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THE
L I F E,
EXTRAORDINARY
ADVENTURES, VOYAGES,
AND
SURPRISING ESCAPES
OF
Capt. NEVILLE FROWDE,
OF
C O R K.

IN FOUR PARTS.

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

— *Breve irreparabile tempus
Omnibus est vitæ, sed famam extendere factis
Hoc virtutis opus.* —

VIRG.

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M DCC XCII.

JAMES WALL

AND

DANIEL MORAEU. ESQ.



I beg to inform you that I have been the various
accidents of my life to the public service;
and the other principle which has con-
tributed to my gratitude to you, and the
of becoming mankind by
and example, this subject is the natural
consequence of it, for to whom can I more
truly dedicate my labour, than to two
persons who were so intimately embarked
in the last part of my adventures; to ge-
nerally shared with me in my trials, and
who so much truly the good of the country.

Yours

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TO
JAMES WALL,
AND
DANIEL MORAEU, ESQRS.

AT length, in compliance with your kind injunctions, I have given the various accidents of my life to the public censure; and as no other principle excited this compliance than my gratitude to you, and the hopes of benefiting mankind by precept and example, this address is the natural consequence of it; for to whom can I more properly dedicate my labours, than to two patrons who were so intimately embarked in the latter part of my adventures; so generously shared with me in my losses, and who so much study the good of the community in general.

That trade and navigation may continue to flourish, and that all your laudable endeavours may be crowned with the desired success, is the hearty prayer of,

GENTLEMEN,

Your faithful, and

Most obedient Servant,

NEVILLE FROWDE.

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T H E
A D V E N T U R E S

O F

Capt. N E V I L L E F R O W D E.

P A R T I.

I Was born in Ratchliffe-Highway, London, on the first of August, in the year 1714, the very day on which the late Queen Anne died. My father David Frowde was master and part owner of a vessel in the Virginia trade, called the Lovely Susan, of 200 tons burthen, was near forty years of age, and had been some years married to Matilda, the only child of Mr. John Neville, a wholesale ironmonger, near Whitechapel Bars, by whom he had one daughter named after her mother Matilda, who was five years and two months old, when on his return from a voyage to Virginia, he found my mother with me a

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new-born infant in her arms. This incident was doubtless very agreeable to him, and heightened the fondness he had always entertained for his wife, as a proof of which I was baptized by her maiden name Neville: this joy was however soon damped by an agreement my father had entered into with his owners, to make another trip to Virginia, for which place he sailed in a few weeks, and did not return until six months after.

Having by his frequent voyages settled a good correspondence on the Continent, and being tired of the fatigue and danger of a sea-faring life, and possessed of a middling fortune, he made known to my mother a design he had before formed of settling with his family at James Town in Virginia, to follow the business of a planter.

My grandfather and grandmother by the father's side were at this time living, and in our neighbourhood; and though the old gentleman had been formerly a sea-faring man himself, he could not but commend his son's scheme, which, at his return from his next voyage, he prepared to put in execution; and that young Neville might be no obstacle to his design, the old couple prevailed upon my mother to wean and leave me with them, promising in two or three years to go over themselves, and end their days with their children. My mother was
a long

a long while before she could be brought to part with me ; but persuaded of the tenderness of the old people, and knowing the inconvenience of having infant passengers on ship-board, she at last consented ; and my father, with her and little Matilda, sailed on my birth-day, in the year 1716, after leaving every thing necessary for my maintenance, and having fixed my grandfather's and grandmother's departure to the end of three years. I was too young either to feel my misfortune, or complain of my loss ; besides, I had fallen into the most indulgent hands, my guardians being disposed rather to spoil me with fondness, than thwart me in any of my puerile inclinations.

The old gentleman received letters by the first ships from my father, advising of their arrival, in perfect health, and pleasing settlement on a good plantation, not far from James Town, with a store or warehouse in the town, for the convenience of his traffic, in which he had a prospect of succeeding even beyond expectation. These advices were accompanied with presents of whatever the country could afford, besides six hogsh. heads of tobacco consigned to my grandfather for my better accommodation. This cargo was no other than a testimony of their fondness to me, my grandfather being rich,

and he and his wife perfectly wrapt up in me.

Two years and a half were now past, when my grandfather thought of the promise he had made to join his son, and had already begun to dispose of his effects; and having also an hereditary freehold of seventy pounds a year in Buckinghamshire, he had executed letters of attorney for the management of it in his absence.

I had now entered my fifth year, and was looked upon as a very promising child; began to take notice of what passed, and to know my friends and benefactors; an early time of life, alas! to begin the experience of the misfortune and distress, which was too soon to be my portion. Already our departure was fixed, when my good grandmother was attacked with a rheumatic fever, which in less than a month put a period to her life. Young as I was, I never left her bed side, and felt, as much as my tender age would permit, all the sorrow imaginable for my loss. In her last moments she spoke of me with the highest affection, and besought her husband to depart with me immediately to my parents, and died with supplications to providence for their happiness and welfare as well as mine. It was observed, that, contrary to most infants of my years, this stroke made a deep impression upon me. Of the knowledge

knowledge of my parents I had no traces remaining, and the great fondness I had experienced from this worthy woman made me inconsolable for some weeks; in short, I hardly eat or drank, and became a perfect shadow, notwithstanding my grandfather endeavoured sincerely to supply her place in regard to me, even amidst his distress, which could not fail of being very sharp, as they had lived together for near fifty years in love and harmony, and had had a great number of children, though only my father and one son more, William Frowde, oilman in the Borough of Southwark, where then living, who, though but two of them, could never agree, as it often happens between brothers; and as the old gentleman had a good fortune, the disagreement was supposed to be occasioned by the preference given to my father for some years past. William, though rich and in a successful trade, was avaricious and designing; and at my parents departure, and then only for form sake, had renewed a correspondence which had been dropped for some years.

My father, on the other hand was up-right, open and generous; always mentioned his brother with affection, though he detested his little mean ways, and mourned their difference of temper, which was such as to admit of no cordial affection. Beside, my uncle

looked upon my grandfather's design of settling in Virginia, as a bar to all his further hopes on that side; and therefore had carried his resentment, even to him, so far, as not to have been in his house for a great while, till my grandmother was upon her death-bed; when, indeed, he did pay them a merely ceremonious visit. And yet he could have nothing in reality to complain of, as already he had received more than an equal share of his effects; and, when he wanted a sum of money, he never went away unsatisfied. Well may covetousness be called the root of all evil; where it takes full possession of the heart, it destroys every kind and tender sentiment, the checks of conscience are overcome, and religion, virtue, honour and humanity, are all no more.

My poor grandfather, advanced in years, and quite depressed with his late misfortune, did not live to hear from my parents, in answer to the letters he sent, advising them of the death of their mother; for as to his going over to them, his present weak condition had hitherto rendered it impossible, though to the last, he languished after the voyage: he died with the hands of poor Neville in his, and, if I had not extremely loved him, the speedy change of treatment I experienced, was enough to make me sensibly regret my loss. My uncle, with hypocritical tears,

tears, attended also by his bed side, and had made such professions of sorrow for having ever disobliged him, and such protestations of affection to his brother and family, but particularly to me, that the old gentleman was not only prevailed upon to leave him 500*l.* but also to appoint him executor of his last will and testament, by which he devised 1000*l.* to my father, 100*l.* to my mother, the same to each of my uncle's two sons, and the residue of his ready money, which was 1500*l.* to be equally divided between me and my sister when we came of age, and till then to be put out to interest for our use. As to the freehold estate, it became my father's of course. I had now reached my seventh year, and nature had given me a person and temper, that would have engaged even a brute to love me; the fondness I had, all my little life, experienced, had not spoiled me; I was good natured and pliable, and ready, by all the trifling ways in my power, to shew the utmost gratitude to my benefactors. My grandfather had only one maid servant with him at the time of his decease, whose name was Elizabeth Man, and who had partly brought me up: he had left her an annuity of 10*l.* and requested his son, in his last moments, that she might have the care of me, till I was sent to my father and mother; but my uncle had entertained other thoughts since

since his death, and turned poor Betty out of the house, and sent me to his own, after selling off all his father's effects. Betty parted with me, after the most lamentable complaints and tears; and this I may call the third misfortune that I very severely felt, and that even almost broke my little heart.

My aunt received me with great affectation of joy, and my two cousins, William and Isaac, seemed glad of a new play fellow, the former being only nine, and the latter seven years and an half old: nay, my rugged uncle put on a behaviour, for some weeks, that banished all regrets from my mind, especially, as Betty was permitted daily to see her child, as she called me, and was treated with some degree of respect. Perhaps this treatment had continued some time longer, if another still more dreadful ill had not befallen me; for, in about half a year afterwards, my uncle received letters from Virginia, advising of the death of my dear father, who died at James Town, of the spotted fever, soon after he received the tidings of that of his parents, leaving my mother a disconsolate widow, and two fatherless children, one of whom soon experienced the fatal effects of his decease.

As I had never known my father, if I had been told of his death, it could have given me little pain; but it was kept a secret from me by my uncle and aunt, who had already,
from

from that circumstance, begun to brew projects in their minds to my prejudice. What will not the love of money effect! In short, I was now, unhappily for me, possessed of above 70l. a year, 750l. in money; of the latter, had I died, they could have no legal advantage whilst my sister was living; but as to the estate, I was now the only hindrance to its coming to them, and therefore from thence sprung all my future misfortunes.

My cousins and I went, by this time, to school together, and, as they were both good natured boys, we agreed very well, and, though I was quicker at my book than they were, which galled their father and mother very much, and every body that came to the house carested me, and said I was the prettiest boy they ever saw, yet I carried it so affectionately to them, which, indeed, was from my natural disposition, and they, in their turn, loved me so dearly, that scarce a dispute of any sort had happened between us. This union one would imagine should have pleaded strongly in my favour, and chased away all my uncle's resolutions to my prejudice; but affairs were not yet ripe for execution, though, by many a sour look from my uncle, and many a huff and blow from his wife, I had reason already to sigh after the remembrance of my grandfather.

Betty

Betty Man, who visited me every day, and tenderly loved me, was an obstruction to their projects. She was first to be removed out of the way: to effect this, my uncle forged a letter from my mother, setting forth her want of such an assistant, and desiring her forthwith to set out for Virginia, but telling her to leave the child with him, till my age rendered me more able to bear the long voyage; and for my better education in school learning, which she represented as a very difficult matter to procure in Virginia. Betty, who had always loved my father and mother, made not the least hesitation in obeying these commands; and, as she had hitherto observed nothing but love and affection towards me, did not make the least objection to leaving me in England; and therefore, after receiving her first year's annuity, she parted with me after a thousand prayers, blessings and embraces, and tears enough were shed on both sides. They wrote to my mother by her, what they thought proper, and acquainted her of my health and progress in growth, and learning my book, and cunningly imparted to her the artifice they made use of, to induce Betty to come over to her; knowing an old and faithful servant of the family would be a great pleasure, and of special use to her in her desolate situation; and, at the same time, told her how careful they would be

be of their charge, and that, when she pleased to order it, the legacies left to my father, my sister and me, should be paid to any agent she should appoint. For a quarter of a year after her departure, things went on in the old smooth way; but, by the expiration of that time, my aunt began to assume a new and unprecedented behaviour. I was taken from school, where already I had learned to read prettily; kept at home, with the utmost strictness and severity; employed in the lowest drudgeries of the family, as cleaning knives, shoes, &c. My cousins were not permitted to play with me; I was continually beat for their faults, as well as my own; and my diet was so sparingly given to me, that I was almost starved; nay, should have been quite so, but for the good nature of the children, who stole what they could for me; and the servants, when their mistress's back was turned, did the same. The poor lads would frequently help me at my labours, and we often all three mingled our innocent tears together. This usage, no doubt, sat very heavily upon me. Infant as I was, I continually compared my condition with what it had been with my grandfather and grandmother, and wondered how I came to be used with so little compassion; but, as I had from nature a great degree of vivacity, I endured it all without shewing any impatience, or an altered

tered countenance, which greatly disappointed my tyrants, who were in hopes to cow and depress my spirits, and, by degrees, to make an end of me. Hereupon, a new scheme was soon after put in practice; for a few days they used me as they did at first, till they had completed it, and then my uncle talked publicly, in the family, that he had got a boarding school for me, at some distance from town, where he was resolved to place me, till my mother sent orders for me to come over to her. I was glad to hear this, for I longed to be any where, out of the reach of persons to whom I had taken so much dislike, and imagined, with myself, that any place must be better than that I was in at present; but my cousins took on strangely upon the occasion, and, both together, begged their father and mother, with tears, to let them go into the country with Neville. No, no, returned my aunt, very sourly—boarding schools were not built for you,—your fool must be laid out otherwise; but your cousin has got an estate, that his old foolish grandfather left him,—and he must be bred up like a gentleman, forsooth. These words had some effect on me; and, as I had a sagacity unusual to children of my years, I directly imagined the case pretty nearly as it was; and, though the word estate was not well understood by me, thought I had a right

to somewhat that my aunt wished was possessed by herself or her own children. I was at this time in my ninth year, when my uncle told her one morning, to get my things ready, for he would set off with me in a week's time. I, being then by, said to him very innocently, uncle, shall I go abroad with you then? Ay, ay, child, he replied, — and turning to his wife, more softly, but I believe it will be the last time. — I did not rightly understand him, and therefore ran down into the kitchen, to tell the joyful news to the servants, who were all fond of me; but seemed rather sorrowful than rejoiced at the tidings, shaking their heads, and crying ah? poor child! which not a little astonished me. However, nothing now ran in my head but the country, and riding, for I was told I was to go in a coach, and, for the remaining part of my stay, no one was so easy and contented, especially as both uncle and aunt put on a very mild behaviour to me, and my cousins strove which should oblige me most.

At length, the day came, when, taking leave of all the family, my cousins and I shedding abundance of tears at our farewell, and our porter being ordered to carry my box to the Colchester coach, at the Spread-Eagle Inn, in Gracechurch-street, my uncle took me into a hackney coach, and away we

drove. He was very reserved all the way, and seemed to be under some concern, answering so furlily, to two or three innocent questions I put to him, that I burst out into tears, and asked him if he was angry with me. At these words his concern seemed to increase, and I could perceive a tear or two trickle down his cheek; but, recollecting himself, all on a sudden, he caught me in his arms, kissed me very tenderly, and replied, no, my dear, I'm not angry with thee—I'm mad with myself—but I cannot go back—no, I'm only concerned at parting with thee—good God! what am I doing! I could not, at my present age, see any thing in these expressions, but what conveyed an air of kindness, and, by that time they were uttered, we alighted at the Inn Gate, and found the porter had left the box, as directed; which, after he had drank a glass of wine, and made me do the same, was put into the coach we came in, and the driver bid to go where he was ordered. My eyes were busied in looking about me, at the several people and carriages that passed us, till we came into a road, which I supposed led to the boarding school, where I was going to be educated. In some time afterwards, perhaps an hour or so, we entered a street full of houses, which I imagined like London, and, at a particular door, my uncle called to the coachman to stop,

stop, when we alighted, and were received into a small house, by a man and a woman but meanly dressed, the former of whom welcomed my conductor, and the latter, giving me a kiss, cried out, Lord! what a charming boy it is! my uncle and the man, whom I judged, and not unjustly, was to be my master, went into another room, and, after talking for some minutes very earnestly together, (at which time I overheard, as I thought, a sound like the chinking of money) came into the room where I was sitting with the woman, and in a short time rose, and kissing me, bid me farewell.—The tears trickled down my cheeks, as I parted with him, desiring him to give my duty to my aunt, and my love to my cousins:—methought he looked very much disturbed, and red in the face, and, flinging himself into the same coach we came in, drove away.

I was now left, with these two strange persons, with my heart quite full, and crying bitterly. I loved my uncle and his family still, and thought I saw somewhat in the house, and the looks of the people, that was far different from those I had hitherto been used to; and, though they strove all they could to calm my grief, I went to bed with more sorrow in my breast, than I had ever yet experienced, though from the time I could then first remember, I had met with so many


shocks in the deaths and departure of the only friends I ever had. The room I was put to bed in, increased my sense of the alteration of my condition; it had only the little bed in which I lay, the walls were scabby, and the sky might be seen through part of the cieling, therefore, little answered my gay expectations of a fine boarding school; nor could I see any little masters or misses about, whom I expected as my companions. The ideas of murder, apparitions, witches, and such other matters, with which children's brains are too often crowded, by the indiscretion or folly of servants, all thronged upon me; and already I thought that I beheld raw-head and bloody-bones stalking about my garret; for a garret it really was, and one of the very worst I have ever since beheld. I had been bred up religiously, and received early impressions of the goodness of God, and the protection he afforded to children that loved him, feared him, and prayed to him; and this night, when my tears would permit me, I rehearsed all the prayers I had been taught, till downright weariness lulled me into a profound sleep; from which I did not awake, till the aforesaid woman, in a softer tone of voice than her face declared her mistress of, bid me rise to eat my breakfast. Fear of offending made me dress myself, as well as I could, for it was but very lately

lately I had been able to perform that office, for myself; and I followed her down stairs like a lamb to the slaughter, looking about me every step I took, with fearful eyes, at the dirty stairs and wretched stair-case, having never seen any thing that shewed so miserably before. I found the man and his wife, as I fancied her to be, had breakfasted, and a bason of water-gruel was set for me, which, though I had no stomach, I eat all up through fear also of offending; at the same time a sigh or two escaping me, after the fare I had been used to, and the attendance that now I found was no more. As soon as I had done, the man asked me mildly, if my name was not Neville? Yes, sir, I replied—that is an odd name, he returned—I shall for the future call you Jack, and so, come Jack and follow me, we'll go and fetch a walk. I was all obedience, you may be sure, and immediately, making a low bow to the woman, at which she said, that is a good boy! followed him, through several streets, and by a church, till we came to the side of a great river; when stepping into a boat, which the men were waiting with, we were rowed on board a small ship, for so I found it was, in comparison with several others that were not at a great distance from it.

As soon as we had got on board, we entered a little neat cabin; and the man I came

with, whom I heard called captain, said to another that I thought looked milder than himself—here, George, is a little messmate for ye; I have taken him prentice, and would have you shew him his business in the cabin; if he behaves well, I will be kind to him: and turning about, and seeing the tears trickle from my eyes—don't cry, my dear, he continued, be brisk and lively, no body shall hurt you; come, come, when you have been a little used to it, you will like it very well. Sir, returned the other man, he seems as pretty a lad as I ever saw in my life; don't be concerned, my dear, you shall not be hurt I promise you; and, stepping to a chest, or locker, pulled out a biscuit, and gave me, which I received with a low bow. Soon after my conductor went ashore again, and his companion, taking me by the hand, led me into the cabin, and asked me, first my name, next where I was born, and thirdly, how long I had been bound prentice to the captain; withal telling me he was mate of the ship, and would always be very kind to me. Perhaps no child of my years had ever more cunning, or a readier reach of thought; all my reflections of the preceding night, and in my passage to the ship, had tended to convince me, that my uncle had, instead of carrying me to the boarding-school, sold, or given me to my present possessor. I was
always

always taught to be obliging to every body, and my natural temper strongly led me to it. I found I was going to sea; an element my grandfather had commended so highly, to which I had no aversion, and fancied, if I behaved well, I should not be beat or abused. Recollecting also, what the captain had told me of my name, and resolved to please him even in that, though I imagined it was nothing but his fancy; so I answered very cheerfully, that my name was Jack; that I was born at Ratcliff-Highway, and bound prentice last night; for I imagined I was really then served so by my uncle, being otherwise unacquainted with the meaning of the term. Well Jackey, he replied, you are a sweet boy—you may live to be an admiral; you did not come of the scum of the earth, I perceive, and I will be your master, I like you so well, and teach you to be a sailor. I thanked him very kindly, and innocently added, that I hoped if I was not a good boy, he would let no body beat me but himself—he smiled at my request, and answered, no, my dear, nobody shall beat thee—I am sure you will never deserve it. By the time this little conference was over, a man brought some meat, in a wooden-platter; and two others coming in, I was set at table, by my new friend, and, my heart being somewhat at ease from his behaviour and assurances,



surances, I eat very heartily of the provisions before me, often thinking of the expression, "you may live to be an Admiral," which I thought must be some great post at sea, and flattered my little vanity highly. Mean time, the other three men regarded me with great good humour, and were fond of helping me to victuals and drink; and what pleased them highly was, that if they were at a loss for any thing, I cried out, can I find it, sir? If you will tell me where, I will fetch this, and that, and the other. So that they were not only diverted with my temper, but said, I was the finest boy that ever came on board a vessel, since they had known the seas. Indeed, my carriage was owing to the manner in which I had been hitherto brought up; and no wonder the honest tars were surpris'd at it, as few, but the children of mean people, go to sea, who display, on every occasion, the baseness of their manners and parentage, and the low sulky humours they have imbibed.

At night, the mate made me a bed, in the cabin next his own; but my mind was so full of the adventures of the preceding day, that I slept little, till towards morning. I recollected all my dear grandfather's sea-faring stories; built an hundred castles in the air; and, as I loved both knowledge and instruction, went to sleep with a full resolu-

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tion of learning readily all that might be taught me, and particularly to ask my kind friend, whom I already liked so well, to teach me to write, and let me know what I had to perform, in order to please my master, which at all events I was resolved to do.

When the mate left his cabin, he gently waked me, saying, come Jackey, it is time to rise ; and before he called a second time, I was up, and accosted him with a good-morrow, and, pray sir, tell me what I am to do this morning? Ay, my dear, he said, and I will help you to do it to. Accordingly we went into the cabin, which he instructed me to sweep and keep clean, shewed me the places where every thing was put, and what I must do when my master was on board, and, after we had breakfasted upon what was left the day before, he shewed me all the parts of the ship, which was a Brigantine, called the William and Mary, that traded between London, and Cork, Kinsale and Dublin, in Ireland. I took every thing so readily, that he was quite charmed with me, and, before three days were at an end, I could not only go to any part of the vessel that I was bid, but splice a knot, and go aloft with great readiness, and performed very handily all the offices of the cabin ; and before my captain came on board, whose name was John M'Namara, I had also made
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some progress in writing, my instructor being quite proud of teaching me every thing I desired; his name was George White, the son of a grocer in Old-street, London, who had used the seas from my own age; was an excellent sailor, and having bent his mind that way, loved books and knowledge greatly. He was now twenty-seven years of age, and of the most inviting carriage, that ever I observed upon the rugged element he was employed in.

At the end of five days, our captain came on board, whilst I was busy in the cabin, and, I suppose, heard my fame from the mate before I saw him; for, when he came, he put on a smiling countenance, saying, why Jack, thou art a brave boy indeed! zounds! how neat every thing is here! and turning to the mate, who was behind him, continued, why George, this will make a very pretty fellow—and between you and I, I am resolved to keep and encourage him, and not put a certain design in execution, which one time or other I will tell you—no, by G—d, I am not a man for their turn neither. What sayest, Jack, wilt thou live with me, and be my child?—Yes, sir, I replied, with the utmost vivacity, I hope I shall always live with you and that gentleman—I love you both dearly. The spirit and innocent freedom of this answer made them both laugh, and

and my master squeezed me by the hand, and returned—why, boy, at this rate you will gain all our hearts—I never saw the like in my life! my master was now dressed much better than when I first saw him, and I began to be reconciled both to him and his looks, which at first seemed so rugged and unfociable. I found my box was brought on board, which was opened by the mate, and discovered all the clothes I had at my uncle's, with some shirts and other matters, and the books I had learned at school, consisting of a spelling book, a bible, and Æsop's fables. Well, says the captain, this is very well, but you shall go on shore with me, and I will furnish you with a jacket and trowsers, and other things which will equip you for a little sailor. The mate applauded this motion, and accordingly we went on shore, when I was regaled at a public house, in which we dined, and innocently asking the name of the place, was frankly answered that it was Deptford, a town I had never heard mentioned before, and learned further that we were to set sail the next day.

I looked so well the ensuing morning, when I was dressed in my new attire, that the whole ship's company seemed amazed. What had been bought for me was the best of every sort, so that I began to think my present situation rather a proof of the kindness

ness of my uncle, than any design against me, and strutted about like a hero, from deck to deck. In the forenoon, we got up our anchor and were under sail; and now my first difficulty presented, for I was soon so sick with the ship's motion, that I could not hold up my head, and did not rightly recover till we got out to sea; though great care, I must say, was taken of me all the time, and food and cordials, proper for my disorder, administered to me, both captain and mate attending upon me, as if I had been their own child: after this, I was near a week before I knew how to keep my legs in this tottering and tumbling vehicle, and was not a little surprized, to view such an extent of sky and water, without any of those objects I had been used to gaze at; but a little time, and a strong inclination to become a seaman, soon conquered all my fears and apprehensions. We had a fine voyage, and I continued so to please my superiors, that I met with nothing but smiles and praises during the whole passage, and, by that time we came to Cork, I could also write a tolerably legible hand, and boxed my compass very smartly. In short, I had so gained upon my master, that, when we arrived, he ordered me to dress myself in my best attire, and go ashore with him, to visit his wife; by which I first understood, to my great pleasure,

pleasure, that the woman I had seen at Deptford had not that character; having taken a kind of an aversion to her and her house, that was not at all unnatural, considering the circumstances I was in when first left there, and the miserable night I passed in my wretched garret.

Mr. White shook hands with me when I went over the ship's side, and cried, merrily, to his commander, sir, don't keep my little messmate long? Faith, George, he replied, all that I am afraid of is, that his mistress will want to keep him—but however, I will do what I can for you—perhaps you may see him again with me to-morrow, and then you shall go ashore.

The harmony in which we had lived together, on board this little vessel, scarcely of 100 tons burthen, the good nature of the captain, his mate, and the whole crew, made it painful to me to leave it, and the engaging manner in which I took leave of my shipmates, finished the absolute conquest I had made of their affections—when I had got into the boat, seeing Mr. White look concerned, as I thought, I hallowed out with my usual vivacity, though with a peculiar dullness of countenance—sir, good b'ye.—My master says, I shall come again to-morrow!—faith, my dear, the captain returned, clapping me upon the head, there will be two words to

that bargain—I believe I shall not part with you without I come myself—besides, you must go and see the ladies—why they will almost devour thee, thou lookest so handsome.

