

# THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

## TO A CHILD DURING SICKNESS

BY LEIGH HUNT.

Sleep breathes at last from out thee,  
My little, patient boy!  
And batmy rest about thee  
Smooths off the day's annoy.  
I sit me down, and think  
Of all thy winning ways;  
Yet almost wish, with sudden shrink,  
That I had less to praise.

Thy sidelong, pillowed meekness,  
Thy thanks to those that aid,  
Thy heart in pain and weakness,  
Of fancied faults afraid,  
The little trembling hand  
That wipes thy quiet tears,—  
These, these are things that may demand  
Dread memories for years.

Sorrows I've had, severe ones  
I will not think of now;  
And calmly, midst my dear ones,  
Have wasted with dry brow;  
But when thy fingers press,  
And pat my stooping head,  
I cannot bear the gentleness,—  
The tears are in their bed.

Ah! first-born of thy mother,  
When life and hope were new!  
Kind playmate of thy brother,  
Thy sister, father, 'oo!  
My light where'er I go,  
My bird when prison-bound,—  
My hand-in-hand companion,—no,  
My prayers shall hold thee round,

To say, "He has departed,"—  
"His voice,"—"his face,"—"is gone,"  
To feel impatient-hearted,  
Yet feel we must bear on;  
Ah! I could not endure  
To whisper of such woe,  
Unless I felt this sleep insure  
That it would not be so.

Yes, still he's fixed and sleeping!  
This silence too the while,—  
Its very hush and creeping  
Seem whispering us a smile;—  
Something divine and dim  
Seems going by one's ear,  
Like parting wings of cherubim,  
Who say,—"We've finished here."

## THE PASSAGE.

FROM THE GERMAN OF UHLAND.

Many a year is in its grave,  
Since I crossed this restless wave:  
And the evening, fair as ever,  
Shines on ruin, rock, and river.

Then, in this same boat, beside,  
Sat two comrades, old and tried;  
One with all a father's truth,  
One with all the fire of youth.

One on earth in silence wrought,  
And his grave in silence sought;  
But the younger, brighter form  
Passed in battle and in storm!

So, when'er I turn my eye  
Back upon the days gone by,  
Saddening thoughts of friends come o'er me,  
Friends who closed their course before me,

Yet what binds us, friend to friend,  
But that soul with soul can blend?  
Soul-like were those hours of yore;  
Let us walk in soul once more!

Take, O boatman, thrice thy fee;  
Take,—I give it willingly;  
For, invisible to thee,  
Spirits twain have crossed with me!

## CAPTURE OF A SLAVER BY HER MAJESTY'S BRIG HERON.

Her Majesty's brig *Heron* weighed from Black Point Bay, on the west coast of Africa, on the 17th of April, and ran under easy sail until off the roadstead Loango, intending to look in to see that there was nothing there. On the afternoon of the same day a small brigantine was discovered, but the chase was discontinued at four p.m. on her showing French colours; the *Heron* stood off the land under double-reefed topsails, and remained in the same position nearly all the night, as the wind fell light. On

the Sunday morning, April 18, when about twenty five miles to the northward of Loango, about 11.30 a.m., the man at the fore royal yard said he thought he saw a sail, which was at first made out to be a brig standing to the westward. The *Heron* then made all sail in chase, though the wind was very light. The vessel was then observed to tack and stand to the southward; she could then (1.30 p.m.) be seen from the deck, and was made out to be a barque. On her making out the *Heron* to be a man-of-war, she tacked and stood away to the northward, at the same time making all possible sail. Of course the *Heron* did the same coming up with her hand over fist; the *Heron* came up with her about six, but she had succeeded in getting to windward of the brig, tacked, and again stood to the southward, at the same time setting a topmast studding sail.

A blank gun was then fired from the brig to make her heave or to show her colours; she still stood on, so a shot was put across her bow; she then showed an American ensign in the mizen rigging for about a minute, but still stood on. A shot was then put across her stern, which had the effect of making her let everything go by the run. The two quarter-boats of the brig, under the command of the second Lieutenant (Chapman), master (Smart), and the clerk (Johnstone) were then despatched to board her; on their getting on board, the Captain told them he was bound from Cuba to Macao, in China, for Chinese emigrants, calling at Ascension and St. Helena, and that he had put in to repair a leak occasioned by touching on a reef in the West Indies—the best of it is there is no port or harbor of any sort within many miles of where he was. His papers were then looked at, and it was found that he had no manifest, and no clearance, no log-book, or tract chart; his men were then mustered, and their names one more than the number. One of the *Heron's* men then reported that there were men stowed away in the peak, and on searching, a crew of twelve men, all Spaniards, were found making a crew in all of twenty five.

