the principal families in the town, and each of them allow me an annual sum; but I am scarce ever called on, such is the salubrity of the climate, the inhabitants live to a very great age, though so near the equinoctial line.

The before-mentioned respectable divine, Father Francisco Gomes, invited the chaplain and several naval and marine officers of the London to dinner; when he contrived to blend that first of virtues, charity, with the most profuse hospitality, or rather to make the latter subservient to the former. I found his house magnificently furnished, and many excellent engravings: his library consisted of several thousand volumes of the best authors, and he could converse fluently in Portuguese, Spanish, English, French, German, and Latin. His entertainment was sumptuous, but as it appeared to me rather novel, I shall attempt to describe it. First course; head and foot, two tureens of rich poultry soup; the four corner dishes were each a fine roasted pig; in the centre were two large turkies, and the side dishes were

a piece of boiled and roast beef, each weighing not less than forty pounds, with abundant variety of the finest vegetables: the number of persons who sat at dinner were seventeen, and each was supplied with a bottle of port and madeira; a slave attended each person, and changed the glasses every time we drank; and as often as the plates were removed, we were presented silver basins of water to cool our hands. The second course consisted of poultry, game, ragouts, and vegetables, in the greatest profusion and perfection. The third course, pastry and sweetmeats of every description; and the fourth was to me singular, being composed of all kinds of fish that could be procured in those seas. The dessert consisted of all kinds of tropical fruits, and each time the different courses were removed, we were supplied with fresh bottles of cool wine: but the part of this princely entertainment which delighted me most, I now beg leave to state: I was surprised to see each course, when removed, placed on a large table in a saloon adjoining, and also to observe thirty slaves take the whole away, together with the wine, with orders to bring a receipt for it. Curiosity prompted me (though I confess a rude one), to enquire the meaning of requiring a receipt. The answer afforded me heartfelt gratification. I was told, that near the reverend and bountiful father's dwelling was a house for the reception of the poor, lame, blind, and aged;

and it was the worthy man's direction, that every thing which left his table should be taken to that charitable asylum, for the relief of his pensioners : and that whether he was in town or the country, his table was laid for eighteen persons.

In addition to this hospitable dinner, we were kindly pressed to sleep; and on our refusal, were conducted to the shore by slaves, with lighted torches. The innate goodness which characterized this worthy divine, elevated my feelings much; and it was with painful reluctance I parted from a man who does honour to human nature. We invited our kind host and his friends to dine on board the London, as we conceived the sight of a ship of her magnitude must be gratifying, the London being the first English three-decker that ever crossed the equinoctial line. They accepted our invitation, and expressed their great surprise at the interior regulations, and the accommodation for 700 men. They partook of our homely dinner. Night separated us from the society of men, who are an honour to mankind; and the service of my country on the morning following, parted me from their friendly shore—perhaps for ever!

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D.