Soon after we landed, and had traversed a street or two, we arrived at a genteel house, into which having entered, a well dressed young woman met my master, and, clasping him about the neck, welcomed him home with the utmost joy and satisfaction, and he returned her caresses with great affection, when turning about, and pointing to me, said, see Molly what a present I have brought you? Upon this, she looked towards me, as I stood at a respectful distance, and lifting up her hands, cried out, good God! where did you bring this pretty little master from, is he a passenger from London? And immediately advanced, with an engaging air, that gave me the utmost delight, kissed me, and bid me sit down: I hesitated, however, to obey her, till my master bid me sit also, and then turning to his wife, as I perceived her now to be; Molly, that is your little servant, I assure you; I have taken him prentice, and by G—d, I like him so well, that I would as soon part with my ship as lose him? At these words, she cast the most indulgent glances at me, and, with a kind of astonishment, echoed the expression—prentice! sure you
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joke? I am glad to see him, however, he has pleased me at first sight—what a sweet, modest countenance he has! at these compliments, which not a little elevated me, I made as many bows, at every one of which I had so kind a look, with the epithet of my dear, and my child, so often repeated, that I found my mistress already would become my great friend. I was not suffered to go out of the room into the kitchen; but eat and drank with them, and, at the close of the evening, she shewed me to bed, herself, in a little neat closet, contiguous to their own apartment, and, when she fetched the candle, I said, good night madam, I am sorry to give you so much trouble; to which the kind creature returned, good night love—I hope you will sleep well, and find yourself more easy than on ship-board—good God! how could thy parents part with and send thee to sea—thou doest not seem formed for such rough business! thus she left me, and in vain my little eyes courted sleep, for the former part of the night—no, my heart exulted at my situation; methought I was now perfectly happy; I compared the softness of this dear woman, with the boisterous behaviour and ill treatment I had received from my aunt, rejoiced that I had got out of her clutches, and resolved to endeavour to oblige her in all my words and actions;

my breast, at the same time, overflowed with gratitude to my master, and I blessed my stars that I was got into such good hands. I was now, I imagined to myself, subject only to the same tender usage I had received from my grandfather and grandmother, whose memory drew tears from my eyes, and as I had then some notion remaining of having a mother, wished, if ever I lived to see her, that she might be like my mistress. As to my fortune, or any other advantages, which I had never but some blind hints of, from poor Betty and the servants of my uncle's family, it was quite forgot; nay, perhaps had never entered into my mind, and at dawn of day, I fell into a sweet sleep, unattended with any the least regret or dissatisfaction.

Thus, whatever agreement my master had made with my uncle, my native good temper, age, and innocence, had triumphed over them. No doubt, I had been destined to a severer fate: but few are the brutes, very few, that can riot in cruelty to infant softness, that can resist the smiles and blandishments of artless simplicity! every one, naturally, shudders at the thoughts of injuring those that could never offend. To me it was an happy circumstance, that I had never known parental tenderness—that I was sensible in losing those that nursed my infant years,

years, I had lost my only friends—and that I was not used with affection by my uncle and aunt; all these things were suited to make my situation still more eligible, and I had nothing left to wish, save, that I frequently dwelt with fondness upon the idea of my two cousins, who I remembered had loved me, and endeavoured to steal relief for me, when under the persecution of their mother, and on that of Betty Man, whom I respected and valued more than any one else on earth, and of whom I had some faint remembrance, that she was gone, somewhere or other, to find out my mamma, as I had been taught to stile her.

About nine o'clock the next day, as I was hardly awake, I heard my mistress's voice in the room, who said to her husband, poor child, how he sleeps—I won't wake him—to be sure he is fatigued, and he replied, from the other room—well, let him sleep—I will go on board without him, and come home to dinner. Hearing these words, I cunningly kept silent, with my eyes shut; for already I could hardly bear the thoughts of parting from a woman, who had used me so affectionately, though, at the same time, I longed again to see Mr. White, and pursue his kind instructions; for, as I said before, I was born with a thirst after knowledge. In about half an hour, I rose softly, and dressed

myself, a province I was grown very alert at, for necessity will make every thing easy, even to the youngest subject of its power, and went into the parlour I had at first been introduced to, where sat my mistress at work, and, before she could well look upon me, I addressed her thus: madam, I thank you for my good night's lodging; but am afraid I make you angry, by not getting up sooner to wait upon you. I am sorry, indeed madam—heavens! my dear, she replied, in a very tender tone of voice, don't talk so—and smiling, continued, I think, thou hast more need of attendance—come, let me comb thy hair, which she did with a great deal of readiness, and even washed my hands and face, so that I looked a little more like myself, methought, when I turned towards the glass. The good woman had also kept a pot of tea warm for me, and, ordering her maid to make a toast, I breakfasted as elegantly as ever I did in my life, whilst, the whole time of my repast, my mistress eyed me with a fixed attention of kindness, which made me ashamed, and every other moment a sigh heaved her bosom, as at the remembrance of somewhat that gave her pain.

When I had breakfasted, I asked her if she wanted me to do any thing for her, for madam, I said, I don't love to sit still if there is any thing to do—no child, nothing; but

but come, now I think of it, whilst I work you shall read to me. No task could be more agreeable, as that was a favourite employment, and my little heart panted to display my talents before her; she reached me a volume of the spectators, a book I had never seen before, and turning to the story of Inkle and Yarico, bid me divert her with that, and, in the execution of her commands, I so much surpassed her expectations, that she expressed her astonishment both by words and actions, at every period; as for my own part, I was affected so much, and felt so intimately the distressful tale, that my voice was frequently interrupted by tears and sobs, nor could I suppress many innocent speeches of abhorrence, that broke from me, at the monstrous ingratitude and perfidy of the young trader. At the close, after commending my reading, she made use of these remarkable words, the meaning of which I knew nothing of till a great many years afterwards. Ah! child, said she, there are still worse brutes in the world than Inkle—wretches, that, for the sake of a little pelf, would abandon even such innocence as thine to destruction—but, thank God, they are often deceived in their purposes! whilst we were thus talking, my master came gaily into the room, with, so my dear—you have got your little companion—well, Jack, I have

have had sad complaints from your old friend White, for not bringing you on board again; but, however, seeing me look grave, he said, he will come on shore to see you in the afternoon. I shewed so much pleasure at hearing this, that my mistress, turning to her husband, cried, as it were aside—how good, and grateful the pretty soul is—why I warrant, Jackey, you love your master too?—Yes, madam, I returned, with surprising quickness—I love him and you, better than I do myself, a great deal—you have both been so kind to me, that I will lose my life for you at any time! the manner in which these words were spoken—my looks and gesture, had somewhat so peculiar in them, that, for some moments, they both surveyed me with a kind of an admiring silence: and afterwards, looking at each other, my master cried, in a still milder tone than ever I heard, ah! my boy—my dear boy—I fear you are a little flatterer—but however, I cannot help being pleased with what thou sayest—pleased, my mistress returned—no body can help it—every thing he says is so pretty and sensible. Without bidding, I had got my master his slippers, having observed whence they were taken the day before, for which I had a fresh commendation. In short, I had already made such a progress in their favour, that nothing but good looks and kind

kind

kind words were used to me, and I was not suffered to wait at table, at dinner, but sat by Mrs. M'Namara, who helped me to the best bits, and in such plenty that I could hardly eat fast enough. After dinner Mr. White came in, at whose entrance I ran to him with an artless precipitancy, and fondly taking him by the hand, and looking up in his face, said, oh sir, my mistress has been so good to keep me with her; but indeed, I quite longed to see you. He was perfectly delighted with this testimony of remembrance, kissed me heartily, and, paying his compliments to Mrs. M'Namara, she received him in a manner that convinced me she was no stranger to his worth. When they began to talk of their affairs, according to a custom taught me at my grandfather's, I slipped out of the room, and went down stairs, which was not opposed by any body, and had still more encomiums bestowed upon my person and behaviour, by the maid servant and a female friend, that happened to be with her in the kitchen. And here, once for all, I cannot help observing, in justice to the Irish nation, that no woman I ever was among, behaved so fondly to children as they do. I have often taken notice, that the females of most other countries are barely kind to their own, and unless interest or complaisance induces, regard the offspring of others, with, rather
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a kind of distant civility, than affection: whereas, and what I so agreeably experienced, permit me to say, the looks of these

— are dressed in smiles,
 That infant softness feels—their toned accents,
 Convey a transport, words can ne'er describe;
 All through the soul, the magic influence plays
 And breathes content, and ease, and joy, and
 love!

The maid and her companion, had just returned from shewing me the garden, when I was called up stairs; where I doubt not but that I had been the subject of the discourse, during my absence; for, the minute I entered the room, Mr. White said, ah! Jackey, you will lose me for a school master, as this worthy gentlewoman has prevailed with the captain to let you stay with her, until the ship is ready to sail, and will provide you a more capable tutor than I am. The beginning of this speech, cast a gloom over my face which I found was taken particular notice of; but the conclusion impressed my heart, and consequently my looks, with a pleasing gratitude, that soon broke out into these animated expressions. Oh! nothing, sir, can equal the joy your goodness has, and ever will give me; but, to be sure if other business requires you, I must have patience, and shall be made
 greatly

greatly amends by being constantly with my excellent mistress.—I shall be sorry to forfeit your care and esteem—but indeed, if I were suddenly taken from her, I should break my heart. Nothing was heard for some time, on all sides, but, good God! how he talks—so young too—so innocent—sure never was so sweet a boy, and words of the like import—I was caressed, again and again, my master clapped me upon the head—Mr. White squeezed me to his bosom, and my mistress protested she loved me already as if I was her own child. Could a deserted infant be more happy than I was, in falling into such humane, and considerate hands! the next day a school master was sent for, and one of the best in the city, who had orders to take the utmost care of my instruction, which he promised to do, and faithfully performed; so my business was now only regularly to attend him, and come home to my meals, where I knew no manner of difference between my mistress's regard, and that which I had experienced from my often remembered grandfather and grandmother. My master was not only a good mathematician, but also taught the languages, and finding me a lad of bright parts; though navigation, together with writing, were what he had orders to keep me to, he frequently, by putting a grammar into my hands, gave me a lesson in
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the rudiments of the latin tongue; but the surprize of the good man was inexpressible, when, at the end of two months, he found I could decline and conjugate better than any scholar he had, which was owing not only to the natural quickness of my genius, but to the pains I took, being never without a book at home, and in three months time, I was reckoned such a prodigy, that my fame spread through the whole city, to the great pleasure of my tutor, father and mother, who in reality passed for my real ones, as I went by the name of Jackey M'Namara. Mr. White protested I was now got beyond his sphere, and my mistress gave fresh orders that I should be taught every thing my genius led me to. By this time our ship had got another lading and sailed for England, my master and his mate parting from me with great affection, and, leaving me entirely in the care of my kind mistress; and, as they were bound to Dantzick, after they had delivered their cargo, and relanded, in the port of London, expected it would be nine or ten months before they revisited Cork. Before they went, my good Mr. White, by my master's orders, had purchased for me, a complete set of mathematical instruments, a grammar, dictionary, and two or three of the classics, besides such books of navigation as were necessary, and my master said, if I
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got the better of them before his return, he would make me a present that should surprize me.

Amidst all these encouragements, I continued to behave with that modesty to every one, and with so much real love and affection to my dear mistress, that she could scarcely bear me from her sight, even at my school hours, and an extraordinary incident, considering my years, still more and more endeared me to her. She was seized with a violent fever, which made every one imagine her life was in danger, upon this occasion, my heart was so full, that my favourite studies were neglected; and, in a most sensible manner, I begged my master, myself, to excuse my coming to school, for I could not mind any thing till my dear mamma was well.—He was a man of discernment and tenderness; was pleased at the address, and complied with it: for a whole week I never stirred from her chamber, was never seen to smile, and my eyes were perpetually over-running with tears. The nurse and maid let me do what I would, beholding me with delight, every minute going softly to the bedside, looking tenderly at her, and often kissing her hand, whilst she was quite insensible of all that passed; but the strength of her constitution and skill of the physicians, at length got the better of her disorder, and,

in a fortnight, she left her bed; but was still very weak. I was the first person she enquired after when she recovered her senses, and, when she heard my grief and afflictions, and, upon a visit from my master, the good Mr. Crosby, my late request to him, and absence from school, her astonishment was extreme: she folded me to her bosom, bestowed so many caresses upon me, and said so many tender things, that I thought myself the happiest boy living; and, one day, when only she and I were left in the chamber, I knelt down, suddenly, before her, and said, first kissing her dear hand, oh! my good mamma, I have been vastly unhappy, — what would have become of me had you died, — I was often as bad as you, almost, with thinking of it, — but, God has heard the prayers I made to him, every day, for your recovery, — and I will always study to behave to him, so as to merit your precious life. — You will send me again to school, and I must bear it, — but I find I shall always be miserable, when I am from you ever so short a time, — O dear, if you had died, my master would have gone distracted! she raised me, and taking me in her arms, and pressing me to her bosom, returned, my dear soul, my love, my life, — how good actions reward themselves, — I will never forget thee, nor ever shall I, I fear, be able to part with thee,

thee,—thou shalt do whatever pleases thee, I have received such proofs of the goodness of thy heart, that I am sure indulgence will never hurt thee.

When I returned to school, I soon made amends for my trifling absence, by the progress my desire of learning soon occasioned, and, in less than eight months, could translate Latin into English, or turn English into Latin, tolerably well; wrote an excellent hand, was a good arithmetician, and understood the theory of navigation better than many persons, whose whole lives had been dedicated to that pursuit; nay, my master found me so acute, that he had put Cunn's Euclid into my hands, and already I could demonstrate any proposition in his first five books. In short, the whole city heard of me, and I was frequently sent for to the houses of the merchants and clergy, to be exhibited as a prodigy; being with all these qualifications but just turned of ten years of age. The women were still more pleased with me than the men, nor did the little pride, so natural to my years, suffer the many encomiums to pass unnoticed, which were made on the beauty of my person, the delicacy of my features, and the sweetness of my looks. I was regarded, by every one, as my mistress's own son, who had been brought up by her friends in England, for she was an English woman,

and so far from contradicting it, that she seemed intirely charmed with the notion, and her care and fondness, in providing me with every thing even to profusion, that I but seemed to want, most effectually confirmed it. When, except at my school hours, she went out any where, either on visits or business, I was her constant attendant, and, if the slightest disorder attacked me, she was inconsolable. Her tender behaviour to me, the happiness I enjoyed, and my attention to books, had almost entirely eradicated the few remaining ideas I had of my uncle and his family, and though I could just remember that I was first called Neville, it began to appear like a dream to me, and if my name was asked at any time, the reply, John or Jackey M'Namara, slipped as glibly from my tongue, as if in reality I had known no other. The treatment I met with suited the amiable softness of my temper, and increased my native vivacity, I was perpetually pleasant myself, and endeavouring to please others. Thus matters were situated when the William and Mary, arrived once more at Cork, and as soon as she had moored, Capt. M'Namara came home to his house, at the very instant, that somewhat having led to it, his wife had got me in her arms, and was bestowing upon me the most endearing caresses. She flew to her husband,
and

and after they had expressed the joy they must naturally have experienced in the sight of each other; he turns to me, and was going to speak, when I prevented him, by running to him, clasping my hands about him, and saying, oh! fir, how happy you make us, and kissed his hand. He, with the utmost good nature, took me up, and returned my salute, over and over again, crying, ever and anon, why, my dear boy,—how thou art improved,—sure you cannot be the same;—well, I see you have lost nothing by my absence! then, turning to my mamma, for I must now begin to call her so; he added, why, my dear, Molly, what have you done to Jackey, to make him so pretty, so complete a little fellow? Done, my dear, she replied, done no more than I am obliged to do,—I believe if it had not been for his sweet engaging society, I should hardly have lived to see you return: he is my dear son, my child, and shall be your's, and when you come to hear all, you will be proud to call him so, I am sure! the captain seemed quite pleased with this account of me, during which I had blushinglly held down my head; and, taking me between his knees, I asked him, with a grateful tone of voice, how my Mr. White did? And to my great satisfaction, was told he was extremely well, longed to see me, and would to-morrow be ashore; a

satisfaction I could not help displaying by the most expressive looks and actions. Several neighbours and friends coming in, to congratulate his safe arrival, and amongst the rest my master, Mr. Crosby, I took that opportunity to slip away, and, my reader I hope will believe me, my heart was so full of the goodness of providence, that I went into a summer house we had in the garden, and poured out my innocent soul in artless thanksgivings to the Being I had always been taught to reverence and adore, as the author of life, breath, and every good, of which we participate; so replete was I with the sense of his favours, that it was near an hour before I removed from the humble posture in which I had thrown myself, and believe I had continued in it much longer, if my name, often called upon, had not convinced me I was wanted in the house.

I soon got into the parlour, where I was gently chid for going away, and perceived by the looks of my mamma and the captain, as well as my master and the rest of the guests, that I had been the chief subject of their discourse since my absence. The captain soon after, asked me a question in plain sailing, which I resolved in a minute, my face all covered with blushes, and then several others, so much to his surprize and satisfaction, that, lifting up his hands and eyes, he expressed

expressed his astonishment, thanked my master with as much affection as if I had really been his son; and, clapping me over the head, said, — well Jackey, you are the finest boy that ever breathed! you are more than a match for your father I see already! when the company was gone, he again repeated his approbation, and added, he never was so proud of any thing in his life, as he was of my proficiency; and this pride was considerably encreased, the next day, by the many compliments that were paid him, by the principal people of the city and neighbourhood, and even his owners, upon the perfections of his lovely boy, as they were pleased to stile me. As to Mr. White, who dined with us the next day, his admiration even surpassed his captain's; he hugged me over and over, telling my mamma, that she had made the completest child of me that ever he beheld with his eyes. No doubt can be made of my being overjoyed at the sight of this worthy man, whose kindness to me, at my first arrival on ship board, had dissipated my gloomy apprehension, and prepared me to behave in the engaging way, that had produced such blessed consequences in my favour; and I shewed it by such artlessly sincere tokens, that he appeared perfectly touched with them, and the tears even stood in his eyes, whilst he looked on me. In a day
or

or two afterwards, they carried me on board to see my old ship mates, where I dined and staid all day with my mamma, and a gentleman or two that accompanied her, who all caressed me highly, and appeared pleased with my good fortune, and the Captain and Mr. White both took notice, with pleasure, how eagerly I visited every part of the ship, and the many questions I asked about their late voyage; for indeed, I began to be divided between two principles, my heart beat to go to sea on the one hand, and on the other, I could not bear the most distant thought of being taken from the amiable woman, on whom I doated with unusual fondness. However, I soon found that I was not designed yet to tempt the watery element; my mamma's persuasions, Mr. Crosby's reasons, together with the inclination of my foster father, and the arguments of my friend Mr. White, all conspired to my spending some further time at school, and in the care of Mrs. M·Namara, who protested I should not yet be taken from her. Whilst the ship staid at Cork we were perpetually diverted with visits, parties of pleasure, tours into the adjacent country, and entertainments at home, in all which I bore a principal share, and when she sailed, neither the captain, nor Mr. White, forgot to leave me several pretty presents, and parted with me
with

with reluctance, wishing I was to go with them. They were bound to London, and from thence with a lading to Berghen in Norway; thence with plank to Amsterdam; from whence they were to take in a cargo for the Levant; so that it was imagined it would be near twelve or fourteen months before they again returned to Cork; which long absence was another very material inducement for leaving me with my mamma, who vowed to her husband, that but for my company she would never be able to endure so long and cruel a separation; the last voyage and this, being the only ones, that had employed such a length of time, since their marriage.

We were not ourselves till some weeks after their departure, and by that time we returned to our old way of living. I pursued my master's instructions at school hours, and at home was constantly with my excellent mother, not having the least inclination for puerile diversions, or playing with other children; which indeed, I never affected; but pass my hours in the fondest and most assiduous attendance upon my benefactress, in reading to her, from many excellent and polite authors, some of whom she had by her, and others she bought or borrowed; by which my mind was opened and improved, whilst she, on her side, encreased every minute

nute in her love and regard for me. Thus, without any sinister intervening accident; a twelvemonth passed swiftly away, before which time, we received letters from the captain, that he should continue he believed in the Mediterranean and Levant, for a twelvemonth longer, having met with great success in trading from port to port on the coast of Italy, and was at Scandaroon when the letters were wrote. This was a great concern to my benefactress, and consequently to me: I did all in my power to divert her chagrin, and at length succeeded, and an incident, that occurred at the same time, contributed to support her spirits; for indeed, she had a tender regard for her husband, and he constantly had behaved to her with affection and tenderness.

We were sitting one morning, at breakfast, when a knocking being made at the door, upon the maid's opening it, a gentlewoman of a fine presence, though somewhat advanced in years, bolted into the parlour, with a little miss about my own age, who had somewhat more engagingly sweet in her countenance, than can be well imagined. I could soon understand, by the mutual surprise, and alternate embraces, attended by the most endearing expressions, that this was my patroness's mother, and the other her sister, who had just arrived at the port from England;

England; and, the first hurry of such a meeting being over, the old lady kissing me, and saying, I was a charming boy, asked if I was any relation? Yes, madam, my mamma returned, even so near as my own son. Whatever she thought, she now gave a loose to her inclination, and taking me on her lap, almost smothered me with fondness, which I returned with interest; for indeed, her person and behaviour had impressed me in her favour at first sight. She then called miss to her, and made us embrace each other, which for my part I did, with so visible a satisfaction in my countenance, that it was taken great notice of, as well as miss's sudden regard for her companion, which was plainly discoverable. We soon left the mother and daughter together, I politely handing Polly into the garden, for that was her name, where we diverted ourselves till dinner was placed upon the table, in such innocent discourse and observations, as suited our years; and, methought, I discovered so much smartness and good nature in the little lass, as made me quite delighted with her company; nor were many remarks forgotten, at dinner, as to the likeness they fancied we bore to each other, and the seeming similarity of our tempers, and mutual fondness.

Our family now, became ten times more agreeable than before, the old gentlewoman
even

even rivaled her daughter in her regard for me, and, as to Polly, she was ever dull when I was out of the way, and the most pleasant creature living when at home. I, on my part, began to think school hours already tedious, and notwithstanding my desire of knowledge, was eager to get away from my master, to return to my enjoyments at home. But, indeed, I had almost puzzled the good man to find me further employment, having mastered the greatest part of the instructions he was capable of giving me, and was also turned tutor myself, my mamma having desired me to learn miss to write, whom I found full as apt a scholar as I had been myself, seldom requiring to be told the same thing twice; and the two ladies were charmed with the pains I took to teach her, as much as the facility with which she received my lessons.

I gathered, from what fell in the conversations between this amiable mother and my mamma, that her father, who was a considerable ship builder at Rotherhith wall, had been dead some years, leaving his widow and other daughter genteely provided for, and that she had repaired to Ireland, pursuant to many repeated invitations, to live with her daughter and son-in-law at Cork, the rest of her days: that, my mamma had married Mr. M'Namara, who was then a mate in her father's employ, against his consent, on which
account

account he had, in his will, cut her off with a shilling, though, at the time of her marriage, he had not been able to detain 600l. which had been left her by an uncle, who had principally brought her up: that, as to the mother, she had always liked her son-in law, and endeavoured, though ineffectually, to reconcile him with her husband, and that she intended to leave them what she possessed, at her decease, Polly having 1000l. which was also left her by an uncle, and 700l. by her father's devise, to be paid on the day of her marriage, or when she arrived at the age of twenty two; but, by a particular clause in her father's will, the 700l. was to go to a first cousin, if ever she married an Irishman; which proviso was, no doubt, occasioned by his hatred of Mr. M'Namara. My mamma, however, always spoke of her deceased parent with reverence and affection, formed excuses for his implacability, and seldom mentioned the unhappy breach between them without tears.

Thus, pleasantly, we passed our time, for almost a year and an half longer. I was now turned of thirteen, and had made such progress, as was very extraordinary at my age, being not only thoroughly grounded in my mathematical studies, writing a fair hand, and understanding the Latin tongue; but was become a perfect critic in that language,

by the pleasure a neighbouring clergyman took, to improve my taste of the classicks, and wrote my native English with propriety and elegance, occasioned, principally, by reading the best and politest productions of my literary countrymen; besides, I had also received the benefit of the instructions of Polly's dancing master, to add to the natural grace and beauty of my manner and person, which was become almost town talk. That pretty creature, whose disposition as well as years were so exactly suited to my own, was by this time mistress of all those Female accomplishments, that add a lustre to the charming sex; the brightness of her mind, the delicacy of her thoughts and the softness and enchanting melody of her voice, could only be equalled by the dignity of her behaviour, the ten thousand lovely traits, that dwelt in every feature of her radiant face, and the nameless graces that wantoned through her whole bewitching person. Our fondness for each other was not only become the theme of the mother and sister, but was publicly taken notice of, wherever we went, and, insensibly, our ears became familiar to the praises bestowed upon us, and to the wishes and prophecies of almost all our acquaintance, that we should, one day or other, be joined in a closer and more tender relation: nor did her mother or sister seem at all
offended

offended at such discourses, always answering in a way that shewed they wished nothing that could make them more happy.

Hitherto our discourse had been innocent as ourselves, our ideas wore no tincture of the passions so predominant in the human breast, which our tender years had guarded us from the approaches of, and, though I would at any time have foregone the highest enjoyment, for one hour of her conversation, and she drooped, like a blighted flower, when ever I was absent; yet we could give this inclination no other name, at present; but the simple love relations shew forth each other's society. If our eyes glanced with pleasure, each minute we regarded one another, we yet had known no other meaning in it: but, one day, as I was reading a celebrated piece, to the three ladies, and came to the following speech of *Hippolitus*,

— *Sleep, sleep in peace,
Ye monsters of the woods, on Ida's top
Securely roam: no more my early horn
Shall wake the lazy day: transporting love
Reigns in my heart, and makes me all his own.
So when bright Venus yielded up her charms,
The bless'd Adonis languished in her arms:
His idle horn on fragrant myrtles hung,
His arrows scatter'd and his bow unstrung,*

*Obscure in coverts lye his dreaming bounds,
And bay the fancied boar with feeble sounds :
For nobler sports he quits the savage fields,
And all the hero to the lover yields.*

I pronounced it with so much affection and tenderness, and, by an impulse I could not account for, regarded Polly so languishingly, that her mother and Mrs. M'Namara stared at each other, in a manner that made a sudden blush over-spread my face, and I was unable to proceed ; at the same instant, the lovely maid, stepping to the closet, brought Milton's paradise lost in her hand, and said, if I had a husband of so kind a disposition, I would answer him in these words, which I found she had turned down the leaf to, before :

*With thee conversing I forget all time,
All seasons and their change, all please alike :
Sweet is the breathe of morn, her rising sweet,
With charm of earliest birds ; pleasant the
Sun,*

*When first on this delightful land he spreads
His orient beams, on herb, tree fruit and
Flower,*

*Glist'ring with dew ; fragrant the fertile Earth
After soft showers, and sweet the coming on
Of grateful evening mild ; the silent night
With this her solemn bird, and this fair morn,
And*

*And these the gems of heav'n, her starry
Train:*

*But neither breath of morn, when she ascends
With charm of earliest birds, nor rising sun on
this delightful land, nor herb, fruit, Flower,
Glist'ring with dew, nor fragrance after
showers,*

*Nor grateful evening mild, nor walk by moon,
Or glittering starlight——without thee, is
sweet.*

She pronounced these lines with such an animated vivacity, looking earnestly at me all the while, and seeming to direct them so particularly to me, that I was all instantaneous rapture, and, forgetting who we were before, flung myself upon my knees, and kissed her alabaster hand, with an eagerness not to be described, saying, Ah! my dear Polly, how admirable are your sentiments——what happiness is reserved for the youth that can merit such a treasure—to which she briskly returned, putting her arms about my neck, why, my dear Jackey—nobody but you ever shall merit me or have me,—no, I will die first. The astonishment of the mother and eldest daughter was so extreme, that for some moments they silently gazed on each other; but at length the former broke out——very well—very well, young people,—so here is a match

made at once I perceive—it is well you are so near related, it would be dangerous else to trust you together, I see with your raptures and heroics—my mamma, at the same time, flinging her arms around us, cried—Lord bless their pretty innocence can any body help being pleased to see it—I declare they never looked so handsome before! and indeed, recollection, and the words of the mother, had made us both confusedly hang down our heads, whilst our cheeks glowed with blushes, which she perceiving, added, come, come, do not be ashamed, I am not displeased—you think no harm, either of you, and, turning to her other daughter, continued, softly, but loud enough for us to overhear—Did not I tell you so?—well, God's will be done—what a lovely couple they are!—to which the other replied—looking at us with an emotion of delight lovely indeed,—they were born for each other—and we know some secrets that, in time, may answer our warmest wishes. I was now somewhat recovered; but the sweet maid still remained confused for some moments, and then I returned to my book, with my head and my heart, young as I was, in a situation quite unusual to what I had ever before experienced.