The vessel was then taken, and shortly after the commander came on board, and whilst in conversation with the master of the barque, the latter threw his colours overboard, thus making himself of no nation, and therefore a legal prize. It was found afterwards that she had a complete slave deck laid and had slave coppers and slave irons, besides having 120 tons of water, and likewise a regular slave cargo. In addition to this, £1,200 in doubloons were found on the persons of the crew.

## THE LATE FRENCH DUEL.

The late duel, which has excited a strong feeling in France, is the malignant sign of a very malignant disorder in the French Body politic. It violates every principle which can render the practice of duelling tolerable, if, indeed, anything can. Instead of being an appeal to the equal-handed combat, to a sense of honor and chivalrous feeling, it amounts to an arrangement by which a certain class can pronounce sentence of death upon every man who offends it. The particular circumstances under which the crime was carried out, confirm its malignity, and increase its atrocity. After the first combat, in the moment of victory, M. Henri de Pene made an apology for his really trifling and playful strictures. His antagonist, however, had come to the field, not with even seconds, after the old fashion, but with forty. M. de Pene, having wounded his antagonist in the hand, the affair, as between them, terminated in the usual French fashion. Immediately after M. Hyene stepped forward and informed M. de Pene that he must fight with him also, or he, Hyene, would be "under the painful necessity of insulting him." M. de Pene, by the advice of his second, declined to submit to the proposal; and thereupon M. Hyene, his brother officers being the witnesses, "used an insulting gesture." Poor de Pene was no Bobadil; but French blood can brook no insult, even from the hand of a ruffian, and accordingly, by the advice of his second again, he accepted the new challenge. Hyene, true to the ferocity of his name, sprang on the unfortunate satirist and stabbed him twice through the body. He was an expert swordsman, and, it is said, instructor of fencing to his regiment. De Penelies at the point of death, and the authorities have been enquiring whether the wounds he received were, "fair."

Utterly disgraceful as this attack undoubtedly is to the character of the French army, it is made worse by the manner in which the officers at St. Germain have sought to justify it. The forty bravos who signed the letter of justification to the *Industriel* "request and if need be require" the editor to publish their manifesto. And by way of a counter-demonstration, subscription-lists have been opened in certain of the newspaper offices, but subsequently closed by order of the Government—for the names of civilians who are willing to put down the army bullies in their own summary fashion.

The political aspect of the case is even more grave. The Emperor has professed throughout to act in the name of "France;" but in order to attain the unrestrained power which was necessary to his scheme, he has been obliged to create this pampered and unrestrainable French army.

We have long suspected the Prætorian spirit; it is now openly exulting in its outrages, not upon England, Italy, or Germany, but upon the French people. It has arrived at such a pitch that you must not laugh at its spurs under pain of death. The Empire there, as well as France, is subordinated to this modern underbred and vulgar burlesque of Prætorianism. The power which Napoleon intended to create for himself, with certain overweening and fanatical notions more or less elevated, turns out in practice to have been made for men of this stamp, and the fencing master have become the true despot in France.—*Scottish American Journal*.

THE KILT IN INDIA.—The "Highland Soldier" who occasionally writes to the *Inverness Courier* says, in a letter dated Feb. 13: "The General orders require our national garb to be thrown off for a season. We are now to wear slate-colored cotton clothing, consisting of a loose jacket or blouse, with trousers of corresponding, and cap covers of the same material. Sir Colin is the soldier's General—he has his men's health and comfort at heart. We suffered so much when we were formerly at Lucknow from the effects of the kilt, etc. that this order is received with joy and gratitude."

The Lucknow prize property is fast increasing, and it is estimated that the sales will produce £600,000. The appointment of Capt. Forester aid-de-camp, as assistant to the prize agent, seems not to please the army.

It is generally understood that the Highland regiments who contributed as much to the taking of Lucknow are well provided for in the way of dress, &c.; but such was not the case up to the 30th of March—they having to mount, march, and fight in the heavy bonnet and warm kilt, in the country of Oude; the kilt besides does not give any protection to the poor soldier from the attack of the mosquito, whose name there is legion. The object of wearing the kilt and feather bonnet, no doubt is the means of striking terror into our enemies; still let them have some more suitable suit, and no doubt they will frighten the Sepoys with their deeds of bravery quite as much, if not more, than by the phantom-like appearance which they now present.