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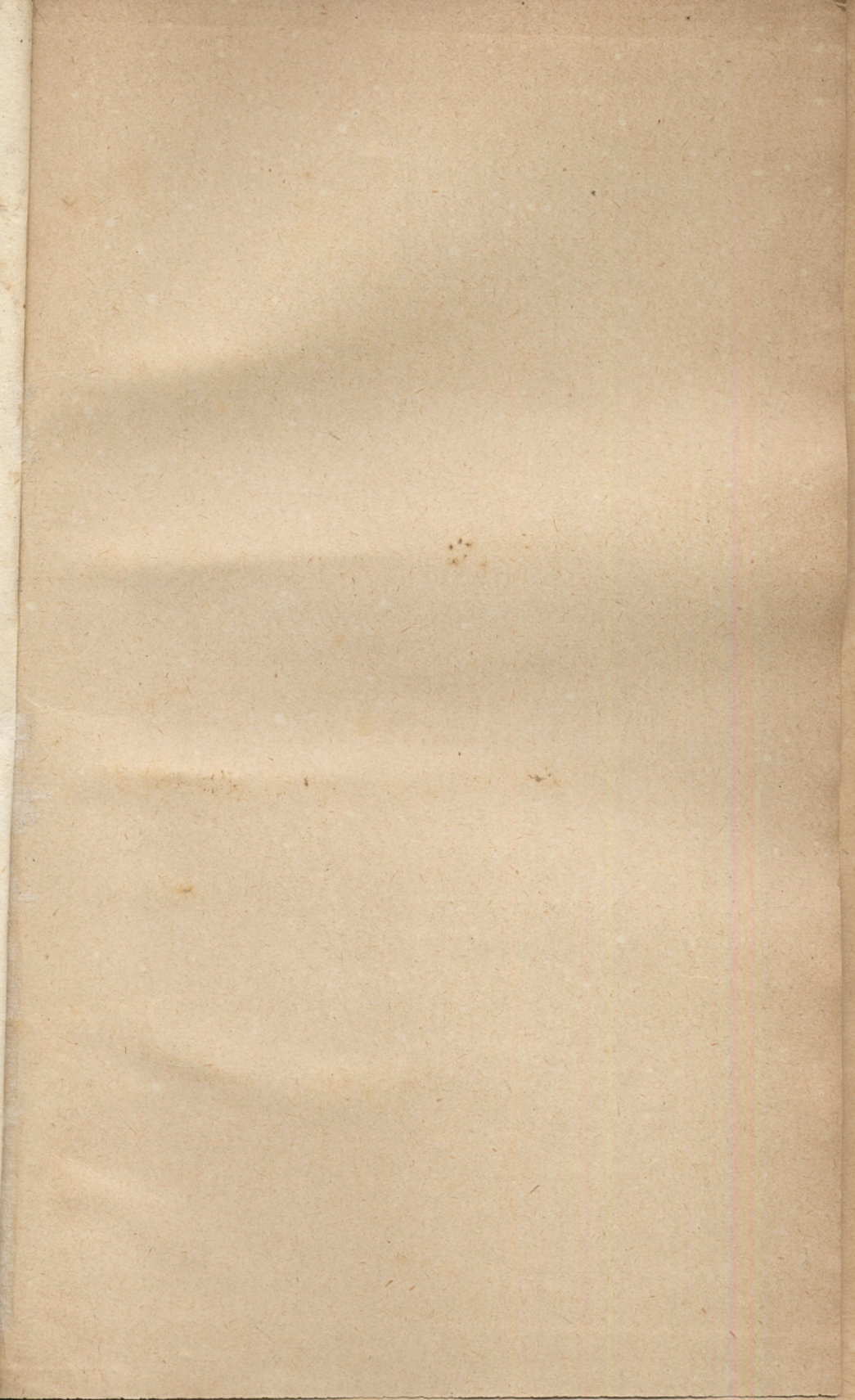
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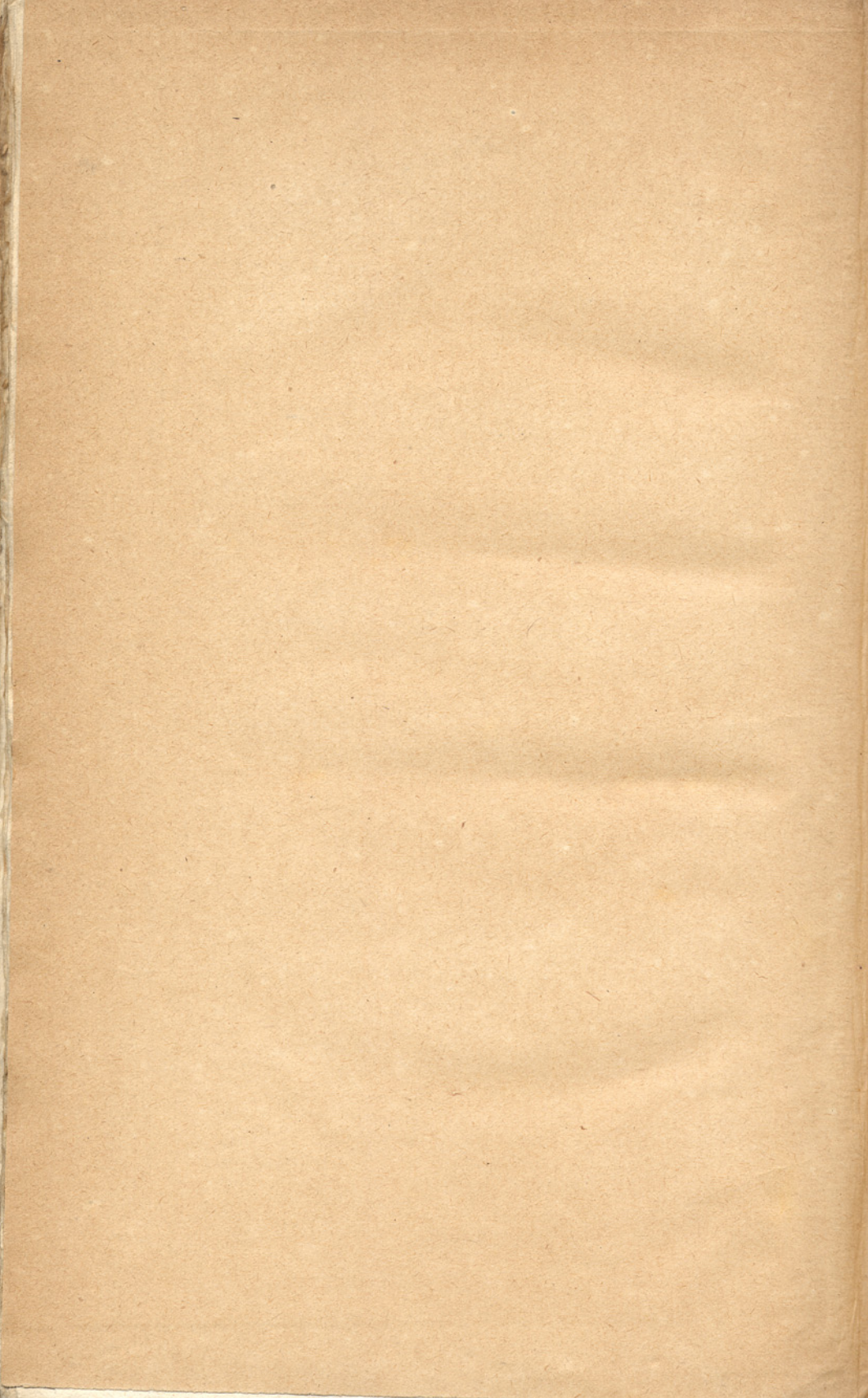
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