The captain, at his arrival, found all his family well, was quite pleased to see his
mother

mother and young sister-in-law, and shewed so much pride in me, and satisfaction at my endowments, such a delight in my behaviour, and the praises I received, that I now from principle, as before from mere affection, displayed, on every occasion, the duty of a son, and he did all in his power to encourage the soft inclination, that played round the hearts of Polly and me.

As to my good friend, Mr. White, who wrote both to Mrs. M'Namara and to me, he had got the command of a ship, from Rotterdam to Pensylvania, of 200 tons, so that the captain returned to Cork without a mate, having a design that I should supply his place the next voyage, not doubting but I should soon be capable of the charge. As Mr. White was not likely to sail soon from his port, I wrote him a very grateful answer, by post, to his letter in which I hoped he would never forget me, and told him, that I should ever continue to wear his memory in the warmest place in my bosom.

My Polly and I began now to look very dull upon our approaching separation, and, though no formal discovery had been made, by either of us, of our passion for each other, yet we could scarce bear the thought of such a dreadful absence, which was likely to be for a year at least ; for Capt. M'Namara had found so much profit in his late traffick in the Mediterranean

Mediterranean and Levant, that he determined, once more, to visit that part of the world, after he left Amsterdam, whither he was first chartered by his freighter. Mrs. M'Namara and her mother appeared also quite disconsolate at the news; but the captain had used so many arguments with them, in my hearing, drawn, from his regard to my future welfare and advantage, as well as the necessity he was in of such a companion, that, at length, they yielded to his reasons, and the sooner, as it was likely to be five or six months before we departed from Cork. I must own, that I felt, with severity, my sentence, and yet bouyed up my courage by a thousand flattering ideas of future merit and riches, and returning worthy of my harmer's good graces.

The end of the FIRST PART.

THE

THE

ADVENTURES

Capt. NEVILLE FROWDE.

PART II.

HAPPY is the first juvenile stage of life! blissful the moments over which our passions have no domineering sway! when all is delightful, calm, and sunshine, no corroding cares gnaw the heart, no overbearing griefs ruffle the countenance! it is true, I had, from my birth, met with misfortune; but at an age when it made no deep impression. I had long lost even the idea of any other relations, or friends, than those I now enjoyed, whose constant kindness had obliterated all the disagreeable traces of my infancy. Since which, too, I had lately met, in the society of my beauteous, my dearest Polly,
still

still more refined pleasures, pleasures which though I hardly yet knew the natural issue of, were such as fixed their empire over my whole soul. The regrets I felt when absent from her, were accompanied with a longing eagerness to rejoin her, the rise of which I yet had been able very little to account to myself for; but the near separation we were to endure, blew up all our hitherto innocent flames, and, too soon we found, that form of speech, those emotions which perhaps were matured in us, sooner than in the generality of people, from the soft, harmonious and tender turn of our minds, and the disposition of those we had been brought up with, which will ever have a prevalence upon us, through the whole course of our lives. We now, whenever alone, instead of our usual mirth and gaiety, shewed tokens of the deepest sorrow; our discourses were filled with sighs, and interjections of fear, and we mused still more than we conversed. If when the face of beauty is unclouded there is, as the Poet expresses it.

—*That sweetness in a female mind,
That, by a secret, but a pow'rful art,
Winds up the spring of life, and does impart
Fresh vital heat to the transported heart;*

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The contrary must be the consequence, when it is overwhelmed with melancholy. My Polly pined, the roses fled from her cheeks, and she drooped like a tender flower which had been attacked by some baleful northern blast; nor was I, notwithstanding ambition and a longing to view distant climes so predominately reigned in my thoughts, less affected. I had long seemed to live only for her, she inspired every word I spoke, and her looks dictated almost every action I performed. In this situation we remained for some weeks, untill her health began apparently to suffer, to the almost distraction of the whole family, and she was obliged to keep her chamber, from hence I never removed; but when the captain absolutely insisted upon my going with him, about the necessary business of his ship and cargo, in which I was become so surprizingly expert, from only three months experience, that he protested he never had so little trouble in his affairs before, and the young captain, as the merchants called me, was the topick of all their conversation, which wonderfully delighted my foster father. One afternoon, when the dear maid and I were alone, her sister being busy with some visitors, and her mother and the captain aboard, perceiving a tear steal down her cheek, whilst she looked at me with a strange earnestness I flung myself

self on my knees before her, and cried, Oh! my dear, dear Polly—what is it makes you so uneasy? why do you destroy your precious health, with brooding over your melancholy? then, seizing her fair hand, and kissing it with rapture, I continued, alas! I am little better myself, and your illness unfits me for business or conversation—every thing I do, since you smile no more upon me, is disagreeable and wants a relish—oh! my dear creature, tell me what makes you so full of affliction: if I have ever done any thing to offend you, I will expiate such offence even with my life—that life which I shall never have the least value for, if you are lost.—The tears perforce started into my eyes at this conclusion—she said nothing, for some time, but at length, pressing my hand in her's, replied—oh! my Jackey,—you must leave me—and I shall never see you again,—what ills may befall you, on the hated element on which you are going to wander—oh! why, why, will you go to sea?—indeed, by what passed in my own breast, I imagined this to be in some part the source of her illness; but such a plain declaration of her affection, at the same time that it made me the happiest youth living, filled me with the most gloomy apprehensions. Dear Polly, I returned, I love you more than my tongue can tell,—I am also perfectly blessed at find-
ing

ing I have such a share in your heart ; but, dearest girl, only attend whilst I convince you that your fears have very little foundation. She was all attention, whilst I reasoned with her, upon the advantages I should reap in my banishment, represented to her the likelihood of returning safe, from instances of the many voyages her Brother-in-law had failed, to all parts of the world, and who yet had returned unhurt : I also argued, that skill and sobriety, were great securities to navigators, and that many persons who were wrecked, suffered more by their own ignorance and intemperance, than from the rocks, the winds or the waves. Again I detailed the many and sudden accidents that happened on shore, as well as at sea, adding that wherever we sojourned, we were equally under the superintendence of the same beneficent Being, whose providence alike protects every individual ; whose wisdom is infinite, and whose goodness is unbounded ; and concluded, with promises of collecting all the rarities in the several ports we visited, to lay at her feet at my return. In short, I so far calmed her sorrows, that her eyes darted purer beams, she smiled, she talked without embarrassment, and a few days brought her down stairs, quite the same she used to be, save, that, now and then, a

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speaking

speaking sigh would mournfully heave her tender bosom. Still our love was simple, and unmixed with any other joy than that of being near relations, and constant companions; at least it was so with her, though, as to my part, I began to form notions of future bliss, and a thousand busy ideas, that yet were but half matured, of living only for her; for though she took me for so near a relation, I had some faint remembrances to the contrary, though I had not yet ventured to impart them to her, and was convinced my name was not John M'Namara, though I had by that time totally forgot what it had formerly been, my foster father and mother, who had had no children, never talking at all about me, in any other style than as a son, and I never asked any questions, though I could recollect, and that but just recollect my first coming to their house, so many matters had happened since, and my education and my Polly having obliterated every thing so remote as those occurrences, which appeared now like a dream.

The time of our departure drawing near, the ladies, with my Polly, were employed perpetually in buying and making linen and other necessaries, particularly for my use, and the latter, by her mother's and sister's consent, made me a present of an handsome

handsome watch, which had been her father's, and which I vowed to keep as long as I lived, as a testimony of her affection; in return, the captain never flinting my pocket, I presented the charming maid with a tweezer case of gold, on which was curiously chased, a distant prospect of a ship at sea, before the wind, and in view of a beautiful port, with this motto, *Sure to come*, besides a gold ring, in which was a compartment, with a flourish of the initial letters of our names, and a tree, near a spring, at the root of which—*Quod vivam tuum*, which I explained, as ascribing by life and every thing to her. These exchanges of presents, were so far from being disagreeable to the family, that they were applauded by them all, and the captain merrily told his sister, one day, that if she was a good girl in my absence, perhaps he would give her some time or other, a nephew for an husband, an expression which my active fancy flatteringly explained, but to her was quite unintelligible.

Now the dreaded day was arrived, and after a thousand charges to take care of myself and remember her, and as many injunctions on my side, I parted with my sweet creature, after shedding the sincerest tears that ever perhaps were shed, the whole fa-

mily bearing company, and bestowing ten thousand blessings upon us, and wishes for our welfare and prosperity. Mrs M'Namara appeared quite inconsolable upon the occasion, and gave her husband abundance of cautions to use me tenderly, and to return her her dear boy safe again, and the elder lady almost smothered me with kisses, and added, If either of you come alone, better you never came at all. By the time the morning dawned we were out at sea; but neither the captain or myself had recovered our spirits sufficiently yet, to converse with each other. However, we were more sociable before the close of that day, and my foster father then began to inform me of the duty of my post, in which he appointed an old and skilful seaman to assist, and keep my watch with me, allowing him the pay of a second mate for that purpose; but I soon reduced my theoretic knowledge to practice; and, before the conclusion of our voyage, could hand, reef, steer, and execute every other part of my profession, as well as any man on board, and kept so perfect a journal, that my patron pronounced I should be the completest navigator that ever stepped between stem and stern of a ship. As to my usage, it was strictly that from a father to a son; we lay in the same bed, and eat

eat at the same table, and I had as much weight and authority on board as himself, and never were the moments more delightfully spent, than when we were conversing of the dear folks at home, who were constantly in my mind, and for whose health and safety I did not forget to offer up my petitions to the Author of all Good. We arrived at Amsterdam, after a very pleasant and speedy passage, and in such serene and flattering weather, as was abundantly sufficient to egg a young seaman to further adventures, upon the treacherous and uncertain waves. At Amsterdam, the captain permitted me to go frequently on shore, where as we could not both leave the ship at the same time, his freighter's son, Mr. Forbes, a young Scotch gentleman about twenty years of age, conducted me to see every thing remarkable in that opulent and populous city, with its stadthouse and other public buildings, arsenals, hospitals, prisons, and every thing that could excite the curiosity of a stranger: As the scene was quite new to me, I enjoyed it with a prodigious pleasure, making memorandums, in my pocket book, of every thing worthy to be treasured in remembrance; of their form of government, the manners and customs of the people; and, in particular, of their im-

menſe trade, carried on to all parts of the globe, which renders it the ſtorehouſe of the world.

If theſe things amazed me, I was no leſs the aſtoniſhment of the merchants we were conſigned to, who often complimented the captain upon his young mate, one of my years never having been in that poſt before; and here we received, before we had completed our lading, moſt welcome letters from our family, particularly I had one from my Polly, filled with the utmoſt love and tenderneſs, to which I returned an answer, fraught with all the affection, and wrote with all that fervour, that ſoftened my breaſt, and was the effect of her charms. I alſo wrote to my dear mamma, and her mother, which the captain did alſo. This duty performed, our minds were ſomewhat eaſy. Nothing very particular occurred in our voyage from hence to Meſſina, in Sicily, whither we were firſt bound, ſave that, in the bay of Biſcay, we met with a moſt terrible ſtorm, and the very firſt I had experienced, which however we weathered ſafely, but with great difficulty, fatigue and danger. The captain was ſtill more pleaſed than ever, to ſee me on this emergency calm, compoſed and vigilant, which he was never tired of praizing me for, when we had
leisure

leisure sufficient to unbend ourselves over a flowing bowl. It was indeed some matter for astonishment, considering the tender usage and soft living I had lately experienced, that the hardships, watchings, and cares incident to a sea-faring life should so well be born, and become so agreeable to me; but I seemed formed for my profession, grew strong and robust every day, and my health improved as well as my figure, of which the captain never failed to give me very flattering notices. We staid only a week in this delightful island, of which I had read so much in ancient authors, and from thence shaped our course for Smyrna; but before we reached our port, a new trial of courage and constancy presented itself. At about a league to the southward, we discovered two small vessels, by the help of our glasses, coming before the wind, with all their sails a trip; who having that advantage neared us apace; but as their force appeared inferior to ours, we were under no great apprehension, for we mounted sixteen carriage guns, and were manned with thirty stout hands, nor were deficient in ammunition or small arms, and besides, knew we were in peace with all the pyratial states of Barbary, except the Salleetines, whom we had no great apprehensions from, so high in
these

these seas. Come, my dear, says captain M'Namara, if these are enemies we must e'en fight them, I know no other chance. To which I answered, with great vivacity— That we will, Sir, it is better to die than to be slaves. Accordingly, we charged our musquets, and loaded our guns, appointed every man his post, mine being on the quarter deck, and prepared in earnest for battle. It was too late, when we discovered them, to put about and stand from them; besides, they had so much the heels of our loaded ship, that there could be no probability of escaping; it was therefore policy to put the best face upon the matter, and we soon found that we had two Saltee barks to deal with, full of men, who were now within hale of us. To our comfort, however, the number of their hands seemed to be the only difficulty we had to encounter, having few guns, and those small, and therefore the captain rightly judged, that they would be immediately for boarding us, which indeed was exactly the case; nor did they stay for many compliments, but, after firing a shot to bring us too, endeavoured to drop upon our quarters; but as they kept the Saltee colours, flying, we gave them three cheers and a broadside, which immediately dismasted the foremast, and killed her so many men,

men, that they lay by to refit their shattered rigging, whilst the other advanced, sending a shower of shot into our vessel, by which two men were killed, and myself received a slight wound in the shoulder, which, however, I did not feel till the blood ran down my arm: I was all life and spirit, and not at all intimidated, nor would I go between decks to have my wound dressed, as the captain with great tenderness and humanity would have had me; but resolved to stand it out to the last. I stood to my gun like an old warrior, and every now and then fired a small arm that stood beside me, so dexterously, that many our men swore they saw me drop two or three of our enemies; nor was I inattentive to the working the vessel, but ever and anon tended the braces, with as much calmness as if nothing had been the matter: indeed, the first broadside, I was in some trepidation, and under some little dismay, nor did I see our wounded men without a reluctant pain, the consequence of the natural humanity of my disposition. By this time the bark had got under our larboard-bow, and attempted to grapple us; but we were prepared for them, and peppered them so well with our small arms, that they seemed to be almost sick of the business, and haled off at some distance; upon

upon which we put about ship, and gave them our starboard broadside, which we found hulled them confoundedly, and killed a great number, by their dismal yells, and the position they lay in. Mean time, the other having repaired his damages, was returning to the fight, when, perceiving a vessel in the offing, which stood directly towards us, and which now as well as we, they found to be a Maltese cruizer, they set all their sails and began to run for it; but it was in vain, for the cruizer soon came up with her, and took her after a very stout resistance. Mean time, we were endeavouring to get over the side and man our long-boat, in order to board the other bark in our turn, which lay now like a wreck, she had been so mauled; but, by some accident or other, before we could effect our design, she blew up, with a dreadful explosion, and the whole crew were either torn to pieces in the air, or perished in the deep, except two poor wretches, whom with difficulty we saved. In about two hours after, the Maltese vessel came up with his prize, on which the captain went on board him, and gave them an account of the attack made upon us, and found the two corsairs were manned with 110 men, 49 of which had either been killed by our fire, or lost in the
the

the vessel that had blown up, and that 36 had been killed in the other by us and the captors, who had only three men wounded and one killed. On our part ten were wounded and three killed. The cruizer was a ship of force, commanded by a Spanish Knight of Malta, Don Geronimo Mendoza, who entertained captain M'Namara with great politeness, and sent his surgeon on board us to take care of our wounded men, for we had no regular practitioner with us; who also dressed my hurt, which, however, was but very slight, and we kept company with him till we got into Smyrna, when he bore away for the Morea with his prize. And thus these infidels met with a reward for their audacity, in cruizing so far from home. When the captain, the night after the engagement, was alone with me in the cabin, he took me in his arms, and after a strenuous and affectionate embrace, said, My dearest boy—you have shewed so much steadiness and bravery in the late action, that I shall never be able to acknowledge it sufficiently; indeed, I cannot love you better than I did before:—I shall from henceforward not only be your father nominally, but will admit you immediately to all the privileges of a son—all I possess shall be yours, and nothing shall be withheld from you:
your

your friends at home will be pleased at your behaviour, your Polly will adore her hero—and, I say the word—she shall be yours, as part of the reward of this shining action, when your ages will permit. I was so full of a grateful sense of this agreeable address, that I could not help falling upon my knees and kissing his hand, and made him as near as I can, at this distance of time, remember, the following reply. My father, my dear father; for I never knew any other that could claim that title, words are too faint to express the obligations I lie under for all your invaluable favours; I am the happiest youth breathing,—to you and my dear mamma, I owe every thing, and it is but just that all the good qualities you have been the author of, should be employed for your safety and welfare. If I behaved well, it was owing to the example set me by you, and I hope every day of my life will give me fresh opportunities, to display the unbated affection and gratitude, with which my bosom is so replete. He hugged me afresh at the conclusion of these words, and told me I was all over a miracle of goodness and generosity.

Some expressions this worthy man had made use of, recalled the faint ideas remaining of my first coming into his hands, and

and going by his name, at his desire; but I must freely own, that, notwithstanding a certain unaccountable longing I had to talk further upon that head, the fear of offending, and the present ease of my mind and circumstances, made it a matter of indifference, whether I did or no, and therefore I let it drop, without further explanation.

From Smyrna, after having delivered our cargo, and reladed, we sailed to Scanderon, hearing of some gentlemen there, who wanted passage for Italy, for passage is paid for very largely in these seas; we likewise touched at Damietta and Alexandria, from whence we took our departure for Venice, where we were consigned; and, as I had all the liberty of going on shore that I could desire, and kept company with the chief merchants of our nation, I had an opportunity of seeing every thing that deserved notice, by which my mind was daily enlarged and improved, and before we left Venice I could talk very tolerable Italian. Still, I don't know how, I sighed after Cork and my dear Polly, whom I could seldom banish an hour together from my thoughts. At Venice, we took in another cargo for Zant and Corfu, from whence we touched at Malta; in three weeks after which we passed the straits of Gibraltar, and arrived safely at Cadiz, where we once more renewed our

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cargo,

cargo in order to sail homewards; after which I longed extremely, and thought I began to breathe my native air almost, when we got into the Atlantic Ocean. We had very stormy, wet, and uncomfortable weather till we arrived at Bristol, where we staid near three weeks, and had the pleasure of hearing from home, that all our family were well, and in earnest expectation of our arrival. If I had been looked upon as a kind of a prodigy elsewhere, my fame was raised still more at Bristol, where the merchants were amazed to see a youth transacting business of the utmost moment, with the gravity and attention of a man of fifty; so that the captain led the life of a gentleman, confiding all to his son: but when he shewed them my journal, with the observations I had made upon the bearings and distances of the coasts we had sailed upon, and the manners of the people, and not a few remarks on natural history, and comparisons with ancient times, I was never without one invitation or other to be exhibited as a sight, and the bishop being in the city, I was even sent for, and dined with him, who was so charmed with me, that he offered to take me into his family, and promote me in the church, if the captain would have consented; but neither he nor I had any inclination to be severed from each other.

ther. As to my person, I was grown considerably taller, and somewhat fatter; but it had yet lost none of the delicacy for which I had been admired: I talked readily and freely upon every subject, had contracted no ill habit or vice, nay, had never even sworn an oath, a custom which the captain had broke himself of, as he told me, on my account, and which I abominated, as a low, mean and irreligious propensity, and highly ungrateful to the Author of our being. And now, let my reader judge, if I had not spent the year and half of my absence, to very good purpose, or need be ashamed of returning to my dear Polly, or my mamma, with such advantages; and, add to all this, that when off duty I dressed very gaily, nay richly; such being the goodness of my foster father, that I had every necessary in the utmost profusion, and as much money in my possession as he would have given a mate of ever so much experience, which had enabled me to collect an hundred different curiosities for our ladies at home.

It was on a Sunday morning, at six of the clock, when we made the harbour of Cork, and, by the time our family had got to breakfast, the captain and myself, having left the aforesaid second mate in charge of the ship, were at our own door, dressed in our best attire, and with our swords by

our sides, an implement Mr. M'Namara had worn ever since he used the Mediterranean trade, and which he had also insisted upon my wearing. The door was no sooner opened, but the three ladies presented at the tea table, and the minute they saw us, they were so overcome, that a loud shriek alone proclaimed their joy. We ran from one to the other and embraced them, and, taking my Polly in my arms, I restored her to that life, her hurry of spirits, and overbearing joy had almost for a time deprived her of. It was a long time before we had command enough of ourselves, to speak to each other, only staring wildly, and pronouncing certain tender epithets, that most naturally occur to the tongue on such occasions: nay, for near a quarter of an hour afterwards, it was all an extravagancy of delight, and our looks and broken speeches proclaimed our disordered and fluttering spirits. Indeed we were scarcely calm enough the whole day, to answer the many questions asked on all sides; the eyes of the three ladies were continually bent upon me, and I, in return, devoured my Polly almost who methought looked more charming than ever, and her blooming graces had arrived to such a degree of maturity, as spoke her a perfect beauty. I hugged her, and pressed her to my bosom one minute, the next embraced

braced my dear mamma, and again kissed her mother's hand; in short, the scene of this day can never be conceived, but by such as have been as long absent from those they most esteemed and valued in the world. I longed to be in private with Miss; but it was impossible, and I could not be permitted to stir from the room, where we diverted them with an account of the incidents of our voyage, particularly our storm in the bay of Biscay, and our fight with the Salleeines, at which they all turned pale, tho' they drank in the praises the captain bestowed upon me, with the highest satisfaction. In their turns they acquainted us of what had happened in our absence, by which we found they had lived very retired; and Polly's mother added, And I'll tell you what, my dear, that girl has hardly stirred out above once a week, and then we have made her by force, she was so wedded to thinking of you. Then I'll answer for it, replied the captain, that my boy has paid her in her own coin; for I believe he has had her in his head every hour in the day, as I have often perceived, by his answers, to the questions I have put to him; and faith it is not wonder, for if she ever thinks of a man of more merit, or he of a woman of more beauty, in the world, I shall never pretend to judgment in these matters again.

What sayest Jackey?—Well, well, a year or two hence, we shall talk more intelligibly upon the matter. At these words, Polly got up, smiling, and made him a low courtesy, as I did a bow, for his compliment, and we spent the remainder of the day, and the evening ensuing, in a manner highly to be envied. The next day we had them, together with the other owners, and several gentlemen and ladies of our acquaintance, on board the ship, which we had decked with the utmost gaiety for their reception; nor was my god master Mr. Cosby, or the worthy clergyman I have before mentioned Dr. Gulston, forgot, who were all overcome with satisfaction at the sight of us. We fired our guns in honour of them, and provided an handsome regale, the captain insisting that I should be master of the ceremonies, in which post I did not forget to let my honest brother tars have a plentiful repast. When they came on shore, we loaded them with presents, and brought home for our own ladies, the various rarities of the countries we had visited, to add to the contents of their wardrobes and cabinets. When we arrived at our house, an opportunity presented itself, which I embraced, of handing my lovely maid into the summer-house, where, the moment she was seated, I flung myself upon my knees before her, clasped

clasped my arms about her delicate waist, and fondly gazing on her for some moments, cried, Oh! my heavenly creature, how cruel has this tedious absence seemed to me, and yet more so, being so long after my arrival, before I could pour out my soul before you! How have I panted after this happy hour, in which I shall have liberty to affirm, that you, and you only, have employed all my thoughts waking, and have been the subject of my dreams by night. It is you that have stimulated me to every deserving action, and whatever merit or knowledge I acquire, you are the spur to it all. And, Oh! tell me, my angel, am I still the same welcome, happy object to those eyes; am I still the favoured inmate of that bosom? If I reign there, I envy no one their titles or their riches; and in possession of your heart, I shall be the most blessed and felicitous youth breathing. The sweet maid reclined her cheek to mine, and clasping her arms about my neck, replied, Yes, my ever remembered and loved youth, I am not ashamed, to tell thee, that thou dost and ever shall bear sway, in this bosom, and fill this heart, which could never entertain another guest—Let the prude or the coquet censure this declaration, so uncommon to the usual insincerity of our sex; but I know your worth and virtue too well, and have

too great a reliance on your good sense and love of me, ever to fear your making a use of it to my disadvantage; and my dear sister has encouraged me in my regard for you, as well as my mother, and, by some hints, convinced me we are not so nearly related as we at first apprehended; then, why should I not indulge all the inclination I have to love you, and to tell you, that you, and only you, shall ever be the sovereign of this breast. Here the melting period ended, and the soft melody of her tuneful voice left me for some time so immersed in almost insufferable transport, that I could not utter a word. At length I rose and seating myself beside her, by a thousand tender kisses, and all the eloquence I was master of, returned her my acknowledgments, and vowed eternal truth and constancy. Oh! heavens! what happy minutes were these? I was, methought, at the pinnacle of human felicity; whilst,

*The blushing colour in her cheeks express
What tender thoughts inspir'd her heaving
breast,*

*Sometimes a sigh, half smother'd, stole away;
Then she would, Strephon, charming Strephon, say;*

*Sometimes she smiling cry'd, you love, 'tis true;
But will you always, and be faithful too?*

The

*Ten thousand graces play'd about her face ;
Ten thousand charms attended ev'ry grace ;
Each admirable feature did impart
A secret rapture to my throbbing heart.
So moving, so transporting was the sight ;
So much a goddess then she seem'd so bright ;
My ravish'd soul, with secret wonder fraught,
Lay all dissolv'd in extasy of thought.*

She afterwards asked me some questions about what her sister had told her, of my not being so nearly related as we imagined ; to which I gave her for answer, all the faint traces I had of my being put apprentice to the captain, and having, I believed, an uncle somewhere in London ; but that I remembered little of it, and not at all what my name had been. In endeavouring to unravel this mystery, we only puzzled ourselves, and in conclusion, sat down contented in the thought, that we might laudably indulge our affection, with the resolution of seeming to understand nothing of these affairs, till they were more plainly imparted to us, having both too much veneration and love for my dear father and mother, to give them even the most distant pain or uneasiness.

We were above two months at Cork, before our ship was again ready to sail, though all the dispatch possible was used ; for the captain

captain, notwithstanding he was reckoned a rich man, and to have no children but me, was not of a temper to let slip any lawful occasion of advantage, or to lie long idle; and, in that time, we were perpetually, when our business would permit, entertaining these dear ladies with tours into the country, or visits and parties of pleasure in town. But at length we were ready to unmoor, and once more bid adieu to these delightful scenes, though with the less reluctance, as our voyage was intended for a short one, being bound to Bourdeaux, from thence to Lisbon, and so to Cork.

We performed this voyage, without any sinister accident; at the conclusion of which, my captain allowed me to be as good a navigator as himself, and even relied upon my knowledge as much as his own; so that, now, we kept watch and watch, without my having an assistant. And afterwards, in the space of another year, we were one voyage to Dantzick and Hamburgh, another to Copenhagen and Stockholm, and a third to Petersburgh, Revel and Riga, thence to Glasgow in Scotland, and so to Cork. During all these trips, my Polly and I wrote to each other, by every opportunity; our love increased every day, and publicly was approved of by our superiors; and Mr. and Mrs. M'Namara were more and more fond

fond of their adopted son, which they now frequently called me, but said nothing further; and as to my part, I almost adored them, their welfare was uppermost in my thoughts, and I studied by every action to prove my gratitude and affection. As to their mother, she shewed little less fondness for me than for her Polly, and whenever she looked at us together, it was with that silent approbation that discovered more of the joy of her heart, than words could possibly have done. My charmer, as well as myself, began now to wish the completion of our desires; but I dared not yet venture to make the proposal; when, one night, Mrs. M'Namara merrily said to the captain—My dear, my mother and I have been thinking some days, that Jackey and Polly are old enough now to become bed-fellows, and are resolved this night, because we see you are in so gay a humour, to talk with you about the time, when we shall have the pleasure of throwing the stocking at their wedding. At these words, my angel blushing withdrew from the room, as I modestly did after her, blessing my mother for her goodness, and wishing success to her arguments in our favour. It may be judged we passed an hour, or thereabout, full of fear and expectation, and went trembling into the parlour, when we were called for; where, being ordered

dered to sit down, the captain thus addressed us. My children, your mothers have been speaking in your favour so much, that I have resolved you shall be married before we set sail again, which will, you know Jackey, be near four months; and I the more readily give my consent, because the voyage will be a pretty long one; but then, for reasons of my own, the wedding shall be private, nor shall any one know of it, but the friend who marries you, and ourselves, till our return. My wife and mother have yielded to these reasons; so my young couple, tell me if you consent to my conditions, and if you love one another sufficiently, to spend your lives together, which if you do, I pray God to bless so agreeable an union. Our joy at these kind and pleasing words was unbounded; we fell on our knees, and returned them severally thanks, in terms of the warmest gratitude; and at length, when my full heart would permit, I returned the following answer. Oh, my dearest father, to whom, and to my excellent mother, I owe every thing, in giving me this angel of my soul, you have completed all the happiness I can expect on earth; and as to your conditions, they can give us no manner of uneasiness, for if you, and if we are satisfied, if this dear creature is satisfied she is lawfully given to my arms, the

the more private it is kept, the more untainted bliss we shall enjoy; crowds and noise ill suit so refined a passion; and, Oh! let me declare for us both, that no love can exceed ours, that it will never be palled by possession, and that it can never know decay. Then turning to my fair one, I clasped her in my arms, with an inexpressible ardour, and hid in my bosom the crimson blushes that mantled up in her beautiful face. The ladies and the captain rose and embraced us, and the mother of my Polly cried, Well, thank God, I have lived to see both my daughters happy, and shall now die contented, whenever it pleases heaven to call me. Oh! madam, I returned, briskly, don't talk of dying; I hope you'll live to see the resemblance of your dear Polly, in many a little transcript of her perfections. This pleasant reply set them all a laughing, and we spent the remainder of the night with the highest good humour on all sides, and the happy hour was appointed to be that day fennight.

This tedious interval, methought, was the slowest portion of time that ever I experienced, in which the ladies were employed in providing new and rich cloathes for my Polly, against the day; and, as my intended spouse had a fortune of 1700*l*. some provision was to be made, with regard to that;

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but I soon put an end to any concern on that head, for, taking the captain one morning aside, I told him I should be greatly pleased, as I had at present no settlement to offer, if the whole of her money were settled upon herself and her heirs, and to be at her own disposal; for on one side, as his bounty permitted me to want nothing, so on the other my love was untainted by any sordid principle, and I knew the virtue and good sense of my Polly so well, and her affection to me, that I ran no hazard in trusting entirely to her generosity; beside, that it would make me more and more easy, because accidents might happen to deprive her of me, by the dangerous profession I was embarked in. He heard this proposal with a mingled surprise and pleasure, which was very visible in his countenance; and embracing me, without saying a word, he pulled me by the hand into the parlour, and shutting the door, said, Ladies, shall we be outdone by this son of mine, in generosity? Truly, he has proposed the settlement of all my sister's fortune upon her, and to be at her own disposal—There's a disinterested husband for you, and it shall be done—but I am resolved to shew him, that we love him as much as he loves her; and therefore, on the day of their marriage, I'll freely, and his mother has already consented, give him 1000*l.* and,

If

if I have no other children, I promise them all I am possessed of, at the death of me and my wife, or the longest liver. Say you so, son, says my Polly's mother? Why then, since you have set me such an example, I have it in my power to give them another 1000l. at the same time, and the same promise with respect to my estate, after the decease of all three of us; but, indeed, in that case, they need not thank us, for who have we got so nearly related, or so deserving of it? My reader may be assured, that we both, with hearts overflowing with the tenderest sentiments of gratitude, returned them our thanks, and even performed that ceremony upon our knees, protesting we wanted nothing but the continuance of their valued lives; that money, further than was necessary, would be no ingredient in our happiness; and that in possessing each other, and the constant enjoyment of their love and friendship, we had all that we thought valuable in this world; but however, the money was paid me the day before our marriage, and the writings drawn according to my desire, settling Polly's fortune upon her and our heirs, and to be at her own disposal; a testimony of my regard, which the lovely maid received with reluctance, and yet with a visible pleasure, arising from her sense of my disinterested affection. Of the 2000l. I

received 500l. for a venture in our next voyage, and the other I consigned in trust for our use, to my father and mother, and my mother-in-law. — Thus I was become a rich man, and, now, only one lagging night and day remained, between the consummation of my joys, by my approaching happiness.

The blessed day at length arrived, and sure was one of the finest that ever the month of June displayed, an emblem of my fair one's mind and person. Dr. Gulsou, whose esteem I had in the highest degree, performed the matrimonial Ceremony, at our own house both he and our faithful servants being, agreeable to the captain's plan, enjoined a profound secrecy. To describe the person, the behaviour of my beauty, on this solemn occasion, would surpass the power of language: though her dress was rich and becoming, it was barely a foil to set off those resplendent charms and graces, that wantoned in her bewitching form. An elegant entertainment succeeded, and the blissful night convinced me I was one of the most happy creatures on earth:

Oh! who can words to speak those raptures find!

Vast sea of extasy, that drowns the mind!

That

*The rush of joy—that wild tumultuous toll,
That fire, that kindles body into soul;
And on life's margin strains delight so high,
That sense breaks short—and whilst we taste,
we die!*

The remainder of the week was little else but a continued scene of pleasure, and our friends told us we looked still handsomer, since our change of condition. Oh! heavens! is there any bliss can equal the enjoyment of the soul, the heart, the person of a virtuous and beautiful wife, the experience of the soft impulses of tenderness, the sublime friendship that rises in the breast, and that care to oblige, which dictates every word and action?

—Oh! we now
—Knew a passion yet more deeply charming,
Then fever'd youth e'er felt; and that is love,
By long experience, mellow'd, into friendship.

I could now justly say to my excellent spouse, in the words of another poet,

*Let other shepherds, that are prone to range,
With each caprice their giddy humours change;
They, from variety, less joy receive,
Than you, alone, are capable to give.*

*Nor will I envy those ill-judging swains,
 (What they enjoy's the refuse of the plains)
 If for my share of happiness below,
 Kind heav'n continues Polly to bestow;
 Whatever blessings it can give beside,
 Let all mankind amongst themselves divide.*

The captain and Mrs. M'Namara tasted our happiness, with such a relish, as convinced me that they had gratified the pride of their hearts; and as to the old lady, she was the most satisfied woman breathing; for our parts our union made us still more diligent to oblige them, and shed a pleasing influence on every thing we said or transacted, that argued the ease, the composure, and the charming situation of, our souls. A circumstance also occurred that lengthened out the happiness of which we were partaking; for a good offer being made him, the captain disposed of his old ship, and sent orders to London to have one built of three hundred tons, and to carry 18 guns, which would take up near fourteen months in performing, and this vessel he intended to make one voyage in himself, on a favourite adventure, and then to retire, for the remainder of his days, and give the command of her to me. Only three persons, besides himself, were concerned in her; but he had the greatest share. And now, with my Polly, I gave a loose

loose to all that tenderness, with which our hearts were so replete; and, at the usual time, she discovered, to our still greater joy, that we were likely to have a pledge of our mutual affection, which was safely brought into the world at the end of nine months. By the captains directions, we went to Dublin, and resided there during the latter part of her pregnancy, and, at the birth, they all came over, and protested the sweet infant, as indeed it did, looked like the picture of its amiable mother. It was named after the captain, who, at the same time, made my wife a further present of a purse of one hundred guineas, for the use of his godson. We all staid at Dublin two months afterwards, and having provided a nurse, returned to Cork, having instructed her to say the child was hers, in public, and that she was our near relation. I must own this dear smiling pledge of our love, more and more endeared my charmer to my heart, and added greatly to the bliss we before enjoyed. I fed myself up with a thousand fond schemes for this pretty son, formed in my mind a plan for his future education, and reckoned upon a world of delight to come, in the enjoyment of his genius and proficiency. If my wife was before the best woman breathing, she now, in the character of a mother, outdid our most sanguine expect-

expectations; her prudence, and the decorum with which she managed this important concern, more and more convinced me that I possessed a jewel of the highest price, and that, under her management, my offspring would grow up with uncommon advantages.

When we had advice that our ship was built and rigged, it was agreed, I should go over in the packet from Dublin, freight her at London, and return as captain of her to Cork, providing seamen in that metropolis; for which purpose, Captain M'Namara, wrote to his correspondents there, to use all their interest to provide me a freight, against my arrival, and do me all the good offices in their power. When the time came, that I was to part with my dear wife, though for so short a trip, my grief was extreme, and that dear creature expressed so much affliction, that I experienced more pain than ever I had done before; however, I endeavoured to bear up under it, and by dint of argument reconciled her, in great measure, to my absence, which was not likely to prove of above three or four months continuance; notwithstanding which, her mother and sister, as well my worthy foster father, also shed tears at my departure, and nothing would have hindered the latter from accompanying

panying me but a violent fit of the gout, which had just attacked him.

I got safe to Dublin, and in two days embarked for Bristol, where I arrived, after a turbulent passage of three days and an half. At Bristol, I could not help staying for near a week, all my old friends, being advised of my arrival, insisting I should severally dine with them, and even disputing with each other at whose house I should quarter during my stay.

I did not fail to write of my safe arrival, and had the hapiness of a letter from each of my family in return, advising me of their healths, and filled with desires of my staying in England no longer than was absolutely necessary, for the management of the business I was going to transact.

When I set out for London, I provided myself with a pair of pistols in my holsters, besides a brace in my pocket, for it was the dead time of the year, and many robberies were committed daily upon the roads, in Somersetshire and Wiltshire. I was accompanied to Chippenham, by several of my worthy Bristol friends, whose good nature and hospitality I cannot sufficiently commend, and lay the first night at Beckington, where I took up my quarters at the best inn in the place; but being somewhat weary, I made a light supper, and immediately went

to bed, where repose soon sealed up my eyes. I might perhaps sleep near three or four hours, when I was awakened by a terrible series of groans, from an adjoining apartment, which seemed divided from mine, only by a slight partition; yet I could observe no light, nor heard a word spoken, though the doleful groaning still continued, with a kind of rattling noise, seemingly in the throat, as if struggling for breath. I cannot say but I was surprised greatly, being just awakened from my sleep, and thinking some murder had been committed: I jumped out of bed, slipped my coat on, and arming myself with my hanger and a pistol, opened my door and called the chamberlain, in so audible a voice, that I soon raised the whole house, and then told them the reason of my disturbing them. Upon this we went to the apartment, whence the noise had proceeded, where, the chamberlain told me a gentlemen and his wife, as he supposed, lay last night, and that, moreover, he observed they were not in a very good humour with each other, when they retired to rest. The door being locked though we could not feel the key in the key hole, we took the precaution to knock, for a considerable time; but finding it to no purpose, soon, by our united efforts, broke it open; where, good God! a most shocking spectacle presented itself,

self, a woman, seemingly near fifty years of age, lying naked on the floor, with five or six visible contusions on her face, neck and breast, one of her arms broke, and her throat cut from ear to ear, which, however, the surgeon, that was speedily called, said, was not the occasion of her death, the wind-pipe being only rased, and he ascribed it principally to loss of blood by that wound, and a bruise underneath the left breast, which seemed to have been given with the handle of a horsewhip, or some such thing, the skin and flesh being actually broke with the force of the blow. Whilst some of us remained near this melancholy scene, to assist the surgeon, the chamberlain, host and hostler, inspecting the stable, found the man had got his horse out, and broke through a way at the back of the house into an adjoining lane, having first locked his murdered wife in the room, and so made his escape. Hereupon, five or six horsemen set out, several ways, to endeavour to overtake, and bring him to justice; and, as I had no inclination to further sleep, after so strange a discovery, I dressed myself, and went down stairs with the surgeon and two or three guests and towns people, where calling for a bowl of punch, we began to discourse about this dreadful accident. As I found my companions good-natured conversible men, I was

was not sorry that I had left my bed, where, after such an occurrence, none but a brute could sleep. It was fix in the morning before any of the pursuers returned; and they came altogether, for the hue and cry having been raised, the murderer was overtaken at the edge of Marlborough Downs, and seeing himself surrounded, surrendered, without any resistance, though armed with a hanger and pistols before him. He was a young fellow of about thirty, of no despicable aspect, and upon searching him, proof enough arose, besides his flight, of his having perpetrated the crime with which he was charged; for, in a green silk purse, which the woman had been observed to pull out after supper, was near sixty guineas and three rings, one of them a diamond hoop of remarkable lustre, which had also been observed on her finger by the waiter who attended them at their first arrival, and which, on trial, not only fitted, but had left a plain mark of its usual position behind it. In a side pocket was also a large clasp knife, with stains of blood which had been but hastily wiped off; and his wristbands and ruffles were in several places spotted with sanguine drops, and five or six were also taken notice of on his waistcoat and the upper parts of his white stockings. This cloud of circumstance would have determined any jury to have found him guilty;

guilty; when the poor wretch, who hardly looked up for some time, after his examination (for which purpose a neighbouring gentleman in the commission of the peace attended,) thus addressed the company. I know, gentlemen, I am a dead man—and the ways of heaven are just—I shall give the court no further trouble, when I am tried, than I have given you—I am guilty of the fact, nor do I wish now to escape the punishment I deserve; though, except this murder, I am a more innocent person than the deceased. She is, gentleman, a tradesman's wife in the borough of Southwark, and, conceiving a passion for me, has drawn me into the commission of a thousand crimes; three days ago, after robbing her husband, whom she had frequently attempted to put an end to by poison, we set out, intending for Park gate, and thence to Dublin, where we thought it would be easy to procure a passage to France; but a quarrel, which happened between us yesterday, rose last night, to so extraordinary an height, that, urged thereto by her fiery and provoking temper, I served her in the manner you have beheld. I am now a most melancholy and fearful instance of the just judgments of the Almighty, whose ordinances I have transgressed, and of whom I have lived in open defiance; and may all men take warning by my unhappy fate.

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You

You require my name; but I shall not tell it, till I come before the face of a judge,—and, would to God it was never again to be mentioned; but for ever obliterated from the memory of all mankind. He spoke these words with so much affecting action, that all eyes were fixed upon him; and, as every one, to have the fuller view, had withdrawn to some distance from the table, on which lay his pistols, the charges whereof had not been drawn, he seized one of them, with prodigious swiftness, cocked it at the same instant, and, before any one had presence of mind, sufficient to oppose him, shot himself through the head, and fell prostrate upon the floor.

The whole company were strangely amazed at this desperate conclusion, and, as to my part, I was so shocked and affected, that I could hardly support myself from falling—So manifest a display of divine justice upon these criminals, filled me with reverential awe, and I set out, soon afterwards, upon my journey, with a mind full of reflection upon the horrid event, and a soul bleeding almost, at the miseries, disorders, and wickednesses of human nature; nor did I fail to minute, in my pocket-book, every particular of such an uncommon incident. I took so much time in my tour, in viewing every thing curious, that it was four days before I arrived

arrived at Maidenhead, to a gentleman's in the neighbourhood of which place I had a recommendatory letter from Bristol, and whose hospitality kept me two days more at his house.

I must confess, though I knew England was my native country, yet, having lived from my infancy in Ireland, and left there all that was dear or valuable to me, I did not feel in myself that enthusiasm of delight, that generally effects the mind, after a long absence; nay, which it is said, naturally inspires us, on visiting the places of our births. My thoughts were perpetually dwelling on the joys I had left behind; my lovely Polly dictated every idea, and I longed rather to return to my dear foster father and mother, than to proceed to my native city, of which I had lost all manner of remembrance: I just could now recollect somewhat, faintly, of my grandfather and grandmother; but had absolutely forgot my real name, and my uncle and his family were almost totally eradicated from my memory; and besides Mr. M'Namara had lately hinted to me that he was dead: I must own, however, that frequently I ruminated whether I had any parents living, and what they were, for I was firmly convinced I was not related to the family I had lived and been brought up in, any otherwise than by marriage, as well from

my slight remembrance of the manner of my first coming to it, as from the various hints they had let fall within these last two years. But the distinction paid me by them, my being indebted to them for all my present happiness, my entirely loving them, and having to long born the character of a son, had chilled my mind to any inquiries into former events; nay, I even dreaded a discovery of being less their relation; a discovery also that the captain my friend and patron, seemed always greatly averse to. Yet sometimes the thought of having parents alive, and never seeing them, and of their perhaps being grieved at my absence, struck me with violent pangs, and spread a kind of a tremor through my soul.

As it was near three o'clock in the afternoon, when I set out from Maidenhead, it was dark before I reached Hounslow, on which account I put up there for the ensuing night, and the next day reached London, time enough to be a witness of the hurry and noise in that opulent city; and repairing to the first inn I came at, left my horse, and taking a hackney coach, ordered it to drive to Crutched Fryars, to the merchant's house that Captain M'Namara had given me letters to, who received me in a very distinguishing manner, and provided me with the best apartment in his house. At his invita-
tion

tion and his lady's, I for some days partook of the diversions and entertainments this famous city affords, and visited every place of public resort; yet did not forget to write to my wife and our family, to let them know of my safe arrival; in answer to which I received assurances of their health and welfare, to my great satisfaction. It was near three weeks before my vessel was ready for sailing, and my principals having left the christening of her to me, I named her the Charming Molly, in honour of my spouse. She was built by Mr. Taylor of Rotherith, and was as complete a molded vessel as ever came out of a dock. When I had settled all matters with that gentleman, my next business was to look out for a freight, to any port of Ireland; and here again I experienced how much I had gained the favour of my London Friends; for I never expected a greater lading than would just pay the expences of the voyage, whereas they had taken so much care to encourage the young captain, as they called me, that I was quite full, and likely to make even a profitable trip of it. I had procured sixteen very able hands, and engaged a Devonshire man, one Mr. Courtney, as my mate, with an assurance, if we liked him, of going our next voyage, in the same capacity.

And now, being ready, I fell down to

Gravesend, where I took in a passenger or two, and a fair wind springing up, stood through the channel, in longing expectation of seeing my family. My ship was a prime sailer, which gave me great pleasure, and my hands all willing and ready, so that I did not doubt of a few days bringing me home, where I was first to touch, though some of my cargo was consigned to Kinsdale and Dublin; but when we got a-breast of Dover, the wind came about to the S. W. with such hard gales, that we were frequently obliged to ly too; and, after some days beating about in the channel, to put into a bay called Jack in the Basket, at the back of the isle of Wight, where we lay securely, waiting for propitious gales and fair weather. We had scarcely let go our anchor, before the custom-house-officers came on board; and as a ship of near our own burden, by appearance, lay above us, I asked them her name, and that of her captain; but judge my agreeable surprise, when I was told it was the Adventure, of and for Rotterdam, commanded by Captain White. Though I did not know the name of his ship, yet from the port she belonged to, and the name of the commander, I not at all doubted, but that it was my old respected friend, to whom I had so many obligations, and therefore

therefore sent off my boat with the following billet.

To Captain WHITE.

SIR,

IF, as I conjecture by your name, you ever failed from the port of Cork, as mate to the William and Mary brig, John M'Namara master, I shall account myself quite happy in this unexpected meeting, being no other than, Sir,

Your most gratefully affectionate friend,

And humble servant,

JOHN M'NAMARA, Jun.

My boat came on board again, in about an hour, with the following answer.

To Captain M'NAMARA.

Dear Sir,

I AM the very person you took me for, and shall but just clean myself, and shew you how eager I am to inform you, that you have never been forgotten by,

Dear PUPIL,

Your most sincere and affectionate friend,

And humble servant,

GEORGE WHITE.

I enquired

I enquired of my cockswain, how the captain behaved on receiving my letter, and was informed that he lifted up his hands and eyes, at first, in the utmost astonishment, which soon gave way to expressions of the highest transport; and, turning to a gentleman that was walking the deck with him, he said, Well, sure this is the most unexpected incident that could have happened, and I shall be able to present to your knowledge the most complete gentleman breathing, if he is not greatly altered: he also made my men eat and drink of the best he had at hand, and two or three times drank my health with his companion.

In about an hour my mate informed me that a boat was coming on board, with two gentlemen, whereupon I ordered him to get every thing ready, to receive them handsomely, and stood upon the deck at their entrance, myself, dressed in the best suit I had; and if we had been the nearest relations, an equal joy could not have been displayed upon the occasion. When I had them into the cabin and refreshed them, after we had once more mutually embraced each other, I satisfied him in all his earnest enquiries after his old captain and his lady, informed him of my several voyages and adventures, my marriage and present happiness, of which he was as sensible as I could be myself. He,
in

in return, imparted all that had occurred to him for these late years, and gave me to understand, that he was yet unmarried; that he had met with tolerably good success in life, and had saved near 2000 pounds already. We spent the remainder of the day with the most unfeigned satisfaction, and I had provided very sumptuously for the table, on purpose to honour his visit; nor did we part till late, after a promise of waiting upon him the next day, and spending it on board him with my passengers. He congratulated me on my commanding so complete a vessel, which he said was as fine a one as ever sailed out of the Thames, and added some cautions and instructions to those I had from Mr. M'Namara, which his experience had made him capable of giving me. We were regaled, the next day, in a very elegant manner on board the Adventure, whence we did not get away till late in the morning of the day ensuing, and then Mr. White and I took leave of one another with a sensible regret, and after mutual protestations of constantly bearing each other in mind. We lay one day more in this bay, during which I sent him presents of such things as I had on board, as provisions and liquors which he had none of, and he returned me the like compliment, and sent also two letters which he forgot before, but

now

now had wrote to Captain and Mrs M'Namara. The wind coming easterly we both got under sail the next morning, and soon lost sight of each other, steering for our several ports. The sight of this worthy creature had given me so much spirits, that I weathered out the short remainder of our voyage without regret, but as the wind was fair for us, we delivered those parts of our lading which were consigned to Dublin and Kinsdale, from the last of which ports I wrote word of my arrival; but was off of Cork as soon almost as they received my letters. I had scarce saluted the town, and dropped my anchor, but I found a boat along side of me, and in it my charming Polly, her nurse and son, Captain M'Namara and his wife, and our mother-in-law, together with Dr. Gullston, and Mr. Cosby, who all longed to see me and my ship, and to congratulate my safe arrival. No words can truly describe the extatic bliss I felt, in folding the faithful partner of my heart to my throbbing bosom, or in squeezing the dear little pledge of our affection in my arms; I was truly rejoiced also to see my dear captain, my excellent mamma, and all our friends, who were never tired of praising me, my men and the vessel, which was in truth one of the finest merchantmen that ever entered our harbour. What gave me
infinite

infinite delight also, was the praises that Mr. M'Namara had bestowed on the neatness that appeared every where, and good decorum of my men, and the speed and diligence I had shewn in my expedition, as well as the correctness he observed in my journal of every transaction. I recommended my mate to them particularly, as one that had behaved well in the voyage, and to oblige me he eat at table with us. I then heard all that had happened in my absence, and in my turn imparted all that occurred to me, not even forgetting the shocking murder of which I had been a witness, which raised in all present the greatest horror; and when I had concluded my story, to leave the most agreeable part till the last, I said, I believe, Sir, you will hardly be able to guess at the old friend I met, at the back of the Wight, and with whom I spent near two days, with inexpressible pleasure; but I will not keep you in suspense, here's a letter from the worthy Captain White, and another also for you, my dear Mamma. They were quite transported at hearing of his health and welfare, and read their letters aloud, which contained expressions of respect and affection, and protestations of his gratefully remembering their friendship the residue of his life. In the captain's was also this remarkable paragraph.

"Your

“Your excellent son, give me leave to tell you, Sir, has surpassed even my warmest expectations; I find him a complete gentleman, an able seaman, and that he possesses all those good qualities we prophesied he would one day or other display; at this time I am wondering at the gravity and prudence with which he conducts himself in his command, and that calmness and serenity with which he gives his orders. May you live long and happily together, &c. &c.” This was a fresh token of my friend White’s esteem of me, and gave my father a wonderful deal of pleasure. The next morning we all went on shore together, and, after our cargo was delivered, we left Mr. Courtney on board, and I came home, with bag and baggage, where I lived for two or three months in uninterrupted content; but then the captain’s new project began to ripen, the issue of which has frequently brought certain lines of Juvenal into my mind, which I have seen thus translated.

*At lowest ebb of fortune when you lay.
Contented, then how happy was the day?
But oh! the curse of aiming to be great!
Dazzled with hope, we cannot see the cheat.
When wild ambition in the heart we find,
Farewel content and quiet of the mind:*

For

*For glitt'ring clouds we love the solid shore,
And wonted happiness returns no more.*

He had, nay we all had, as much of the goods of fortune as were necessary to make our lives easy, and to bear us up above the storms of fate; in short, as to my part, I had not an unsatisfied wish, and was so charmed with my family that it was a matter of little concern to me whether I ever went to sea again; but the captain, like an old stager, resolved to make a bold push at once after the completion of his fortune, by a concerted voyage to the South Seas, with a proper cargo, though he risked imprisonment, ship and all, in the adventure; thus it happens, as Prior says,

*That cruel something unpossess,
Corrodes and leavens all the rest;
That something, if we could obtain,
Would soon create a future pain.*

For though, in whatsoever state we are, cares and anxieties are continually attending it, yet we are still ambitious to load ourselves with more; and most of our researches are after, what? wealth, which we may each moment be deprived of after all our pains, and which is incapable of producing either peace or wisdom.

Can gold calm passion, or make reason shine?
 Can we dig peace, or wisdom from the mine?
 Wisdom to gold prefer, for 'tis much less
 To make our fortunes than our happiness:
 That happiness which great ones often see
 With rage and wonder in a low degree,
 Themselves unblest: the poor are only poor;
 But what are they who droop amidst their store?
 Nothing is meaner than a wretch of shate;
 The happy only are the truly great.

YOUNG.

THE END OF THE SECOND PART.

THE

ADVENTURES

OF

Capt. NEVILLE FROWDE.

PART III.

CAPTIAN M'NAMARA was a man of good sense; yet though he had, with great assiduity, acquired enough to make the remainder of his life completely happy, was yet anxious after getting more, and by this last Coup d' Eclat, intended to finish all his voyages. It is true, he had two excuses that may be pleaded in his favour: in the first place, ever since he had used the seas he had been fortunate, which was enough to dazzle him and bouy up his expectations; he had also the true spirit of a seaman, and his various adventures had served to edge his appetite to still further views

of distant kingdoms and climates, a passion very laudable if not carried too far, which is perhaps the generous foible of most experienced navigators. But he, considering his time of life, and family, should have left these matters to younger men, who had their fortunes to make. I must own I greatly disapproved the voyage, for, since my Polly became mine, my views had been turned principally to domestic enjoyments, and the care of the children providence was likely to bless me with; and as I was not avaricious, I thought we had enough to secure our happiness already, if well improved, on shore, without hazarding the ruin of all my fond schemes by useless and hazardous attempts after more; and besides I was assured of what my mother-in-law, the captain and his wife had in possession, at their decease; for the latter seemed rather too much advanced in life to expect children. However I had such a veneration for him, that I thought it not proper to remonstrate against, or seem averse to his designs, and endeavoured to compose myself to their execution, with all the art I had, and prepare my dear wife's mind for the approaching long and tedious absence, the idea of which had already cost her sister and mother many tears.

This scheme, in short, was this, to which
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He was also greatly encouraged by some eminent merchants of London, Cork, and Amsterdam; to provide a cargo of all sorts of goods necessary for the trade, on the Spanish continent of America; to take his departure from Cork to Amsterdam, from thence to touch at the Cape Verd islands, and then to fall into the trade-winds, and steer for Jamaica, where he was to receive certain instructions from a correspondent who had been with Rogers and Dampier in their excursion in the late war, and perfectly understood the innerloping trade, and who was also to go on board as our pilot into the South Seas, by the streights of Magellan. Nay our merchants had already settled a secret correspondence with two eminent houses at Seville, who had, for a year before, prepared their friends in New Spain for our arrival. Thus much he undertook for profit; but another part of his scheme was to endeavour a discovery of a certain island, in lat. 62. 10. south of the equinoctial, and long. 40. west of London, which he, being mate of a ship in the year 1712, bound to the East Indies from Surinam, fancied he had discovered; but none of the ship's company having pursued it farther, he imagined the honour of adding so valuable a prize to the crown of Great Britain was reserved for him.

If we succeeded in the first part of this

scheme, he was together with his officers and crew, to have extraordinary pay; the profits of the voyage also were to be divided into five shares, three of which to be reserved for the other three owners, another for himself, and the fifth for his ship's company, according to their rank. We had engaged twenty five able seamen for the voyage; myself was to act as chief mate, Mr. Daniel Courtney as second mate, and one Mr. Thomas Lillingston, an excellent navigator, as third; and were provided with a sufficient stock of arms, ammunition, and provisions for two years, beside which we were to touch at the Madeiras to take in a quantity of wine for the ship's use.

This was already performed, and we had taken in such part of our cargo as we were to receive from Cork, and now only eight days remained before we were to sail. Our family was all affliction, my dear wife continually in tears, Mrs. M'Namara and our mother-in-law deplored our approaching absence, and no arts we could make use of were sufficient to support their sinking spirits. As to my part, though I attempted all I could to preserve the firmness of a man, I frequently wept by myself, and don't know how, but I had a constant misgiving in my mind, that our expedition would have an unfortunate termination, and though no man could more
rely

rely upon the goodness and protection of providence more than myself, yet I was dejected, even to a superstitious regard; for some notices that sleep imparted; no doubt from a constant dwelling of gloomy and anxious thoughts in my mind when waking. One dream so remarkably affected me that I never forgot it. Methought we were on our voyage, in calm serene weather, and smooth seas, gently gliding on, with a propitious breeze, when all on a sudden, the clouds began to lour; rain, accompanied with thunder and lightening, almost deluged us, and the winds blew a most tremendous storm; whilst we put all our skill in practice to keep the ship above water; but we were driven, at the mercy of the tempest, into unknown oceans, and under strange skies, where all our men, at length, died, but the captain and myself, who not being able to work the vessel, and quite spent with weariness and fatigue, laid her too, and determined to wait the event; when suddenly, a high rocky island seemed to ly before us, on which, in a few hours, our ship was dashed to pieces, and after infinite pain and difficulty we got on shore, jaded and bruised against the crags of the rocks on which we were cast. The pain and anxiety I was in, here waked me; but I soon was asleep again, and, methought, on this barren desert island, that

that the captain at length expired in my arms, and I was left alone, without companion or assistant in my misery. I then sought all over the dreary spot for shelter and subsistence; but could find none, when, sitting down to deplore my misfortune, at the mouth of a yawning cavern, where I had retired from the inclemency of the weather, in an instant I was surrounded by a tribe of savages, with hideous aspects, who seized me, and were on the point of putting a period to my existence, after having stript me to the skin; at which time I prayed most fervently; but with the extreme anguish I felt awaked, in terror and affright, shedding tears, bedewed with a cold sweat from head to heel, and shaking the very bed under me with trembling apprehension. My wife was awake, and extremely surprised at the condition I was in, but it was near ten minutes before I was recovered enough to answer all her kind and tender enquiries, and then I assumed presence of mind sufficient to wave a relation of my dream, for fear of affecting her too much, and only ascribed my disorder to a cause of quite different import.—It was indeed, however, pretty nearly a prophetic dream! A plain warning communicated to the soul, by some superior intelligence, of the ills we were to suffer in our rash adventure! It left such an impression upon

upon me, that I have recalled it since, an hundred and an hundred times to memory, for many years, and even now, although I have been but describing it, feel all the horrors I experienced this dreadful night.

And now the day of parting came, when I was to bid adieu to the dear partner of my bosom, the solace and reward of all my former sufferings, and to leave an helpless infant, who was yet almost unconscious of having a father, of which he was so cruelly to be robbed: what we felt, no tongue, no pen, is able to describe; the separation of the soul from the body could not be more dreadful, more tremendous. A thousand, and a thousand times we clasped each other in our arms, for our speech faltered, nor could we utter any thing, but broken and disjointed accents, mingled with sighs, that rent our very hearts, and tears that incessant flowed! Oh! gentle reader, excuse a further description of this sad, this mournful scene: if thou hast a soul replete with all the tenderest affections, if thou hast been happy in the loved embraces of a good, a virtuous wife, in the fond cares of an only child, whose innocent blandishments have cheered thy hours; and, if thou ever wert thus barbarously dragged from such refined, such heart-felt enjoyments, thou canst feel all that passed in my tortured bosom. My mother, and Mrs. M'Namara,
also,

also, claimed their share of us, and clung about our necks, nor would all the riches in the world be a recompence for the pain we gave them. The captain too dropped a forrowing tear, and we were, for the remainder of the time we staid together, a picture of the most grievous distress, and of that anguish that the dearest friends experience—who part, with an assurance that they never can see each other more. Oh! God, let me shut up the dreadful scene, which every time I recollect, still causes direful pangs in my throbbing bosom, and is renewed with as much violence, almost, as when it really happened. And indeed it was even so afflicting to us all, that the captain himself wished, but too late, that he had not embarked in the undertaking. They followed us to the beach, and we kept our eyes upon each other, till the envious distance mocked our straining sight, and then, retiring to our cabin, left the ship to the charge of our officers, and burst into a renewed flood of tears, nor were able to attend our duty, or speak to each other, for the remainder of the day; but time, which will fortify even the most delicately tender natures, at length brought us somewhat to ourselves; though, for at least a month, a smile was not discovered upon our countenances, and we seemed, in all we did, to be acted upon by force and necessity,

cessity, like mere machines. But, as if heaven was pleased to give us a foretaste of our future sufferings, we met with very stormy weather in our voyage to Amsterdam, whence we sailed in about a month, on the first of August, my birth day, in the year 1733, the day that brought me into a world of trouble and misery, and from which I was now to date the beginning of the most dreadful misfortunes. Yet, let me not conceal a circumstance that sent us from this port with peace and calm in our breasts, and made us, with alacrity, attend to our duties: we had wrote to our dear family, and in return received letters from them, assuring us that they had recovered in some measure from their griefs, and that, bating the melancholy our absence induced, they were in perfect health. This was the last time, for a dreadful space, I was to hear from that beloved quarter; and my wife's letter breathed such good sense mingled with such ardent affection, that I cannot forbear preserving it in these memoirs, from the rage of time.

My dear, dear Husband,

IF in the present situation of my heart, any thing was capable of inspiring true comfort, it would be your kind and excellent epistle, and the assurances you give of your health and safety, with the flattering, I fear

too

too flattering hopes, you would impart of your happy return. And yet, I will strive, for your sake, for the sake of one that is beloved by us both, and that, alas! has only me now to take care of him, to indulge these cheering ideas, and not hurt my health by an absolute despondency. On your part, pray endeavour to support your spirits, and to preserve your health, and your tenderly valued life, and remembering that you can feel no anxiety, can experience no distress, but what must assail my bosom, with reflected force, be cheerful, and run into no unnecessary danger. Think, with me, and that is the only source of joy we have, that we are, though ever so distant from each other, still under the protection of the same good and beneficent Being, "whose tender mercies are over all his works." It is at the foot of his throne, that I must now, when every human aid has failed me, endeavour to reap ease and satisfaction; it is upon his gracious assistance I must depend for your safe return to these widowed arms. Oh! my dear, I have a thousand, and ten thousand nameless tenderneesses arising in my breast, whilst I am writing these lines, and the tears will preforce blot my paper, which your sensibility for me will, I hope, excuse; and all this tenderness should have its full scope, in this last epistle; but I fear, by so
soothing

soothing my own sorrows, I shall encrease yours. No, let me keep all the longings, the wishings, the fears and tortures of this faithful heart, to myself; confident, however, that they meet a due return in your generous bosom. Oft I exclaim to myself, —Why,—why,—am I destined to so much unhappiness! But when I compare it to the load you must bear, it vanishes and appears as nothing; I am safe on shore, and have my infant, my mother and sister, to comfort me; you are exposed to the merciless rage of winds and waves, and to other dreadful accidents, the idea of which makes me tremble; and, at the same time, feel all the pain I feel; for well I know, and am confident, my dearest creature, that my love meets with an equal return, and that you bear me a sincere and tender affection. In this crisis of my fate, I hope providence will preserve your son's life, and the care and pains I shall take to form his little mind, will be some entertainment and an alleviation of my distress: Oh! if I can but make him an emblem of you, my pains will be well bestowed; of you, in every thing but your inclination to that element, which has almost broke my heart. My mother and sister have both wrote to you, as well as my brother, so I shall say nothing of them here, nor charge you with my compliments and good wishes to

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him,

him, having, perforce, wrote him a little billet. I always loved him, particularly because he loved you, and yet I cannot say, but my affection is, at present, a little cooled, from his exposing himself and you, to so much needless danger, and us to such sore affliction; but no more of that. I must not forget to tell you, that nurse, the good Mr. Cosby, and the worthy Dr. Gulston, desire to be remembered to you, wish you a safe voyage, and a happy return, and that the latter remembers you in his prayers. And now, though reluctantly, let me conclude. May that gracious God, whom we adore, and to whom I know we both make daily offerings, smooth the seas, and check the boisterous winds in your favour! May the noxious climates you visit, have no ill effect on your precious health, may no evil, no danger attack you, and may you at length be restored to the arms of,

Your most tenderly affectionate,

And faithful wife, &c.

The weather still continued to be extremely foul, and the winds hung so contrary, that it was near seven weeks before we made the Madeiras, and cast anchor before the town of Funchial, where we were entertained

entertained with great friendship, by the English consul and merchants, and supplied, by the Portuguese, with every thing we stood in need of. I was greatly pleased with the prospect of the island, and hospitality of the people, which in some measure changed the despicable opinion I had before entertained of the Portuguese nation; though I received still worse impressions than I had ever done before, of their superstitious religion, and absurd ceremonies, by the stupidity both of the priests and laity, at the Madeiras, where, if any thinking man has a veneration for the Roman catholic system, I think he may meet with a cure.

Whilst we staid here, I was very innocently near being drawn into an ugly scrape; Don Juan de Moncada, the commander of their troops, conceived such an inclination to me, that he invited the captain and me to reside, when on shore, at his house, which was one of the best in the place, and even permitted his wife, contrary to the Portuguese custom, to sit at table with us, and be frequently in our company. She was a young lady of a graceful person, and a pleasant disposition; but very amorous, and had suddenly contracted some tender impressions of me. As I knew very little of the Portuguese tongue, we generally conversed in Italian, which her husband did not under-

stand, we talking with him in French, and therefore, she would frequently even before him, express her passion for me, in an artful manner, which however, I would never seem to understand, and if I could handsomely have refrained going to the house, would have kept on board to avoid her importunities, which grew every day stronger and stronger. As ill luck would have it, the Don had a servant that had been in Italy, and knew somewhat of the language, or enough, however, to find out what subject his lady principally talked to me upon, which agreeably to the disposition of his function, he immediately imparted to his master. The Don, jealous as any of his nation, without further enquiry, denounced vengeance, nay, perhaps, had I been present at the discovery, would have immediately stabbed me.

It happened, that he told the story to an Irishman, who he intended to employ in his revenge, and who undertook to way-lay and put me to death the first opportunity; but the Irishman, whom I had obliged, frequently, with one present or another from on board, and who took me, as well as the captain, for his countryman, gave me private advice of the reception that was intended for me, after which I never went on shore; but heard, however, that the poor lady had
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been very ill used and straitly confined upon the occasion. Harm watch, harm catch, is an old and shrewd adage, and so it happened in the present case.

The aforesaid officious servant was pretty near my own age and stature, and, some days before this matter broke out, I had made the ungrateful rogue a present of a coat, the Don had seen me wear, as a reward for some services he did me at his house. Now though we kept up a course of civilities still, yet neither the captain or I, having completed our business, ever went on shore after the Irishman's information; though we gave no suspicion of the reason, waiting for a fair wind to carry us out to sea. But as jealousy is ever watchful, and suspicious, the Don imagined I kept a correspondence, yet, with his wife, and walked every night on the shore, and about his house, in hopes of catching me ashore somewhere, or lurking under her window.

One of these evenings, his man accidentally came by, in the coat I had bestowed upon him, and whether he had not worn it before, or whether his master's passion blinded him, I cannot tell, but he ran the unhappy fellow through the body, and fled to sanctuary. When I heard of this murder, I was greatly concerned, and, to do justice to myself and the lady, wrote a letter to un-

decieve him. What it produced in her favour I cannot determine, for, by the time he received it, we had weighed and put to sea, with a fair wind, to proceed on our intended voyage.

We shaped our course S. S. W. for the Cape Verde islands, with an intent to wood and water, and for four or five days continued to have easy and prosperous gales, till in latitude $25^{\circ} 6'$. the wind chopped about to the southward of the east, and blew with continued violence, for several days, a thing not very usual in the limits of the trade winds, in the month of October; we were obliged the second day to ly too, and let the ship drive with the tempest, and at length, to try a hull, in which dismal situation the waves broke over us, with such force, that we apprehended every minute we should have foundered and gone to the bottom. In short, this was a trying storm; but however, afforded us the satisfaction of perceiving that our mates and the whole crew, were as good hands as ever stepped between stem and stern of a ship. When the storm abated, we found we were driven back, to the height of the Canary Islands, but then, a breeze springing up at E. N. E. we soon recovered our old latitude, and then shifting to N. W. by N. we in about six days made St. Anthony, the westernmost
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of the Cape Verde islands, and running in between it and St. Vincent, dropped anchor in a bay to the north-eastward just above the town. Here we lay near a fortnight, till we had sufficiently wooded and watered, and procured an addition to our live stock, with herbs and roots peculiar to the island, which were of great service to our healths. It was the the 29th of October before we departed from this place, after which we met with nothing remarkable, till we reckoned ourselves a-breast of the Carribbee Islands and in longitude $54^{\circ} 0'$ west of London, when, all on a sudden, about the hour of midnight, it being my watch upon deck, we heard a dismal crack, followed with a shower, as it were of fire, which broke over us, as if the whole dissolution of the world was coming on; I was struck down, and remained, insensible for some time; but when I recovered, found myself through mercy, unhurt; but three of my watch were killed, and another very much scorched, and those that thus dismally lost their lives, seemed to be reduced to a perfect cinder, and all the buckles, buttons, and every thing else of metal which they had about them were melted. Our main-top-gallant mast was split to pieces, and our main mast much shattered, our pumps were split, and one of them burst between decks, four of our lower deck planks

planks were torn up, and our main wale burst through about two feet above water, and the ship was filled with a sulphurous smoke. The horrid crack, which preceded all this, was of no longer duration than whilst a man could tell twenty. Such an extraordinary sudden explosion, as it may be called, was hardly ever experienced, and the oldest navigator amongst us, never even heard of the like in these seas. The captain and my brother officers, were in an instant upon deck, where, the first sight that presented, was me, lying on on the quarter deck motionless. At this sight the former broke out into loud lamentations, crying, Oh! heavens, he is dead! I have lost my son! and flinging himself down by me, with his warm pressure restored me to myself and then his joy was as exquisite as his grief had been, at which I testified, a true filial gratitude. We all lamented the unhappy accident, and buried our deceased companions, with decent ceremony, myself being chaplain upon the occasion, and reading the burial service as we committed their bodies to the deep. We soon repaired our other damages, and made shift with our fore and mizen masts to get safe into the harbour of St. John's at Antigua, where we supplied the place of our shattered main mast by a new one. We were a very serious orderly crew before; but this chastise-

chastisement from heaven, made us still more circumspect, and I read prayers twice a day, all hands being called up for that purpose, during the rest of our voyage, to Jamaica, where we cast anchor in Port Royal harbour in about three weeks afterwards. And here our correspondent aforementioned came on board, and viewed the ship, was mightily pleased with every thing about her, and thought her very fit for the service intended. Willing therefore, on all accounts, to follow his directions, we complied in taking a trip to the north sea, by way of trial, in which we had more success than our warmest expectations foretold, for, trying our luck at Santa Marta, and Rio Grande, we disposed of near half our cargo for good gold and silver, and, at our return to Jamaica, were able to remit a considerable sum to our owners, and as my 500l. was doubled, I remitted the encrease to my Polly, to whom and the other ladies, we had an opportunity of writing, by a man of war of twenty guns, which was going to England; Captain M'Namara also sent home his share of our profit, and, before we left Jamaica again, we were able not only to replenish our cargo, but to pay our men every penny of their wages, from their first entrance; and they had such an opinion of the voyage we were going upon, that though considerable

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able fums were at this time offered to seamen, for the run home, not one of them left us, but swore they would live and die by us. We also procured three other hands in the room of those we so unfortunately lost. Its impossible to tell what a pleasing ease insinuated itself into our bosoms, at having this opportunity of writing home to the dear partners of our hearts ; next to seeing them, and enjoying their company, nothing could be more delightful, and it considerably abated that perpetual gloom that dwelt upon my mind, when my thoughts, as they every moment were, were directed homewards. The soft and tender sentiments we bore to our wives, made us also sympathetically partake of others cares, and we afforded all our married men opportunity to inclose their letters in our packet, by which they were sure they would have a safer conveyance, if the ship met with no accident in her voyage, than if they had gone singly and recommended only by themselves.

Mr. Courtney and Mr. Lillingston, appeared such trusty and careful officers, that the captain and I, during our stay at Jamaica lodged on shore, at Mr. Douglas's the agents, and never lay on board, or tarried there any time, but when the two mates wanted to be on shore at the same time ;
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for indeed we denied them no reasonable liberty, nor any of the seamen.

One evening, returning to our lodgings from the attorney-general's, where we had agreeably spent the preceding hours, as we were turning the corner into Paradise Row, a parcel of drunken Portuguese sailors, belonging to a brig that lay in the harbour, set upon us, and before we could well draw our swords, had given us several blows with their bludgeons and sticks, without the least affront or provocation; as they continued to pursue their insult, and were near ten in number, and some armed with cutlasses, we perceived we must fight our way through, and, accordingly, attacking the cowardly dogs, we soon let them see we were able to defend ourselves to their hurt, for, in two minutes, I ran one of them through the short-ribs, and the captain wounded a second, but, by the stroke of a club had immediately his sword snapped short, close to the hilt, and the fellow had his hand up again to repeat his blow on his head, which would have infallibly knocked out his brains, when I opportunely ran him through the heart, and then seizing his club, tossed my sword to Mr. M'Namara, and both together made such vigorous efforts, that we let the rest to scamper for their lives. As this was not the first riot they had been guilty of at Kingston,

Kingston, we immediately returned from whence we came, and accompanied by Mr. Attorney, went to the governor, who immediately ordered out a posse with the provost marshal, to seize them, that they might meet with their due punishment. They were all found in a cottage, a little without the town, and committed to goal. The captain when we were alone, took me in his arms, and said, my dear son, I have ever loved you as much or more than I do myself, and the gallantry with which you have saved my life, has still, if possible, more increased my affection: in return I will endeavour, by every means in my power to make you happy. Oh! my father, I returned, you have been always so kind and good, that I can receive no addition to my happiness—none but—and I fear to mention it—a safe return to Cork, to my dear wife, my excellent mother, and our other good lady—and a firm resolve in you, to spend the remainder of your days retired from the dangers of the turbulent ocean, and every thing else that can annoy you; contented in receiving my dutiful endeavours to oblige, with those of my wife and children. Oh! how blessedly would our minutes flow, pleased with ourselves, and pleasing all around us, and if not the richest, the happiest persons living. My dear, he replied, afresh embracing

ing me, I never told you so directly ; but if we live to get safe home, I will entirely conform to your scheme, nor will ever again myself, or consent to your leaving our family. This conclusion, encreased my esteem for him, and my mind began to swell with the fancied ideas of future domestic enjoyments, the blandishments of love and the charms of friendship, and, for some moments, I forgot the awful distance between me and my lovely wife.

The next day, the town was full of our adventure, and we were admired by every body for our bravery ; but the life that was lost gave me great concern, though I knew if it had been spared, we must ourselves have fallen sacrifices. About noon, the Portuguese captain waited upon us to intercede for his imprisoned men, his name was Jacomo Villegas, and his person struck us at first sight ; there was a mixture of such dignity and sweetness in his countenance, which his address and speech in no manner belied. He spoke tolerable English, and seemed to be between twenty and thirty years of age. He did not offer to justify his men ; but highly condemned them, only hoped as we had received no great hurt, that the life that was deservedly lost, might atone for the crimes of the rest, promising they should

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never again set foot on shore, whilst he staid in the harbour.

Mr. M'Namara, seeming to be determined to deny his request, I begged the favour of him, for my sake to grant it; which soon brought him to compliance. We then accompanied him to the governor's, who, at our earnest entreaty, ordered them to be sent on board their own vessel, highly applauding our moderation and mercy. When we came out, Captain Villegas embraced me and the captain, with a grace peculiar to him, and thanked us in the politest terms, telling us he always loved the English, and would for our sakes be their friend, wherever he found them in any distress, and added, indeed my better half is of that nation. We did not understand what he meant, by the last sentence, but, as he explained himself no further, let it drop, presuming only that he had married an English woman. As to my part, whilst he staid at Jamaica, we were inseparable, he had so soft a turn of mind, and possessed so many of the virtues of the Portuguese, and was tainted with so few of their follies or vices, that I loved him extremely, and he loaded our ship with presents of every thing rare that he had with him, in so generous a manner, that one would have thought him a nobleman. My two or three weeks intercourse
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with this gentleman, made me a considerable proficient in his language, which he was proud to be my tutor in, and in which I was greatly assisted by having before applied myself to the Spanish, as it might be of great use to me in our intended voyage. We understood, before his departure, that he was bound to the Brazils, and was likely to stay there and on that coast for near a twelvemonth.

All things now being ready, and Mr. Douglas come on board, we weighed and put to sea, having taken leave of all our kind and generous friends on the island; where, to our great joy, neither I nor some other men on board, who had not been seasoned to the climate, had felt the least illness. Those of our acquaintance who knew the design we were upon, had embarked their several ventures with us, not in the least doubting of mountains of profit, for their mole hills of hazard; and we had also engaged a very good surgeon to go with us, named Davidson, a native of Aberdeen in Scotland, who was nearly related to Mr. Douglas.

The first place we touched at, after our departure from Jamaica, was Surinam, a thriving colony upon the Terra Firma belonging to the Dutch, which we principally did for the sake of intelligence, and here we

received notice, that the whole coast, from Cape St. Vincent to Port St. Julian, was destitute of any Spanish armed vessels, commonly called *Guarda Costas*, the *St. James of Compostella*, the only ship of force, having sailed some weeks ago from Rio de Janeiro for the South Seas; that her force was only sixteen guns; but that she carried fifty-six men, and was commanded by the *Sieur la Roche*, a Frenchman, who was a man of Spirit, and a good seaman. That besides this ship, only two small frigates of war, and the country vessels, were now in the South Seas. This advice gave us great satisfaction, and if we could but miss this *la Roche*, we thought our business would be completely done; though if we did not, we resolved to give him a *Rowland* for his *Oliver*, if he attacked us. Mr. Douglas being against doing any thing till we came into the South Seas, for fear of alarming the Spanish governors there, before we arrived, we made Cape St. Roque, and then stood away to the eastward, and kept in the longitude 30, or thereabout; when in lat. 30. we hauled in to the westward, thinking to make Rio Grande or Port Pedro, but the wind changing to N. E. by E. we were driven as far down as Rio de la Plata, before we made the land, which was some disappointment, as we feared being seen by some vessel

vessel or other coming from Buenos Ayres, whence the intelligence would be easily conveyed over land to St. Iago or Vilspairaiso in the South Seas; but we had somewhat worse to encounter than loss of the means of getting rid of our cargo, somewhat our sanguine expectations had almost obliterated from our heads, and which included in it one of the greatest misfortunes, that to me could have happened at this or any other time.

We had just observed the land at about the distance of five leagues, when the third mate at the mast head, cried out a sail to the south west, and added, that she appeared, as nearly as he could distinguish, to be a ship of force, and that she stood directly towards us. Immediately the captain went up to the main top, and looking through his glass, came down to us, and said he could just discern her hull, that she was near four miles, he judged, to the westward; but as the wind stood for her, he believed we should know what she was in about an hour, and that he suspected her to be the very Guarda Costa that we wished to avoid. We then went into the cabin, to deliberate on what methods were best to pursue, and, as our ship was a prime sailer, we were all hands, but himself, for running to the eastward, to try to escape her; for though we had made no trade yet, we knew what mercy to expect, should the

Spaniards, make prize of us on their coast, which was neither better nor worse than confiscation of our ship and cargo, and perhaps slavery for life for ourselves in the mines of Baldivia. But poor Captain M^r Namara, blind to his own fate, insisted upon the strength of his ship and the bravery of his men, and said it was very likely some vessel bound for Europe, or if it was what we imagined, we should treat her too roughly for her to get easily into the South Seas, and that as they had no men of war there, if they alarmed the governments ever so much, the people would contrive to trade with us, and perhaps, after the proper presents, even with the connivance of the governors themselves. In short, he brought Mr. Douglas over to his opinion, and, as to us three, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Lillingston and myself, we gave the matter up to their superior judgment. Accordingly we stood on our course, and in about two glasses, found it was really the St. James de Compostella, by the description of her; who seeing us come up so boldly, hauled her wind, and lay by to receive us. As to our parts we had got every thing ready for fight, in case we were attacked, our nettings were filled, our guns loaded and primed, and our small arms brought upon the quarter deck, and prepared for action, and all our brave fellows ready and willing to fall

to work, every body being stationed in his proper post. We wore a Spanish jack, ensign and penant, and, as soon as we came within reach of the Guarda Costa, she fired a gun, to the leeward, which we answered in the same manner, and then they haled us. Upon this we pulled down our Spanish and hoisted English colours, and with the speaking trumpet, I told them who we were, and that we came from Rio Grande, but were driven out of our course. Immediately we perceived our mainsail clued up, and in a minute they edged about and gave us a whole broadside, which however did us no damage, save beating in the bow of our long boat, ~~which lay in the chains.~~ We returned this compliment with single guns, till we got within less than pistol shot, when we tacked, and poured in a whole broadside upon them, which we could plainly perceive made great slaughter, and damaged some of their rigging; but she soon got into order and peppered us with her small shot, which killed two of our men and wounded Mr. Lillingston, whilst we were tacking again to give her our other broadside, which was ready for them; but unhappily we missed stays, and for some moments lay exposed to their whole fire, which killed three more of our hands, and our worthy commander had his left leg shattered, and was obliged to leave

The Long Boat in the chains

leave the deck; at last we made shift to ware, and give them a dreadful blast, which carried away their main top gallant mast and bowsprit, killed them a considerable number of men, and we saw the captain as he seemed to be, fall from the arm chest, as if dead, and another officer, who was tending the main braces, disappeared in the same manner. I was now all rage and passion, and resolved to revenge myself, if possible, for the loss of my dear friend, who was, I feared, mortally wounded, and gave them a third broadside whilst they were in their present confusion; which was only languidly answered by several discharges of their small arms, at which we also plied them closely; but poor Mr. Douglas fell by a musquet ball, which entered his head a little above his eye, and he expired at my feet. By this time they were sick of their attempt, hoisted their sails and began to fly, whilst I gave orders as eagerly to pursue them: at this time the surgeon came from the captain, who to my great joy was alive, to hear how matters went, and Mr. Courtney going to him with an account that they were standing in shore, with all the sail they could make, he sent me word to cease the pursuit, as we had no authority for what we did. Accordingly we tacked, and after I had got things, with the help of my messmates, into some regularity,

larity, I ventured, with a mournful heart and weeping eyes, to enter the cabin, where I found my dear father, by this time, almost delirious; Mr. Davidson, having thought it proper to amputate his leg, just below the knee. I gave what orders I thought proper to Mr. Courtney, and then would not remove from his bed-side, where, in his ravings, he called upon me and his wife, by the tenderest and most endearing epithets. Good God! What was now my dismal situation, all the world would I given to restore the dear man to health and ease, to do which I would willingly have surrendered up my own life. Thus he continued for near a day and a half, when, by some administrations of our excellent surgeon, he came to himself, and his fever abated, so that we began to have some hopes of his life. Mean time, Mr. Courtney had committed the bodies of Mr. Douglas and our other dead companions, to the bosom of the deep, with decent solemnity, firing minute guns at their interment, and we kept jogging on under an easy sail to the eastward.

As soon as the captain recovered his senses, he cast his eyes upon me, and faintly said, My dear son, I fear I shall die. I fear only on thy account, and tremble to leave thee in these dangerous seas,—so far from home,—and, oh! my poor wife! At these words

words he wept, and I threw my arms about his neck, crying, Dear Sir, father, friend! don't discompose yourself,—providence I hope will spare you to us many an happy year—Oh! take care that you avoid, thinking of any thing that may encrease your weakness and disorder! My dear, he returned, I know I am a dead man,—nature is quite spent with the loss of blood I sustained,—Oh! would it had been in a better cause, then for the satisfaction of ambition or avarice. If you live to see Ireland once more, oh! take care of your dear mother, be to her both a son and a husband, tell her I remembered her with my last breath,—that I remembered your Polly,—And let me command you to quit this fatal coast,—return to Jamaica,—and as soon as possible home,—where I hope you will find enough to make you all happy, when I am no more,—oh! my dear, I have some things to impart of importance to yourself,—but can no more—in my chest you will find a paper, with every thing necessary for you to know,—continue to love my memory,—I ever intended your advantage and prosperity. Here he would have gone on; but his fever returned: I flung myself upon my knees and bedewed his scorching hands with my tears, but could not utter a word,—grief choaked my voice. In about two hours he came again to himself,

self, but his voice was so low he could hardly be heard.—However, we understood he wanted the officers to come to his bedside, and when they did so, he made shift to speak as follows. Mr. Courtney, Mr. Lillingston and Mr. Davidson, —I love you all, —but must leave you: this ship will now be commanded by my dear son, and I hope you'll yield him the same respect you have ever done me, —I know he'll deserve it of you. To this they all mournfully gave their assent, with tears in their eyes, and left the cabin. He then took my hand in his, and continued, my dear, may God send you safe home, —may you be ever prosperous, and may we see one another in an happier place, where I hope all our sins will be forgiven us, and where we shall meet to part no more. Oh! gracious God! forgive me all my manifold iniquities and transgressions, bless and preserve my dear family, and —here his voice failed, and in three or four minutes he expired.

In the first emotions of my sorrow, I was like one distracted; a thousand times I raved, oh! my father, my dear father, shall I never see you more, —but you are happy, —and we that are left behind are only miserable, —my dear mother, what tidings have I to bring you! —Must I break your heart, —must I kill you too, by repeating them! In short,

short, my grief was so violent, that a fever succeeded, and but for the skill of the good Davidson, I had too been in the same state. At length, reason re-assumed her reign, I condemned myself for murmuring against the decrees of providence,—I recovered, and grew calm; but bore a settled gloom in my mind and countenance, that nothing but time and reason was able to remove. I recalled all the obligations I had to his worthy man, his tender care of me, his affection, and in these recollections even the ideas of my Polly, and my child, were for some weeks quite lost.

In three days after his decease, we committed his corpse to the custody of that element, on which for so many years he had roved, and by his too great fondness for it, he had, at length, lost his life; but I could not myself bear to assist at the mournful scene, Mr. Davidson pronouncing the funeral ceremony, and half minute guns were fired the whole time, and every other honour shewn to his memory that is usual with the sea faring part of the world.

Necessity, and a regard to his dear commands, together with my affection for my wife and child, our mother and widowed sister, at length obliged me to stifle my grief, and take upon me the charge of the vessel, in which I was obeyed with zeal and affection

tion by all the officers and men, who before had paid me equal respect. I found we had got as far as long. $31^{\circ} 2'$ west of London; but the winds having hung pretty much to the Northward we were driven down as far as the latitude $42 10$. south. Soon after they shifted to the southward of the east, and then to the northward of the west, and a most terrible storm succeeded, which in the space of forty-eight hours varied to every point of the compass, and at length, settled in the east by north, and blew a perfect hurricane, so that we were obliged to ly too and drive at its mercy, whilst the waves washed over us in great seas, so that it was impossible, to stand the deck two minutes together. Our mainsail was split, our fore mast brought to the board, our maintop gallant mast sprung in two places, and to add to our distress, in the height of the gale, our guns to windward broke loose, and with every yaw we thought would have beat out the ship's side. As it was impossible to seize them again, or to bring them up to their lashings, at length we made shift, by dint of the hardest and most dangerous labour, to heave them overboard, and the leeward guns after them. We had, for all this time, a clouded sky and could get no observation, so that our reckoning was very uncertain, and we imagined we must be somewhere

near the coast of Patagonia, to which we were all entirely strangers, a circumstance that added to our calamity, and quite sunk our spirits; and yet a greater misfortune was behind, for the 10th day we sprung a leak, which all our art could not discover or stop, and the water gained upon us every hour, tho' we pumped ship incessantly, and heaved over all our goods to lighten her. Dismay now appeared in every face, and we kept a man constantly at mast head, to look out for land, the very thing that just before we so much dreaded, and beside our provisions and water grew very short, at the latter of which we had been for some time at the allowance of a pint a man per day. In short, nothing but our being a most loving set of people, and mutually concerned for each other, could have supported us under the extreme misery and fatigue we endured; and, as the storm continued, we had no other, prospect before us than of perishing at sea, or the comfort, if it could be called so, of seeing land, which would procure us, in exchange, perpetual and cruel slavery. On the 14th day the wind somewhat abated, but we had more than five feet of water in our hold, never having before less than three or four, with all our labour; when at ten o'clock A. M. the man at the top halloed out, land a head. Immediately I went up

to him, and casting my eyes to the N. W. perceived, indeed, land ; but a bold and dangerous shore, nor could I discover any bay or inlet where we might run in, for we could not keep her above water we were sure till next morning ; we computed it to be at about three leagues distance, and Mr. Courtney going aloft about an hour afterwards, brought the joyful news that he had discovered a fine bay to the northward, with a sandy beach, on which he did not doubt of laying the ship on shore with safety, at least to our lives. In our circumstances this news made us all alive, and work with fresh vigour, and, at nine at night, we made the opening, which by our charts we judged to be Anagada bay, in the Terra Magellanica. We endeavoured to reach the opening, but a strong tide of ebb running to the southward, we could scarce bear up against it, and it canted us so far, that we lost our opening, and were driven perforce on a craggy rock, where we lay thumping as if our bottom would every minute have parted. In this exigency we made shift to get our longboat over the side, and putting into her some provisions, and fire arms, and a barrel of powder, ten of our men adventured to shore, six of whom, if they could land, were to stay and send the boat back for more, if the ship held together so long. The night

being moonlight, greatly favoured our deliverance, and in about two hours the boat returned, having landed the six men upon a kind of reef, where they tarried till their companions joined them. We could now just stow ourselves all together in the boat, and happily got to our comrades, nor could I help, the minute I got on shore, though jaded and fatigued to the last degree, falling on my knees and returning thanks to our almighty Saviour and preserver, for this wonderful mercy, in which all the company joined with a fervour of gratitude. This was scarce performed, when the moon veiled her face, the sky was overcast, and the rain poured upon us like a second deluge, so that our situation was rendered inexpressibly, disagreeable: as we had no manner of shelter, we were wetted through and through, and could hardly make shift to secure our arms, as a matter of most importance to us, not knowing into what hands we might fall, or how we could, without them, procure subsistence. We had brought a keg of brandy, and another of rum with us, which were very comfortable, and with which we made very free; but no man was disguised; and here let me remark once more, as a peculiar happiness, that a set of honest or better behaved tars never were linked in misfortune together, and though now released from

from any immediate obligation, they as readily and willingly obeyed command, as when we were on board the ship, sailing with prosperous gales, and in hopes of reaping all the profits of an auspicious voyage. The rain continued near two hours, and then ceased, and, though in such an uncomfortable plight, our extraordinary late labours disposed most of us to sleep, which we indulged by huddling close to each other, and every one resting his head upon his neighbour's shoulder,

As soon as day appeared, we got up and looked about us, and could perceive our ship in her old station; but she had rolled her main and mizen masts overboard, and presented to us so much the picture of a wreck, that we concluded we should never be able to get her off, and the sea ran so high, that it would have been desperation to have endeavoured to have got any thing out of her then; though we were in hopes, if she lay any time, we might be able to lessen our sufferings by the useful and necessary things she would afford us. Therefore we determined to detach two of the company to discover what they could of the country; for we were on a reef surrounded with high rocks, on every side, with a view of nothing but the ocean, breaking mountains high, and dashing its foam upon these

deformed ruins of nature. For this service Mr. Lillingston and Mr. Davidson offered themselves, and accordingly set out, and we soon lost sight of them in the windings of the cliffs they were obliged to ascend. However, to our great comfort, they informed us, at their return, which was in about six hours, that we were actually upon main land, that the country was sandy and desert, with here and there a spot of verdure, and that in their whole journey they had not discovered one living creature, except a kind of curlew, which they shot and brought down with them. The ascent they said was not very difficult, and though the work of nature, the way up the rocks, seemed greatly like the contrivance of art. We determined however to stay where we were, till the next morning, blessing God, that in our forlorn condition we had such views of comfort before us, and the more as we perceived our ship intire, till the close of day hid her from our view.

At the dawn of day, we looked out, with wishful eyes, towards our ship, and, to our great satisfaction, not only saw her in her old station, but perceived it was a perfect calm, and a cloudless sky; so that we determined to venture out to her in the longboat, and at least endeavour to supply ourselves with what necessaries we could get from her.

Accordingly

Accordingly myself, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Davidson, and six more, went to the boat, and left Mr. Lillingston in the command on shore, and, in about an hour, by mere dint of rowing, which we plied turn and turn about, without any distinction of persons, we came up to our wreck, which made a very melancholy appearance; her larboard quarter was beat in, her bows shattered in several places, and the garboard plank ripped up, but as it was high water, and she almost floated, we concluded we might get her into the inlet, at tide of flood, if the weather continued to favour us for a day or two longer; for it was upwards of sixteen fathom of water, through the whole bay, as we called it, even to the reef on which we were encamped. By good fortune, however, as she lay on her side, we discovered the fatal leak which had given us such pain, and at last brought us into our present dilemma, which was large enough to receive a middling man through, when part of the sheathing was ripped off, ~~and~~ appeared to have been a decayed plank, carelessly put in when she was built; however, our carpenter who was with us, made little doubt of stopping it, if he could properly come at it. We then attempted to enter the ship, which we did through one of the port holes, and here a strange ruinous scene presented, the decks were torn up in several places,

places, and the waves had made her fluffi-
fore and aft, by their violence; but as her
stern lay pretty high, the cabin was almost
clear of water, out of which we got a bag
of biscuit, little damaged, a compass which
hung to the cieling, and mine and poor
Captain M'Namara's chests, as also the mates
and Mr. Davidson's, with his chest of medi-
cines and instruments, and also a barrel of
beef, another of pork, a kettle, and various
other things, which we stood in need of, and
with which we returned joyfully and safely
to our companions, and, with a few billets,
we also brought with us, made shift to dress
a very comfortable supper, to our great re-
freshment. The next day, leaving only
three men on shore, we went again to our
wreck, and, to our great joy, found floating,
along side, our main mast, and two or three
spare yards, which, as we did not see the
preceding day, we imagined had been car-
ried to sea, and brought in again with the
tide of flood, and our carpenter going to
work, in about three hours stopped the leak
so as to keep her above water, if she righted,
till we got her into the bay, which had
scarcely been performed, before the tide
still running strong in shore, she floated, and
with a great deal of labour, we got her off
the shelf, which appeared now to have a kind
of oozy bottom, where she had laid as in a
bed,

bed, and received very little damage in her underworks. Such a various train of favourable incidents, from the goodness of providence, sure never any set of wretches experienced; we were struck with gratitude to the divine Being, and could none of us help expressing it in extempore prayer and praise. In short, before the hour of midnight, we got her safe to our shelf, where she lay embayed, and secure from future dangers of winds and waves, and with a little further labour, made her clear of the vast quantity of water that yet remained in her. We now not in the least doubted but we should refit her, so as to be able, at least to carry us to some of the Portuguese settlements, on the Brazil coast, where, as we had money enough on board, we could have her repairs finished, and revictual for our further voyage to Jamaica; but what gave us the utmost apprehension, was, lest we should be discovered by the Spaniards, before we had completed our design, though the appearance of the country seemed to confirm us that it was a desert coast, and not frequented by them or any body unless driven upon it by necessity.

However, our fears did not slacken our industry, and we worked incessantly day and night, having all sorts of tools, iron and nails on board, and spare rope, rigging and canvas,

canvas, which we had brought with us in abundance. We recollected the maxim, "If any signal infelicity falls upon you, don't sit still; but resolve upon action; for if nothing is done, the same accidents which caused your misfortune still remain; but if you act something, you may possibly deliver yourself." And no murmur was heard during the whole time; we acted as if we possessed one will amongst us, though we were reduced to very scanty allowance, in order to preserve subsistence for our intended voyage; and to encourage the people still more, I promised them, if we reached Jamaica, to double their pay from the time we were first cast on shore. We made very few excursions into the country, for fear of being discovered by any straggling Spaniards, or the Indian natives, judging we were not far from the Pampas, a warlike nation, that have long disputed the authority of the tyrants of this new world; nor indeed had we much encouragement to venture, for it being now the month of June, the weather was dry and hot, nor had we seen any thing better than gulls, curlews, and a kind of large sheer-water, which also frequented the rocks above, and of which we now and then made a comfortable meal; and as to any of the watery tribe, we had tried for them but found none, only one day

day a young seal having stranded himself on an opposite rock, in our bay, we made shift to kill him, which afforded us an high relished entertainment. Besides, as we had only two small barrels of powder left, all that in the lazaretto being staved and quite spoiled, we were very cautious of expending it uselessly, as we did not know but we might have occasion for it to defend us from enemies.

All our cloaths were secure in our chests, and we also recovered mine and Mr. Courtney's cases of liquors, and as to water, a fine spring ran trickling down the side of a rock about, 100 yards above us, which seemed a miraculous gift of heaven, and wonderfully refreshed and comforted our continually jaded spirits. In this manner we wore away near seven months, in this miserable, oh! rather let me gratefully say, blessed solitude, remote from all mankind; but we had now made our vessel tight and fit for sea, had got all things dry and on board, and then embarked ourselves, after humbly, on our knees, having returned thanks to the Almighty for our strange and surprising deliverance, at which time, I, according to the best of my abilities, acted as chaplain to the whole; nor had we lost one man by accident or sickness in the seven months: by observation, this inlet or bay lay in lat. $35^{\circ} 12'$ south

south, and by our charts, near 260 miles to the southward of the Cape St. Anthony, at the entrance of the river of Plate, and as we found no name for it there, we solemnly gave it that of Port Relief.

We found our whole stock of provisions was reduced to one sack of bread, a barrel of beef, and a sack of pease, which by exposing them to the sun, were rendered tolerable; and as to water, we had filled two hogheads, which were the only ones that were remaining fit for use, and we had also left about twenty gallons of spirits of all sorts, all our small arms were safe, but we had only a barrel and half of powder; a very scanty provision of all sorts, any body will say, to carry twenty-four men to the immense distance of the Rio Janeiro, which must at least be expected to take us up six weeks or two months, if the winds were ever so favourable. However, we were supported by hope, and nothing seemed now impossible to men who had so manifestly experienced the protection of heaven, and therefore, we got out to sea, and the weather being favourable, set sail, and found the vessel went very trimly, notwithstanding the lowness of the masts, which we had been obliged to reduce many feet from their true standard.

We pursued our course very auspiciously, till, by our reckonings, we were a breast of
the

the island of St. Katherine, when our water running short, we determined to seek for a supply there, and accordingly stood in shore, and made the island; but perceiving a small vessel, which seemed of the *Guarda Costa* kind, we put to sea again, not caring, with our small stock of ammunition, to venture the attack of an enemy, and as the wind was turned against us, we tacked and stood in for the continent, which we made about twenty leagues below Cape St. Vincent. Though this was what we would if possible have avoided, yet our scarcity of water made it eligible, and the aspect of the country was prodigiously inviting, to people who had, for so long a time, had a view of nothing but rugged rocks, sandy deserts, and a wild waste of water. The shining beach, which reflected the sun's rays, with the greatest splendor; the lofty woods, here and there diversified with the verdant savannas, the purling rills trickling down the rocks, and the chant of millions of uncommon birds; warbling their wild notes with native harmony, attracted our longing desires to visit so tempting a country, and as we were sensible we were many miles from any Spanish settlement, Upaba being the nearest, we imagined we might do it with the greatest safety. We permitted our men to go on shore six at a time, whilst we staid, and we had

plenty of game, so that we expended none of our scanty sea stores, whilst we remained, and supplied ourselves with fresh water in plenty. And here, for the first time, I had the courage to open my dear deceased father's chest, remembering what he said on his death bed of a paper that would give me information of somewhat I ought to know. This excellent man under all our difficulties and distresses, had been perpetually in my mind, mingled with the tenderest remembrance of my dear wife and child, my mother and Mrs. M'Namara. Oh! what dread worked upon me, when I contemplated the distraction they must be under at our long absence, and the fears and cares that must of consequence fill their breasts; and when to the little prospect of our safely returning to Europe, in our sad condition, I added the direful news I had to impart, the death of my beloved captain, I sunk under the thought, which frequently caused me, when alone, to shed a flood of tears. However, in regard to keeping up the spirits of my people, I was obliged, in public, to appear full of hope, expectation, and gaiety, and to feign a pleasantry that was far from being allied to the heart. My two mates, Mr. Davidson and myself, had lived like brethren and friends, and shared
in

in every thing we possessed; to them my grief was no stranger, and as they loved me, they partook of it with sincerity. Yet they were not wanting, by every argument in their power, to feed me with encouragement of getting happily to the end of our misfortunes, and their kind reasons, with a thorough reliance upon the protection of providence, which we had received so many instances of, frequently lulled my cares for some hours to rest.

Our intention, by common consent, was, if possible, to get to the Rio Janeiro, or some other Portuguese settlement, there to refit and revictual, and to sail thence for Jamaica, where I resolved, after rewarding my people handsomely, to sell the vessel and remainder of the cargo, and to take passage for Europe, and had given Mr. Courtney, Mr Lillingston, and our surgeon, such hearty invitation to Cork, and made them such promises of future employ, that they had all three determined to accompany me there in the manner I thought proper. Indeed, I thought I could never do sufficiently, for men who had encountered so many dangers, and behaved with such affection and diligence.

I found in my worthy father's chest, near two hundred pistoles, with his watch,

several rings, and many other things, which I carefully locked up again, resolving never more to open it, till it should please God to permit me to do it in the presence of my dear family. The paper, I sought, was carefully sealed up, and endorsed thus, Some memorandums relating to my son, to be imparted to him at the conclusion of our next voyage, John M'Namara, Cork, June 12. 1733, which God safely return us from.

IV. PART.

HOWEVER miserable and wretched we may, at any time, esteem ourselves, if the hand of chastisement has dejected us to the lowly and most dejected state, we think it possible to exult; yet we should never murmur against the dispensations of that providence, whose ways

are dark and intricate.
Puzzled in mazes, and perplex'd with errors,
Our wandering traces them in vain,
Lost and bewild'rd in the fruitless search,
Not less with both much are the winding ways,
That where the regular position ends.

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The Adventures of

several rings, and many other things, which I carefully locked up again, resolving never more to open it, till it should please God to permit me to do it. The paper, I thought, was carefully sealed up, and endorsed thus, Some memorandums relating to my son, to be imparted to him at the conclusion of our next voyage, John M'Namara, Cork, June 12.

ADVENTURES

OF
Capt. NEVILLE FROWDE.

P A R T IV.

HOWEVER miserable and wretched we may, at any time, esteem ourselves, if the hand of chastisement has depressed us to the lowest and most dejected state, we think it possible to endure; yet we should never murmur against the dispensations of that providence, whose ways

—are dark and intricate,
Puzzled in mazes, and perplex'd with errors;
Our understanding traces them in vain,
Lost and bewilder'd in the fruitless search,
Nor sees with how much art the windings run,
Nor where the regular confusion ends.

I was, at this time, as unhappy as any man could be, by my absence from my family, my uncertainty of ever again beholding them, and the fatal events that had occurred in our voyage; as to my bodily sufferings, they were not only my own, but I felt for every man under my command; we almost starved ourselves to eke out our provisions, and an ugly scorbutic disorder had attacked many, which made them incapable of labour, at a time when we stood most in need of it, and when we wanted many hundred leagues before we could even say we lived; yet I was soon convinced I had more dreadful misfortunes still to encounter; and that even my mind might be rendered still more distractedly uneasy. When I broke open the seals of the paper, from which I expected discoveries that would have chased away part of the gloom that overcast my soul, let my reader judge my condition, at reading the following words, addressed to me. “My dear son, I write the following lines, intending to communicate them to you, before the close of our next voyage; for, though you, at present, thank God, stand in need of no person’s affection or assistance, and are as dear to me and your mother, your wife and mother-in-law, as ourselves, and though I rob myself by it, of the great satisfaction of your thinking you
owe

owe your birth to me, at least, know that you can have but faint remembrances to the contrary, and which without this declaration you could never have the least proof of; yet, I love you so much, and imagine so intimately, what a parent must suffer in being deprived for ever of so amiable a son by what I myself should feel in losing you; and as I think I owe that justice to you and to myself, for the satisfaction of my mind and conscience, I shall now acquaint you, That in the month of June, in the year 1723, and, as far as I can recollect, on the 29th day of the month, I was in company with one Mr. William Frowde, at the Red Lion in Eastcheap, who intimating that he liked my company, prevailed upon me, the next day, to dine with him at the Mourning Bust near Aldersgate, and there informed me that he had a young boy, that was somewhat related to him, who shewed so wicked a disposition, that he wanted to rid his family of him, and promised me thirty guineas to take him to Ireland, and there to indent him, with some master of a vessel bound to America, or any other place where he might be sure of never hearing of him more.

As I believed his account, I made no hesitation in complying with his proposal, wanting, at that time, a boy for my cabin, and silently resolving to keep this lad for
that

that purpose, if I could possibly reclaim him from his unlucky or evil ways; seeing me so ready, and, I presume, depending upon the bad principles attributed to too many of my countrymen, he grew more open in his discourse, and three or four bottles of wine made him speak freely, and I discovered so much, that I perceived he wanted me to put the child out of the way, for some ends of his own, and also that my undertaking this inhuman task, would rescue it from a man, who made it plainly appear, by his whole discourse, that he was capable of any thing to gratify his avarice or resentment. We then appointed the next Monday, for his bringing him to Deptford, and paying me the money, at the same time, with his express stipulation, that he should not stay above one night on shore. At the prefixed time, he brought you, in an hackney coach, to a woman's in whom I could confide, paid me the money, left you and your box, over and over again, exacting my promise to do, as he had directed, by you. His visible confusion, at parting with you, your calling him uncle, and your pretty person and behaviour, convinced me thoroughly, of what I suspected of his brutality, in which I resolved afresh to be no otherwise concerned, than as I have before said; but when I beheld your capacity and genius, the softness
and

and ingenuity of your temper, in your voyage to Cork, and your engaging carriage to every one on board, I was so much charmed that, reflecting on my own want of children, I immediately formed a design to adopt you, and breed you up as my own; which I imparted to your friend Mr. White, to whom I also told your story, and who wonderfully encouraged me in my resolution, in which I was fully confirmed and strengthened by the sudden fondness Mrs. M'Namara shewed for you, who heard your adventure with tears, and resolved to have you, for ever, as her own. I hope, my dear, you never found us deficient in the tenderness of parents, and your present good qualities testify the same in your favour, and you have ever returned it with such sincere gratitude and affection, that I conceive what I now impart to you, will not at all alter your conduct, behaviour, or manner of thinking of us, who have, if possible, been more than a father and mother to you.

In my next voyage, but one, I made to London, I was curious enough, with Mr. White, to inquire into your uncle's character in his neighbourhood, and into his family affairs, and heard that he was rich, but covetous, that he had two sons, and that some time before, he had a nephew at his house, named Neville, whose grandfather had left

a con-

a considerable fortune to him, your father being dead; that you was also possessed of 70l. a year, in your own right; that you was then at a boarding-school, some where in Essex, and that you had a mother, and sister, in very good circumstances in Virginia, who besides, had money left them also by your grandfather, and that your uncle was executor of his last will. All this intelligence made it apparent, how you had been wronged; but I was become now so fond of you, that I resolved not to stir in the affair, for fear of losing you, and discovering I was not your father; and, as I knew it would be in my power to give you more than you was entitled to from your own family, I determined to let the matter rest, and bound Mr. White, firmly, to secrecy.

Two things, indeed, troubled me, and have done so ever since; that such a villain should go unpunished, and that a mother should be made so extremely unhappy, as I knew any parent must be upon the loss of such a child. But these regrets were soon after stifled, for by my informer, with whom I kept up a correspondence, I was told, that you died at the boarding-school, and that your uncle had informed your mother of the sad tidings, who was then supposed to be on her voyage to England with her family. I from this time never had any other uneasiness

finess in keeping you in ignorance of your family and fortune, for a better, than in the reflection of this uncle's going off with flying colours, which indeed often gave me cruel pangs, as well as your mother; but time almost obliterated it from our memory, and we were so wrapped up in contemplating our happiness in you, and so full of the joy of having the honour of such a son, that we never thought of any thing further relating to your first family or name, pleased to the highest degree in observing, that you yourself seemed to have no traces remaining of the little incidents of your life, before you came to us, and resolving to make you ample amends for what you had lost, by leaving you heir to all our substance.

Thus matters were situated, when my mother and sister made an addition to our family, and providence directed that mutual affection between you and my sister-in-law, which bid fair to unravel all my schemes. At first it gave me no pain, as I imagined the near relation you apparently stood in to each other, would deter you from any thoughts of love; but when I found myself disappointed, I regarded it as a decree from heaven, and, as my mother had been let into the story, we consulted together, and determined to promote an union that would fix you in a real alliance to us, instead of
that

that fictitious one under which you had been bred up: accordingly you were married; but I was resolved to keep it a secret, at Cork, till our return from the present voyage; whence all my injunctions to you before matrimony, and my sending you to Dublin where your wife lay in, and my desire to Dr. Gulston to keep inviolably the affair in his own bosom, till I thought proper to reveal it, which I intend to do at the prefixed time, when we shall sit ourselves down after all our fatigues and wanderings, and when I shall, with pride and pleasure, exchange the name of father for that of brother, and when, if God prospers us, the residue of our days will be spent in peace and happiness.

As I am now writing this narrative a copy of which, for fear of accidents, I leave, signed with my own hand and sealed, and affixed to my last will and testament, in the hands of our aforefaid good friend, Dr. Gulston, as also another with my dear wife, (whom still I cannot help calling your loving mother) it will not be amiss, as I am determined to prosecute your right, and reinstate you, should God spare my life, in what is so justly your due, as also to seek out your real mother and make her happy in so worthy a son, and your sister in a brother, to give a list of the persons that may be evi-
dence

dence in your favour, should the identity of your person be disputed, who are, myself, Mr. White, Elizabeth Magget, living near St. Nicholas's church, Deptford, my wife, and Mr. Samuel Tryon, grocer and dealer in hops, at St. Margaret's hill, Southwark, the latter of whom was the gentleman from whom I received my intelligence in relation to your family, and who though he knew not the reason, can witness the time and earnestness of my enquiry; and if my life is spared, I take it, my own positive evidence, together with these circumstantial ones, will be sufficient. And thus, having an intention to do justice, and atone to you, for my, I hope, laudable and innocent deception towards you, and thereby in some measure satisfied my duty and my conscience, I desire you will continue ever to bear the name you now go by, you and your descendents; for which I shall procure an act of parliament, and beseech God to send us, of his infinite mercy, a safe and prosperous voyage, and a happy return to our dear family.

Cork June 12. 1733.

John M^r Nanara.

I read these lines, full of respect and affection to the worthy writer, who had thus completed a series of good and kind actions; and the passions that first moved me were

those proceeding from the most fervent gratitude to the divine Being for thus wonderfully working out my preservation, by the very means that were used to destroy me, and it brought the poets exclamation to my mind,

Man, foolish man, clad in a little brief authority,

*Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven,
As make the angels weep!*

I then broke out into tears and expressions of love to my dear foster father and mother, and protestations of ever wearing the name they had so nobly and generously bestowed upon me, and waited the fate of the poor captain, who could not survive to see the conclusion of his praise-worthy designs.

Again, I with bitter anguish dwelt on the idea of my unknown mother, painted all the distraction she must go through, in the loss of her child, and, if living, anticipated the joy, the extasy that would inspire us upon our restoration to each other; beheld her in imagination, clasping my adorable Polly and son in her arms, and gratefully embracing my other mothers. As to my uncle, I hardly thought of him, otherwise than with pity for his wickedness and folly, and was indifferent whether I possessed again what he

he had robbed me of. This paper brought all my former ideas back to my mind, and with this clue I plainly recollected many things that time and encreased years had buried in oblivion.

We had now got our stock of water on board, though, with difficulty; for notwithstanding we used the liberty of going frequently on shore, in small parties, the scurvy made still sad ravages amongst us, and we were obliged to consign the bodies of seven more of our faithful fellows, to their watry graves, before we left the place, and, what gave us all the most inexpressible concern, was the loss of poor Mr. Lillingston, who, after struggling near three weeks with this dreadful malady, and notwithstanding all the care and skill of Mr. Davidson, surrendered up his soul into the hands of him who gave it, and we buried him in the best manner our circumstances would admit, on a mount on shore, with this inscription, cut on a board, and affixed to a post, the sad remembrance of our having been there.

To the memory of
THOMAS LILLINGSTON,
an English Mariner,
and skilful Navigator.

Ob. Jan. 26. 1734-5,
O. S.

O God! through the vacancies of the
 We beseech thee
 To preserve the
 Poor remnant of his companions
 As we intended to put to sea in a day or
 two, I had also the curiosity to visit the
 country, which I had not yet done, willing
 to stay on board and attend my charge, and
 Mr. Davidson and one George Willis a sea-
 man, accompanied me; but well it would
 have been if I had never adventured upon
 such an exploit; for now heaven seemed to
 have deserted me. We were wonderfully
 delighted with the ravishing wild scenes
 around us, and with our guns on our shoul-
 ders, deep in discourse of various matters,
 had now strayed about four or five miles
 through the woods and savannas, when,
 we were suddenly startled with a dreadful
 scream, as if from a number of people, and
 the firing of three or four musquets, the shot
 of which even whizzed through the bushes
 on the right of us. Our fright and astonish-
 ment was extreme at this, and we made a
 full stop, and, looking wistfully all about,
 began cautiously to return the way we
 came, when we could plainly distinguish, by
 the rustling of the leaves and the sound, the
 tread of feet very near us, and soon, to our
 entire dismay, beheld twenty or more nar-
 ked

Red savages, through the vacancies of the trees, by the shining of their arms. We had now little time for parley ; but, fixing ourselves in a convenient situation, resolved to defend ourselves to the last gasp, and not become a prey to so cruel and blood thirsty a race as these were described to be, who, like all the Indians of this continent, not associated with the Spaniards or Portugeze, resenting their barbarities, seldom spare any white men that fall into their hands.

When they advanced near enough to discover their prey, they set up a hideous howling, and, at once, discharged all their fire, receiving ours in return ; but with very different success, for we did them no harm, whilst at my side, fell breathless, the good and kind Mr. Davidson, and poor Willis, both shot through the head, and another shot tore a piece of my coat, and raked the flesh off my left shoulder. Before I could charge again, they broke through upon me, and rudely seizing me, began to strip me without ceremony, whilst I had the shocking mortification to see my two companions served in the same manner, and immediately scalped before my eyes. I must own, for some moments, I lost my wonted firmness, and even by tears and cries deplored our misfortune, and, throwing myself on my knees, with uplifted hands, in Spanish, be-

sought the fable wretches to spare my life. As it happened, one of them spoke Portuguese, in which language he sternly asked me if I was a Spaniard, with his gun cocked at my head. By this I perceived, they were subject to first the mentioned nation, at least I imagined so, and trembling answered him in that dialect, that I was a Portuguese from Rio Janeiro. Upon this he lowered the muzzle of his piece, and somewhat softened his features, and all making a ring about me, began to sing, as I supposed it, a song of triumph, in their way, whilst now and then, in the heat of their rejoicings, their little hatchets were lifted up to strike me through the skull, which as often they were prevented from doing, by the aforementioned Indian, who seemed to be their chief: as it happened they had not yet plundered me of my breeches and stockings, and in my fob I had the valued watch that my dear wife had so long ago bestowed upon me, and which I had preserved, my constant companion, ever since, and by wearing it without a chain, they had not yet discovered it. In this exigency, after their exercise was a little over, I made shift, with my hands, though they were confined by a bondage of twigs, to pull it from my fob, and present it to my preserver: nor was it without the effect I expected; for, after gazing some

some time upon it, with admiration, he came and untied me, and made me sit down by him, whilst they regaled with dried venison, a piece of which he gave me, and I forced myself to devour, though with a very sorry appetite. He then, in broken Portugueze, vaunted of his affection to the King of Portugal, of the respect his governors paid him, of the prowess of his warriors, and bid me fear no harm. I made the most humble and flattering answers to all this, and had got so much now into their good graces, that, seeing me look wistfully at the bodies of my two friends, they told me I should have leave to bury them before they decamped, and said, if they had not thought them Spaniards they might have been alive and safe. With this encouragement, I dug a hole with a branch of a tree sufficient to receive the two bodies, and covered them over with their parent earth, shedding abundance of tears at their interment, whilst the Indians accompanied them with loud howling and barbarous cries, that echoed, far and wide, dreadfully, through the woods. About an hour afterwards we began to move forwards, myself in the centre, often struck if I did not keep pace with them, and goaded along like an ox, at a great rate, and, before the close of night, must have travelled above twelve miles, by the best calculation I could make, nearly

nearly to the N. E. We then encamped again, by the wood side, in a kind of scrubby savannah, and lighted fires around us, myself being directed to do the chief drudgery, and to serve my new lords with fuel and water, the latter of which I laved out of a neighbouring brook in a calabash shell. At length, sleep overcame my tormentors, and, a skin being bestowed upon me, I too lay down, and began, mournfully, to ruminate on my strange misfortune, which had now reduced me to the lowest and most wretched state, without even the most distant prospect of relief. As I thought it would be impossible for me to live long, in this wild wandering manner, and had little hopes of their carrying me to any Portuguese settlement, considering they had killed my two companions, I now looked upon myself in a state of death, almost, to all the world, and prayed fervently to heaven, for the happiness and prosperity of my family, and safe return of my companions to Europe, which would, at least, afford my dear wife the tidings of my unhappy fate and free her from the cruel uncertainty she would else be involved in; floods of tears accompanying all these gloomy thoughts, and fond wishes. I was now, alas! naked as I came into the world, and the prey of lawless savages. If I indulged any glimmering of comfort,

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fort, it was, that my health was good, and my body, notwithstanding all my sufferings, strong and able to endure yet more hardships; and I was in hope, as I knew the antipathy the Spaniards and Portuguese bore to each other in this part of the world, that we might meet with some straggling parties of one or other, for whom I might exchange my master, for though the Spaniards might probably make me their slave, yet, from them, there might be some possibility, one time or other of redemption; and as to the Portuguese, could we but encounter them, I was sure, of liberty and the means of returning to Europe. However, after all, I knew I was in the hands of a most gracious Being, who would either preserve me for his own wise purposes, or relieve me, at his appointed time, by death, from all my miseries.

It was scarce morning, before my tyrants were upon their feet, and we began to march, as the day before, save, that I was loaded with abundance of their spare accoutrements, as well as the three guns they had taken from me and my companions, which before night almost jaded me to death, especially as we waded through several marshes, and over two small creeks, which quite buried me with mud and water. In short, I found, at the conclusion of the day,

day, that there was yet some pleasure that I could enjoy which was that of rest, highly acceptable after such fatigues. When, like savages indeed, we had dressed our game, which we shot in our rout : consisting of a deer and a kind of wild goose, and hoggishly devoured it, we again laid down to repose ; myself lying as before in the centre, surrounded by my dusky guards. It might be near midnight, perhaps, when, being the only one waking I heard some words in Spanish, at no great distance, and the tread of horses, which revived my soul, though again, were we fallen upon so promiscuously, I feared I might be massacred as an Indian, with the rest of the sleeping tribe ; but I was soon eased of this fear, for my companions were in a minute after alarmed, and waiting with their pieces cocked for the approach of an enemy, whose numbers, as they could not discover, they determined to avoid, by getting under the cover of the bushes, on the other side of our place of encampment, where we waited till dawn of day, our chief having also bestowed arms on me, and required me to fight against our common enemy, as he intimated they were ; however I found these wandering gentlemen, to my great regret, were truly of no real party, and dreaded meeting the Portuguese and Spaniards alike ; discriminately
killing.

killing and plundering both nations. As soon as the light would permit, I plainly discerned near thirty horsemen, within the opposite coppice, well armed and mounted, upon small horses, and found my masters did not at all like their appearance and were for scouting off. In this dilemma, I resolved to fling myself on my face, and neither fire a shot or accompany them in their flight, if death even ensued; but the horse no sooner discovered us, than they galloped towards the spot, and fired a volley through the bushes, by which three of our Indians were killed, of which taking the advantage, tho' not in the least hurt, I fell down with a hideous groan, whilst the remainder made the best of their way, pursued by part of the horsemen, and the other made a full stand, at about twenty paces distant: meantime, I crept silently to some distance, and cried out, aloud, in Spanish, to have mercy on me, which being heard, a voice answered, poor creature, come to us, we'll protect thee. Upon this I sallied forth of my covert, and presented myself before them, and the chief asked me my name and how long I had been a prisoner, as he perceived was my case, amongst the savages? As I thought them Spaniards, I now imagined I must pass myself upon them for Portugueze, in which dialect I answered, and told them I belonged

belonged to a small bark that was lost off Cape St. Vincent, and, that endeavouring, with two companions to make our way over land to Rio Janeiro, we were attacked by the Indians three days before, my two companions killed, and myself taken prisoner. When he heard this, he alighted, and taking a cloak from behind him, covered my nakedness, with many expressions of kindness and humanity, and to my great joy said, that they were my countrymen, detached from Fort St. John, after this party of Indians, who had lately committed shocking depredations upon their out settlements, and wondered they had preserved me alive so long.

By this time, the other party returned, and acquainted the commander that they had killed twelve more in the pursuit, so that not above seven had escaped their vengeance, and now being mounted behind one of the horsemen, we began to move the way they entered the savannah, all of them blessing and praising God, and the Virgin Mary, for having been instrumental in my deliverance. For my part, the change of my circumstances appeared so miraculous, that I could hardly believe it, and my overbearing sense of gratitude to providence, so agitated me, that I could not compose myself to any degree of moderation, and, had not a flood of
tears

tears relieved my full heart, should, I believe, have fallen a victim to my present joy and satisfaction. Oh! heaven, how wonderful are thy ways, how great thy mercies to the sons of men! at noon, we alighted near a fine brook, and regaled with what provisions they had in their wallets, of which they made me partake in abundance, and now being a little myself, and knowing I was amongst friends, I cast off the mask to my deliverer, and informed him my real country, my misfortunes, and the reason of my saying I was a Portuguese; at which he very humanely appeared touched, and answered, It was myself you heard talk Spanish, a language I have, contrary to my countrymen in general, a fondness for; as to your being an Englishman, let it not discompose you, in a fortnight or three weeks we shall return to Janeiro, from whence you will soon find a passage to Europe, several vessels lying there now, bound homewards, and as your nation has a consul there, you will be provided for till your departure; mean time you shall fare as we do, till the time of our command is expired, and we will see if we cannot, amongst us, find wherewith to equip you a little more comfortably, and as to an horse, we have some spare ones at a commandry, a day's journey hence, with one of which you shall be accommodated. I re-

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turned

turned the gratefulest acknowledgments for the goodness shewed me, and let him know that, if ever I arrived in Europe, it should be my study, as it was in my power, to reward him for his generosity. They soon, by the example of the commander, equipped me with a comfortable dress out of their spare materials; nor was I without hope of seeing my ship, when I came to Janeiro, where they were to refit, if providence favoured them, and of making the worthy cavaliers amends for all their favours, upon the spot.

The next day we came to a little fort, garrisoned by about twenty Portugueze, where we staid five or six days, and were handsomely entertained by the commandant, and I had an horse provided me, and without any other sinister accident, arrived at For St. John, in about twenty eight days, from whence, after taking a friendly farewell of my deliverers, I, in a little bark which was before the fort, arrived at Rio Janeiro, in perfect health, though greatly fatigued, having been absent from my ship thirty-eight days. And no mortal can imagine the delight that filled my breast, when, being carried before the governor, and telling my story, I was informed my ship lay up the river, having arrived only one day before me. At my desire, as well as for his own satisfaction,

satisfaction, he sent for Captain Courtney, and no words can paint the extacy of that honest creature's heart, at the sight of me; he even wept with me; and informed me that, after finding neither I or my companions returned to the ship, he sent out frequent parties to search for us, but to no effect, for near a week, and then, necessity obliging him, left the place with abundance of regret, and often many difficulties made Rio Janeiro, having, the latter part of the voyage, been almost famished, and all his men but six, dying in the passage. We lamented together the fate of our friend Davidson, and, after partaking of a repast which the good governor prepared for us, I accompanied him on board our vessel. Here, we again renewed our sorrows, at our dreadful mishaps, and mingled our tears together, thanking God, however, for our present safety, and the prospect we had of once more revisiting our native skies.

And now, we consulted which was the best course for us to take; we perceived that our ship was in such a miserable plight, that her refitting would cost, not only a great deal of time; but be very expensive, and besides, as to going to Jamaica, it was no way necessary, because, from Ireland, we could inform those concerned there, of the fatal end of our voyage, and remit the remainder

of their effects, and could here turn our ship and what was left of her cargo into ready money, to great advantage; therefore, on the whole, we resolved to do so, and so take passage in the first vessel that sailed to Portugal, with such of our six remaining hands, as chose to accompany us. I did not forget to send presents of the best cloths, linen, &c. we had on board, to my deliverers at Fort St. John's, and to the kind commander at the distant post, where I had been so hospitably entertained and mounted, and we also made handsome presents to the governor, and our consul, who endeavoured to oblige us all the ways in their power. By their friendship we disposed of our vessel and the remainder of our cargo, almost to as good an account, as we should have done in the South Seas, notwithstanding the accustomed duties; and now, only retaining my late father's chest and our own, besides our clothes and bedding, we were ready to embark when the first ship sailed, having kept 100 pieces of eight for our pockets, and taken bills upon Lisbon for 3560 moidores. As to our six men, after having paid them their full wages, I over and above gave them thirty pistoles each, and they chusing to enter into the Portuguese service, rather than go home as passengers, we saw them well settled

settled with a good commander, and took our farewell of them most affectionately.

We had not yet pitched upon a vessel for our passage, when an unexpected event soon determined us where to fix. As we were now, without employment, we lived very sociably amongst the Portuguese, and had daily invitations to their houses in town and country, where we diverted ourselves as much as men could possibly do, whose hearts were set on objects at so awful a distance, as our friends and native country, and, one day dining with a Portuguese merchant, he understood, a vessel consigned to him, had just dropped anchor, on which he invited us to go on board. We complied, and were received by the captain with great politeness; but we had no sooner fixed our eyes on each other, than we sprang to an hearty embrace, testifying the greatest joy on both sides at so unexpected a meeting.

In short, it was my worthy friend Captain Villegas, with whom I had contracted such an intimacy at Jamaica, before we departed from thence on our fatal voyage, who had been in these seas trading from port to port, ever since, and was now going to clear his ship at this place, and take in a cargo for Europe. Nothing in the world could be more fortunate for us than this meeting, and he appeared quite charmed

with the prospect of having such passengers, was sadly grieved at the miscarriages of our voyage, and offered us all the accommodations that this ship would afford. The company of this gentleman made the hours pass very pleasantly, for near eight weeks longer, in which time he completed his affairs, and, after taking leave of our worthy friends and the consul, we embarked on board him, on the 18th of May 1735, and were soon out of sight of land; of a coast on which we had suffered so many and great distresses, which will never recur to my mind, but the sigh will mournfully heave my bosom, and the trickling tear start from my eye; where I lost my worthy and dear foster father, and so many affectionate companions; but, yet, where the adoreable goodness of the Almighty, was so visibly, so miraculously employed, in our favour: to whom be glory, honour and praise, world without end, *Amen.*

We crossed the equinoctial, and, in the latitude of $5^{\circ} 0'$ began to shape our course for Europe, having a good ship, considering it was a Portugueze, under us, and pleasant gales, together with the agreeable company of Villegas, whom we every day loved more and more, and who continued with his whole ship's company to behave with the utmost politeness and civility.

I shall

I shall not trouble my reader with the nautical incidents of our voyage, and as to any thing material beside, nothing occurred worth notice. We touched at the Cape Verde Islands, and at the Madeiras, and, having fair winds and clear skies, as if heaven intended to reward us for our sufferings, we made the rock of Lisbon, after a voyage of only twelve weeks, and in two days after, cast anchor in the Tagus, on Sept. 12. 1725, having been absent from Europe, two years and ten days, in which we had perhaps felt as much calamity and distress as ever were experienced by mortals in such a space of time; and having completed the twenty-second year of my age, an early date to have passed through so great a variety of wretchedness! It was now, according to my deceased foster father's paper, twelve years and more, since I was sold to him by my uncle, and the first thing I did, after our arrival, was to fall on my knees before the Almighty, to return praise and thanksgiving for his loving kindness towards me, to pray for his future blessings on myself and family; to beseech him to return me, to them in health and safety, and to grant, that I might find the dear people alive, and in his due time discover my mother and sister, if they were yet living; and floods of apprehensive and

and grateful tears accompanied my fervent devotions.

Captain Villegas insisted upon our making his house our own, whilst we staid at Lisbon, which indeed I wanted no inducements to do, for besides that I loved and esteemed his merit; he had informed me his wife was an English woman, and that her mother, and a servant of the same country, also dwelt with him; and I found by frequent discourses, that he had been converted by them, to protestantism, and had actually determined to leave Portugal, and settle somewhere in his Britannic Majesty's dominions, when he could withdraw with safety, and without suspicion. It was in vain to talk to him of paying for our passage, he was resolved to take nothing, saying the happiness he had enjoyed in our society during the voyage, was recompence sufficient; and therefore, I made considerable presents to his officers and crew, and also provided some rich gifts for the ladies; but a ship being upon the departure for England, when we arrived, I would not quit our wooden world, till I had wrote letters to my dear wife and mothers at Cork, to relieve them from the dreadful uncertainty they were under, and as I was obliged to mention the death of Capt. M'Namara, I enclosed them all to Dr. Gullston, desiring him to break the matter to them, in the

the most proper manner, and, in case of his death, I sent duplicates to the same purport, to my worthy master, Mr. Cosby.

Thus, having performed my duty to my Maker and to my family, I grew pretty easy, and in the next place wrote to our several owners, an account of our disasters, and having received bills on London, for those I brought from Rio Janeiro, I dispatched them also to Cork, after I had cleared Mr. Courtney's wages, and presented him with 100 moidores, as an earnest of my future friendship, and reserved the same sum for the uses of our return to Ireland. And now, I went to lodge at my friend's during my remaining stay, which was not likely to be long, on which account, in my letters, I desired no answers, promising to be at Cork almost as soon as they could receive them. If I had been delighted with the first sight, and after acquaintance of Captain Villegas, I was perfectly charmed at the engaging manners and agreeable persons of his wife and mother-in-law, who seemed to be turned of fifty years of age, and struck me with an inconceivable reverence and respect, the moment I first set my eyes upon her, and she, in her turn, appeared so pleased with me, that in a few days she conceived a value to me, which he expressed in the warmest terms, saying, she already loved me like a son,

son, and both strove to make our abode easy and happy. Her daughter was to appearance about thirty years old, and as every one declared, the perfect picture of me, which increased the old lady's regard. She had all the vivacity of the English ladies, and, at the same time, the reserve and prudence of her husband's countrywomen. They appeared to be very rich, and lived in great splendor. Their English servant was a woman of about forty years of age, who, whenever she came into the room, regarded me with an earnestness, that attributed to her pleasure in seeing a countryman in the house.

We made frequent excursions to a villa the captain had, about a league distant from Lisbon, and, considering how much I longed for home, I made myself as agreeable as possible, and we spent our time in a manner that charmed me, for the space of a month, and then were sentenced to a further delay of three weeks, to tarry for the vessel, on which were to embark; when one evening, none but the captain, his wife and mother, with Mr. Courtney, and the aforesaid servant being present, that gentleman thus addressed me. "My worthy friend, ever since I first experienced your generosity, at Jamaica, I have loved you—As an instance of it, I am going to trust you with a secret, that, if discovered in this country, would be
my

my destruction, and to fling myself upon that unexampled friendship and humanity with which you have treated all mankind; nor do I hesitate a moment to place the same confidence in Mr. Courtney, whose many excellent qualities, and firm regard to you, I am no stranger to."—Before I could reply, he proceeded, "You see, gentlemen, I am, thank God, happy in my circumstances and family; but since I have been joined to this dear woman, she and our mother have opened my eyes, as I before informed you, to the errors of the religion in which I was educated, and I am quite tired of temporising, as I am obliged here to do, with my family, in those sacred matters, contrary to my reason and conscience; besides, having been in England, and, by the extreme love I bear to my spouse, being familiarized to the customs of that country, I am willing to shake of the fetters I wear on my mind, to breathe the air of liberty, and fly from a spot where arbitrary power and superstition deaden every enjoyment. Nor have I any thing to detain my affections to Portugal, being the least of my family, and having no relations, that I know of living; my fortune, which is considerable enough to make our future days happy, is principally in cash, or vested in trade, and easily removeable; but, considering the strictness of the government,

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the method of getting my family and treasure away, is extremely hazardous, and requires the assistance of two such warm friends as I know you to be. In short, I am also resolved forever to quit the seas, and immediately to settle in your country, one main inducement to which is the hopes of continuing in the society of a gentleman, whose manners and way of thinking are so much my own, and whom I have heard express the same determination, of quitting the boisterous and uncertain ocean, for domestic sweets, and the endearments of private life.

If you will stand my friends, you shall purchase a vessel in your own names, and having freighted her with a sufficient cargo, under your management, I believe, we may elude the prying eye of the ministry, and get privately on board, and all sail to Ireland together. I know this is subjecting you to great hazard; but, where the present and eternal happiness, of persons, for whom you have shewed so much esteem, are concerned, I flatter myself, you will undertake to facilitate our escape, which I hope God of his infinite goodness will render successful. Here he paused, whilst the eyes of the whole family were fixed upon me, for my reply, between hope and fear, at what would be the result of it.

Hitherto,

Hitherto, notwithstanding our friendship, and the great regard paid me by this family, I had modestly declined, enquiring into their affairs, and, except what accidentally occurred in discourse, they had also been so tenderly polite as to make no researches into mine, believing me an Irishman, and knowing nothing further than what Villegas had been witness to, of the adventures of the late voyage, or had received from my account of our transactions on the coast of South America. Yet, somewhat very touchingly full of regret, which I knew not how to account for, always assailed me when I thought of leaving them, and I often had secretly wished that we were seated near each other for the remainder of our days; I loved him as a brother, and had contracted the fondness of a near relation for the amiable mother and her daughter, who seemed to repay me with an equal regard, and the former would often fix her eyes mournfully upon me, whilst a heaving sigh would steal, as it were unawares, from her bosom, which I, all along, ascribed to her being situated where she could not be happy, and to her thinking of my speedy departure for a land, where she longed to spend the remainder of her days. With these sentiments, it is no wonder that I made an answer in the highest degree satisfactory and affectionate, and con-

cluded with declaring, that as I found should be ever miserable whilst they had any thing to disturb their peace; so I would hazard the worst of deaths rather than not contribute to their relief, or not indulge the idea of our future connection and friendship; and at the close, Mr. Courtney heartily assured them he was of the same mind. Their joy and gratitude were boundless, and expressed by embraces and tears, and the mother, for the first time she had taken that freedom, throwing her arms about my neck, said, Ah! I once lost a son, who, had he lived, would have been, I am sure, the resemblance of you—suffer me for the future to call you by that endearing name—I was somewhat unaccountably moved by this action, and received her caresses with the reverence I should have felt, had I really stood in that tender relation to her.

We then laid a plan for our design, which we were to begin the execution of the very next day, and afterwards fell into a more familiar conversation than we had ever done before, being now mutually confident of each others prudence, esteem, and affection; all unreserved we discoursed of our families and affairs, of our joys and our misfortunes; of the latter of which, I found, we had all had more than a sufficient share allotted us, and happening to say that mine had been, I believed,

I believed, more extraordinary and calamitous than those of most men breathing, the elder lady replied, Ah! Captain M^cNamara, we are apt always to imagine, the ills that assail ourselves, greater than those of others; but that good woman, pointing to her attendant, can testify that I have waded through a sea of troubles, and that for many years, before I so happily married my daughter to that dear youth, I was perhaps the most miserable of human beings; and, if I thought it would not too much affect you, to encourage the relation of your own adventures, I would now rehearse you mine. I promised to comply, with the condition, and wiping the tears from her eyes, she thus began, whilst I, as well as all present, were absorbed in attention.

From the element on which you have, gentleman, experienced such distress, I may derive all the chequered good and ill of my life; my husband, the worthiest man breathing, was master of a vessel from the port of London, and, having met with a very great mixture of good and bad fortune, in his voyages, at length was persuaded, by his love for his family, and the calls of reason, to settle on shore; for which purpose we departed with all our substance to Virginia, with this dear daughter, where we happily arrived, leaving another child, then an infant, to

the care of his grandfather and grandmother, who were in good circumstances and exceeding fond of him. As we carried a considerable fortune with us, and had great success, we, in a few years, almost doubled our capital, and the country and inhabitants were so agreeable, that we intended there to spend the remainder of our days, and expected, by every ship, the arrival of our father and mother, with our son, who had determined to join us; but the first misfortune that befel us was the tidings of the deaths of both those worthy parents, and that my son was in the hands of a brother-in-law, who was their executor, of whose principles we had a very bad opinion, for evident reasons; and the loss we sustained, together with my uncertainty of the usage of my infant, almost broke my heart. Alas! my gloom was too sure a presage, that I should never see him more, however, these griefs were soon encreased to me, by a still more dreadful stroke; for, in a short time afterwards, whilst he was meditating a voyage to England, to fetch our son, my dear husband also died of a fever, leaving me a most unhappy widow, and two fatherless children; nor did the estate he left behind him, at all console me for so dreadful a loss. Excuse me, Sir, I cannot help these tears to his memory, who was a pattern of conjugal fidelity, and tenderness

derness of paternal fondness and of every other virtue.—Oh! had my poor child, my Neville lived, in him, as in you I should now see his loved resemblance; but—At the mention of so many circumstances, that were so intimately recorded in my mind, I had gazed with wild confusion ever since she began her narration, my thoughts wandering and floating, and and my face flushed with the workings of my soul; but when she mentioned a name to which I knew I had so just a title, the whirl of my ideas overpowered me, and, unable to speak, I attempted to rise, with my arms stretched out, and ready to fall on my knees before her, when the struggling passions that agitated my breast, overcame my reason, and I fell breathless and insensible at her feet, just repeating, Oh! my dear mother!—I am that—the rest died on my tongue. If my visible disorder had broke off the thread of her story, my present condition called every one, amazed, to my assistance, wondering at all the strange scene; but it was still more moving, to the good lady, for, though she was yet ignorant of the cause, the force of nature seemed acting upon her with its utmost sway; she knelt down by me, called me her dear son, her child, chased my face, and endeavoured to restore me to life by the tenderest and most endearing epithets, which yet she knew

not why she uttered. In a few minutes I regained my scattered senses, and casting my eyes about, and wondering, for some time, at the meaning of the confusion about me, at length recollected what had put me into the condition I just awaked from, and, rising, I flung myself on my knees before this long lost mother, as I doubted not she really was, and, clasping her knees cried—Oh! unlooked for happiness!—blessed event!—thus the wailing orphan is restored to his parent; thus the mourning mother recovers her son! Oh! madam, satisfy me—if your name be Frowde?—mine is Neville—who by the villainy of his uncle has been so many years a stranger to your embraces—who was destined, by him, to misery, want, and slavery, but whom heaven has miraculously preserved, to this blessed, this transcendently delightful moment! At the close of these words, all which she seemed to devour, almost, whilst her eyes roved over me with a mixture of extacy and of terror, she wildly pushed me from her, then snatched me to her bosom, and at length, fainted in my arms. Villegas stood motionless, with his hands and eyes lifted up to heaven, his wife had fallen full of astonishment into her chair, and her eyes intently fixed on me, whilst the tears started; the maid was fallen on her knees beside us, and with extended arms endeavouring to embrace

embrace me ; in short, no one but Courtney was composed enough, sufficiently to assist in the recovery of my dear mother, whilst every line of his features wore the plain marks of the utmost admiration and wonder. At last, she came to herself, restored by my warm pressure and the melting moans I made over her, and cried, in a kind of frenzy—Ha ! dead—and alive at once—sure it cannot be—Gracious God in what a mystery, am I involved ; and, tearing open my bosom, she looked under my left breast, where was the plain mark of a pear, which I had scarce ever before noticed, and then she exclaimed, Oh ! it is—it is, my dearest, long lost child—whom I have, for so many years, numbered with the dead ! No sooner had she uttered these words, than her daughter ran to me, fell upon my neck, called me her dear brother, and Villegas, now a little himself with all the gravity peculiar to his nation, encreased by this solemn scene, strained me in his arms, and said—for ever be adored the goodness of providence—I have found in my excellent friend—a brother dear to my soul ! I returned all these caresses with an animated interest, and it was above an hour before we could soberly and calmly express our sentiments to each other, continually breaking out into blessings and praises of the Almighty, who had so miraculously

culously brought forth these amazing events. The maid also hung about my neck, called me her dear child, her young master—and asked me if I did not remember poor Betty Man—who ever thought some villainy was used towards me, and that I was not really dead. I soon after pulled out my dear foster father's memoir, which Mr. Courtney read to them, after which I related all my adventures, whilst my mother and all present wept at the moving tale, now cursing my vile uncle, anon blessing Mr. and Mrs. M'Namara, and protesting how they longed to see my wife and son, my excellent sister and mother-in-law, with whom they hoped to spend the residue of their days, and I concluded in the following words. Oh! my dear mother—I am now supremely blessed indeed—I have a wife and son, I hope, who will study to make you happy—I have found a parent, a sister, a brother, whose virtues warm my heart—Oh! let us haste away—let us spend the residue of life together, striving each moment to encrease one another's felicity, whilst every regret and pain is chased and exiled far away. I then begged my mother to resume her story, which she, now, began at my birth; she expressed how she deplored my loss, when my uncle sent her tidings of my death; though then, and ever since, from the circumstance of the
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cunning used in sending Betty Manlover to her, she had some suspicion that all was not right. She enlarged upon the fidelity of that worthy creature; for which I again embraced her, and told her I would do all in my power to recompence her merit. She let me know that she had remitted her estate to London, from Virginia, consisting of 7500l. but that the ship in which they embarked for England meeting with bad weather and a long passage, they were reduced to the utmost distress, and perished for hunger; when Captain Villegas came to their assistance, bound from Lisbon to the Brazils, who relieved their half starved crew with great generosity and humanity; that being quite sick of that unfortunate vessel, they rather chose to go to the Brazils and return with him, than proceed to England in her; that he had conceived a passion for my sister, when there, which ended in their happy union, at their arrival at Lisbon, where they, accompanied by the captain, took passage for London to settle their affairs in England; that my uncle paid all that was left to my father, mother, and sister, with such readiness, as entirely chased away her suspicions of him, so that she never called him to account in relation to the estate, and even consented to his retaining, for his own use, the 750l. that was besides bequeathed to me, as
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a recompence for his care of me, which he made prodigious professions of, as well as my aunt. That she then came to Portugal to settle with her son and daughter, after vesting her money in the British funds, and giving my sister 1000*l.* besides what her grandfather had left her; but that having made a convert of my brother, by the force of conviction, she longed now to settle in her native country, or wherever she could be near her children. But my dear, she added, I have somewhat to tell you of the fate of your persecutors, which will make you admire at the righteous judgments of heaven, even in this life. Your uncle, far from reaping any advantage by his wickedness declined in his affairs ever after, and lost his eldest son before he arrived to sixteen years of age; his wife proved false to him, robbed him, and ran away with another man, who she had long privately had an intrigue with, and, upon some quarrel between her and her paramour, he murdered her, at a place called Beckington, in the west of England, and then shot himself, when taken, to avoid a more shameful death. Just powers! I interrupted her, then I was also witness to her dreadful catastrophe! Upon which I related the incident, and acquainting her of the time, it proved to be the very day, on which the fact was perpetrated,

ed, as I have related in my journey from Bristol to London, which made us all break out into expressions of the utmost reverence and awe of the supreme Being. She continued, about three years ago, your uncle's affairs grew so desperate, that he wrote to me to borrow money upon your estate, which at last I purchase of him, and which will now, blessed be God, come to the true heir. Some time after, your other cousin, also died of the small pox, and your uncle, being quite reduced, was come to throw himself upon our generosity at Lisbon, when the ship, he was passenger in, was wrecked, in violent storm, on the isle of Ushant, and he and every soul on board perished. Ah! madam, I said, when she had thus concluded, may they both find mercy hereafter! And may the ruler of the universe pardon all their crimes. Had they been now living, I should never have carried matters to extremities with them; but have endeavoured to make them sensible of their errors, and wish my cousins had survived to have felt the effects of my friendship. Judgment alone is in the hands of God! Every one applauded sentiments so like their own, and the day concluded with suitable reflections, upon all the strange events. Next morning, my mother informed me, that her fortune was so well improved, that she was mistress of 9000*l*. besides

besides my estate in Buckinghamshire, all which she intended, as soon as we came to Ireland, to vest in me, reserving only 100*l.* per annum, during her life; for as to her son-in-law, he was possessed of above 15000*l.* already, and had had his wife's fortune sufficiently paid. Ab! madam, I replied, I have enough, and will not deprive you of a penny, till please God to take you to himself, before which, I hope we shall enjoy many, and many happy years, and do a great deal of good to mankind, particularly to those who, like us, have felt affliction's heavy rod. We will be stewards, for heaven, to the poor and miserable, and out of our abundance make the hearts of his suffering creatures joyful. She embraced me, over and over, told me my sentiments were exactly hers, beheld me with transport, and said, now, my dear, let us haste to comfort your dear mourning Polly, and your other mothers, I shall not be myself till I am with them. Sure never was family more happy, more united than ours was, my mother and sister could hardly bear me from their sight, and my brother-in-law and I had but one mind and one soul. However, our business was now to get from Portugal as soon as possible, and I, once more, to excuse my delay, wrote a long account to the three dear creatures at Cork, of all that had so miraculously be-
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fel me, and prepared them to receive these welcome guests.

We were in treaty for a vessel, in which Mr. Courtney principally acted, when, one day being on board a vessel in the harbour, invited to an entertainment by the captain, a friend of my brother's a boat rowed from a ship just arrived from England, but at too great a distance to reach us, before it made shore, in which I thought I discovered a gentleman, who struck me with the remembrance of my old friend Captain White, and, to be certain, we excused ourselves, and made a precipitate departure, after I had imparted my observation to my brother, knowing we should catch him either at the custom-house or the consul's, and be satisfied if it was him or no. We were, however, convinced it was him, as soon as we landed, for, enquiring of the men in the boat, what ship it was just arrived, they answered, to my infinite satisfaction, the Adventure, Captain White, and that this was his second voyage to Lisbon, from Dublin, where he now resided. Now, brother, I, said we'll look out for no other vessel, this is that true and trusty friend you heard me mention in my story, with whom I can confide all I have in the world, and now, thank God, I shall, I hope, hear from my family. Before we got to the consul's house, I perceived my

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worthy friend at some distance, talking with a Portuguese merchant, upon which, though I could hardly restrain my impatience, we stopt a few minutes till they parted, and then I met him, and, throwing my arms about him, to his great surprise, cried, My dear friend—how happy am I in meeting with you! How long the time seems, since I last saw you at the Isle of Wight. Never was man more overjoyed or astonished, he clasped me to his bosom, and we exchanged as sincere embraces as ever friends witnessed; I then presented him to my brother, forced him home to our house, and introduced him to the ladies, and hearing the epithets, son, mother, sister, &c. repeated, he appeared quite amazed; but after I had refreshed him with a glass or two of Wine, I related to him all that occurred to me since our last meeting. He lamented the death of his old captain, even with tears, which afresh renewed my sorrow, in which I was accompanied by my mother and sister, who revered his memory. As to my dear family, about half a year before, they were all well in health, he said, and my son one of the most improved children he ever saw; but that they were almost distracted at their uncertainty about us; since which he had not seen them; however these tidings revived my heart, and made me more patiently bear the remaining absence from

from them. He congratulated us all upon the late happy discovery, and my mother, brother and sister, loaded him with civilities, particularly the former, for his great goodness and humanity to me, when I was first exposed and deserted by my uncle. At his next visit, we acquainted him with the intended departure, of my brother and his family for Ireland, and he agreed, without the least hesitation, to accommodate us all on board his ship, which was a very fine and roomy one, and, for some misdemeanor, having discharged his first mate, Mr. Courtney consented to supply his place in the voyage home. In less than a month he had delivered his cargo and reladed, and most of my brother's and mother's effects being, at different times, sent on board, I, with Betty Man and my mother, embarked, and stood out to sea, it being contrived that my brother and sister should take a tour to Lagos, off which port we were to hover, and there hire a fishing vessel to come on board, upon seeing us in in the offing; and for the better deception of the inquisitors, who already began to suspect his apostacy, they left the furniture in the house, and their servants, whom on divers pretences they had paid their wages, to cover their retreat. The wind sitting contrary, it was six days before we made that port, and, after the signal agreed

greed upon was hung out, we soon discovered the watchful pair, standing out of the harbour, and, backing our sails, to our great satisfaction, we got them safe on board, and directly stood to sea. The voyage was pleasant, speedy and prosperous, and yet the vessel did no seem to sail swift enough for our wishes, thought in such excellent and endearing company, no means were wanted to beguile the tedious hours. Heavens! what raptures fired my bosom, when we made the dear coast, from which I had been so long absent, and was now returning to, with such an encrease of happiness; though cut to the very heart that my dear captain was dead, and could not participate of the felicity he had so earnestly desired: but perhaps his fleeting spirit, now a guardian minister, accompanied and surveyed all our transactions, and smoothed the rugged waves before us. The first land we made, was Cape Clear, and three days after we cast anchor in the harbour of Kinsale, whence we intended to go by land to Cork. My mother and brother, would insist upon presenting Captain White with 200 moidores, for his good treatment, and we parted with him and Mr. Courtney, after they had promised to join us from Dublin, where they were bound, as soon as the ship was delivered, the captain promising also to bring over his wife

wife, to whom he had been happily wedded for a year and an half. We left all our heavy baggage at Kinsale, and having procured a coach set out for the beloved city, which contained the darlings of my soul, and I was rejoiced to observe that my mother, and all the company, seemed to be pleased with the country, which I found it would now be difficult for me ever to leave. When we arrived at Cork, we repaired to a gentleman's house about half a mile from town; fearful of surprising my Polly, with too abrupt a discovery of myself, and was received like one returned from the grave, and where we were very genteely accommodated. The first thing I did was to send to Dr. Gullston and Mr. Cosby, who, to my great satisfaction, I heard were alive and well, and in less than half an hour they were with me, and we embraced with an ardor that nothing but pure friendship can inspire. By them I learned, that my first letters were received, which had divided my family between the extremes of joy for my safety, and of sorrow for the death of my father; but that, by their wise discourses, that grief had somewhat subsided, though Mrs. M'Namara had been very poorly almost ever since. On the receipt of my second they seemed to have restored even that dear woman to life, with the tidings of my so wonderfully find-

ing my mother and sister, and that now, they had been daily and most impatiently wishing our arrival, and sending to enquire of every ship that came into the harbour. After I had introduced them to my mother, brother and sister, who received them as my most valued friends, I besought Dr. Gulston to go to our house, and prepare them to see me, whilst I slowly followed him into the city, it being now the dusk of the evening, leaving my company with Mr. Cosby and our kind host and hostess, quite impatient to embrace their new relations. As I walked very softly, I knew he must arrive there near half an hour before me, and therefore imagined I might knock as soon as I came to the door, which accordingly I did, my heart beating and throbbing with expectation, love, and impatience. I had no sooner knocked, than the door was opened by the well known nurse, whom I gently squeezed by the hand, and, swiftly passed by, without being able to speak a word, and opening the parlour door, discovered my dear Polly shedding tears of joy, and attending to the good clergyman's discourse, and my two excellent mothers in much the same situation, with my pretty son sitting in his little chair and chattering by the fire. At the sight of me they gave a sudden shriek, notwithstanding the preparative to my entrance, and my wife

wife fainted away. My breast was so tumultuously agitated, that, I could only bring out a few inarticulate sounds, which died upon my tongue, and, looking tenderly at my mothers, I sprung to my wife, and clasping her in my arms soon restored her to life, by my eager and warm embrace; but neither of us could speak but with our eyes; I then ran wildly to the other two, and alternately bestowed those endearments they so richly merited, and squeezed my dear boy to my bosom, almost devouring him with kisses. The doctor and the nurse, who had now entered the apartment, could not help joining in our tears, crying out every now and then—God bless the lovely pair—what a blessed day!—&c.—In short, all language would be too faint to describe what we looked—we said—we felt on this occasion; a thousand times I hugged my dear creature, over and over, and as often they strained me in their arms, and, for an hour, nothing but the language of our fond eyes proceeded from us. At length, reason, in some measure, resumed her reign, and we mutually congratulated each other upon this joyous meeting, and our hearts overflowed with delight, transport, and gratitude to God for all his mercies; and the good clergyman was so affected, that he fell on his knees in the midst of us, and, all following his example,

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returned thanks in an extempore prayer, that contributed to calm our disordered passions.

That worthy gentleman then proposed to fetch my mother and the rest of our friends, for indeed, I was incapable of leaving the apartment, and the presence of my dear Polly, who looked still more beautiful, if possible, than when I left her; and as to my infant he was grown a little cherubim, and wore in his face all his lovely mother's graces. He returned in about half an hour, with my mother, sister, brother-in-law, Betty, Mr. Colby, and the gentleman and his wife, at whose house I left them, who were desirous to partake in our satisfaction.

My three mothers addressed each other with extraordinary tenderness, the warmest thanks for the share they all had in my preservation and good fortune, and my mother and sister were charmed to the last degree with my wife and son, whom they were perpetually embracing and calling by the most endearing epithets. In short, never could people be more completely blessed than we all were, this happy night, and Mrs. McNamara laid aside all her griefs on the occasion. A magnificent supper was provided, and, as we had sufficient accommodations for the whole company, we insisted on their staying till next morning. When the cloth was removed,

removed, I once more related all the adventures of our unfortunate voyage, and drew tears from every one, as well as myself, when I afresh rehearsed the death of my dear father, and his last words to me, at which, his disconsolate widow twice fainted away, and my wife and her mother were little less affected; and again, when I dwelt on our wonderful deliverances, my meeting with my mother and sister, and, to save her the trouble, her story, they were differently affected; now the tear trickled silently from their eyes, anon loud sobs proclaimed a stronger sensation, and again joy and transport warmed their hearts. At length, we withdrew to our respective chambers, where I once more tasted those delights to which I had been so long a stranger, in the arms of the best and truest of her sex. I found, by the dear creature's account, that nothing had happened to disturb them since my absence, that they had lived very retired, indulging their sorrows together. The next day we sent for all our baggage from Kinsale, and, when it arrived, I delivered my dear father's chest to his relict; but she returned the key to me, saying, don't let me see them, my dear child, every thing I possess is thine, only suffer me to live still with you, and be a witness of your happiness. Dearest mother, I returned, I desire to die,
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the first minute I offend you, and were I not ever to enjoy your presence, life would be a burden. My mother and sister made rich presents of silks, laces, &c. which they had brought on purpose, to the three ladies; and my wife, the second day after our arrival received from the former, a draught for 1000 pounds. My brother-in-law, made a public recantation of the errors of popery, the next Sunday, in Dr. Gulston's church, and we began to live a life to be envied.

I found our remittances from Jamaica were safely come to hand, and, calling our Cork owners together, laid my journal before them, and put into their hands 2200 pounds, the remains of their adventures, sold at the Brazils, after having deducted for the wages of that part of the crew that had survived, and they cleared my accompts, with honour and gratitude, taking upon them to satisfy all the rest of the parties concerned, at London, Amsterdam, and Jamaica; and I gave up my own share, which was 305*l.* wages and all included, for the benefit of poor Mr. Douglas's widow at Jamaica. I also advertised in the English and Irish papers, the names of the mate, surgeon, and other unfortunate men, who died or were killed, since we left England, promising, to pay to their widows or children, after proof of their being such, their full wages, to the
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time of their decease, out of my own pocket, which some few did apply for and receive.

Capt. White, his spouse, and Mr. Courtney, came over, according to their promise, to visit us, and I procured for the latter, the command of a ship in the Streights trade, and made him a farther present of an hundred guineas.

My dear foster father had, by his will, left me the whole of his fortune, after the decease of his wife, except fifty pounds to Dr. Gulston, and the like sum to Mr. Cosby, as he expressed it, for their kindness to his son, and friendship to him and his family. His widow, however, insisted on my being her manager and steward, so that with what I had before, and what was settled on my wife, I found myself master of above 16,000*l.* with certainty of being by my mother and mother-in-law heir to above 14,000*l.* more, so that I began to think of retiring from Cork, being tired of the hurry and noise of a populous city, and hearing of a good purchase, of about 400*l.* a year, in the county of Kildare, I bought it, by consent of my family, determined there to spend the residue of my days; being, though so young, heartily jaded with rambling, and cured of any ambitious projects. Captain Villegas had taken a voyage to London, to settle his affairs; after which, returning to Ireland, he procur-

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ed himself an act of naturalization, and bought a fine estate in the same county, not two miles from mine, determining to live and die with us, and we were now ready to depart to our seats, and enjoy rural pleasures and uninterrupted content, when Captain Courtney desired my leave to pay his addressee to the faithful Betty Man.

I was so pleased with the thought of this union, that I immediately proposed it to all our family, and finding Betty's heart was already on the same side of the question, I gave them fifty pounds, and my wife, mother-in-law, and Mrs. M'Namara, fifty pounds each, my mother and sister, two hundred pounds between them, and Captain Villegas furnished them an house, which he also gave them in the city of Cork, so that joining their stocks together, they were now worth upwards of seven hundred pounds beside the ten pounds a year left her by my grandfather, and we celebrated the wedding at our own expence. My mother made Mrs. White a noble present also, in consideration of her obligations to her worthy husband, upon my account, and fifty guineas to our nurse for her care of her grandson.

Mr. Cosby being advanced in years, being willing to retire, and loth to leave us, my brother-in-law and I made a purchase for him, of a pretty little box in our neighbourhood

bourhood, which we furnished well with books, for our common library, and settled one hundred pounds a year on the librarian for life, and the good Dr. Gulston having exchanged his living for that whereon we were settled, became the parson of our parish, which had no inconsiderable revenue, and prepared to set out with us for the places of our residence, after bidding adieu to all our friends in Cork, and heartily inviting them to visit us, whenever they thought proper.

We arrived there, and all settled to our content; in my house, my dear Mrs. M'Namara and my mother-in-law, took up their abode, and my mother equally divided her time, between us and Mr. and Mrs. Villegas, and scarce a week past but we all spent a day together, in the utmost harmony and content, ever studying to oblige each other, to persevere in our duties to our Maker, and in doing acts of humanity and kindness in all parts of the county and kingdom.

Captain White with his wife, and Mr. Courtney and his faithful spouse, frequently spend whole months with us, and, in the winter season, we generally all pass two months, at each of their houses in Dublin and Cork; and we have once altogether taken a voyage to England, and visited our estate in Buckinghamshire. Six years were

now past, since we entered into this blissful scene of life in which providence has blessed me with two more sons, and Villegas with a daughter, and my eldest is now under the tuition of Mr. Cosby, and the direction of Dr. Gulston, and they have as much credit of him as they had of his father. I have not yet obtained an act to change my name; but am about it, and my second son is baptized, by that of M'Namara, to keep up the still more intimate remembrance of my excellent friend and foster father.

Thus has providence, at last, through so many dangers and difficulties, brought us all to this port of rest, and continued for so many years our felicity untainted. May our example inspire thee, gentle reader, to tread the same paths, to endeavour, by every action of thy life, to merit the protection of heaven and the good will of mankind, which will draw blessings on thy head in this life, and secure thee endless happiness in a future state of existence.

*Still in the paths of virtue persevere;
And not from past or present ills despair;
For blessings always wait on virtuous deeds,
And tho' a late, a sure reward succeeds.*

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