Complaints are being made of the defenceless state of England. Her fleet—the bulwark of the nation, has been condemned to hold a secondary position; her soldiers, suppressing mutiny abroad; her sailors, serving under foreign flag, all seem to bring forth the grumblings of the people. It is said our steam reserve could not be got ready for action in less than two years, and if even got up in that time, it is hard to tell how the demands of such a fleet are to be borne. The order of the late first Lord of the Admiralty, giving seamen the option of taking their discharge, resulted in a loss of some thousand able and well-trained men,—many of whom took advantage of the offer and came over to America. A country like England, possessing such vast colonies, should always be prepared for action, for when so much is to be governed, some part is always liable to disturbances of some kind or other, which should always be stopped at the root.

A VISIT TO A REFORMATORY SHIP.—At 12 o'clock on a fine summer's day you go down to the river side, where you may meet with two boys going on board the terry-boat. They are dressed in thick blue cloth clothes, and the word "Akbar" is marked on their woolen shirts. You step on board the boat and proceed to your destination, that large vessel lying in the river, which, as you near Rock Ferry, you see more distinctly; and at length you step on board the staunch old Akbar. That ship fought a good fight in the East Indies, and gathered laurels in the last great naval war. But the fight that it is fighting now is far finer than either of them. Then it defended our honour abroad; now it is retrieving our honour at home and the Akbar in the Sloyne, the Home and school of 120 lads who are being brought up as honest English sailors, is a far nobler sight than when she chased the French frigate *Canonnere*, or captured the *Semillantes*. Let us notice, as we step on board the little boat that bears us, that there is no master superintendent, or guide, watching the movements of the six lads who have brought us or the two who have been over to Liverpool to buy bread, and have been entrusted with £4 for that purpose. By the time that we get on the gangway of the ship the captain shortly appears, and we are taken over the ship which is cleaner by far than any of the merchant ships in the river; it is in fact, conducted as a model man-of-war, and the lads are taught the whole arts of navigation, ruled by naval discipline. They know the name and use of every rope in the ship, much more than many lads on board the merchant ships are acquainted with. Five hours are devoted to study. Hanging on the side of the vessel is a slate, "the trustworthy slate;" those lads who went to buy bread have their names inscribed thereon; and it also contains fully one half the names of the boys on board. The time of their stay there is a year and a half, when situations are procured for them on board other ships. Thirty-five of the lads have been transferred to other vessels during the year. The treatment on board the Akbar is, near as possible, that of any merchant

ship. Of those boys who have been discharged since the commencement, there have been:—Favourable reported, 13; fairly, 2; deserted their ships, 2; enlisted as a scoldier, 1; not yet heard of 17.

ALBERT SMITH ON CHINA.—Albert Smith that most enterprising purveyor for public amusement, is contemplating a holiday trip to China, in search of materials for his next entertainment at the Egyptian Hall, as will be seen by the following extract from an address he has just issued:—"I have settled, after much deliberation, upon making China the subject of my next season's entertainment. I purpose to start as soon as my audience will permit me, via the Mediterranean, Egypt, Ceylon, and Singapore, for Canton, and wherever else chance may take me. I believe the country eminently calculated to afford matter for an entertainment after my own fashion. It is at present a point of concentrated interest with us all. It has the quaint advantage of remaining now, at this present time, just what it was thousands of years ago. Its popular productions have a wide hold on us, from the 'Wonderful Lamp' of childhood, and the dinner-gong and dessert service in the prime of life, to the 'strong family congo' of our declining years, to say nothing about that celebrated blue landscape in enamel, so very faithful in its attendance upon us throughout our entire lives. And as far as we are yet informed, everything about China seems to be quaint, and strange, and madly comical."

A proclamation has been issued regulating the opening of the respective Circuit Courts of this colony, as follows:—

Northern District.—The Court will be opened at Twillingate on Wednesday, the 25th August, and continue until the 31st of the same month both days inclusive. At Fogo, from the 1st till the 6th September. At Greenspond, from the 8th to the 13th of the same month. At Bonavista, from the 16th September until the 24th. At Trinity, on the 27th till Saturday the 2nd of October following. At Old Perlican, on the 5th October until the 8th of the same month. At Brigus, on the 11th October till the 21st. At Harbor Grace, on Saturday, 30th October, and continue until Monday the 15th November following, both days inclusive.

Southern District.—The Court will commence its sittings at Burgeo, on Tuesday, the 24th day of August, and continue until Friday the 27th of the same month, both days inclusive. At Harbor Briton, from the 30th of August till the 4th September following. At Burn, from the 7th of September till the 16th of the same month. At Great Placentia, from the 20th until the 27th of September. At St. Mary's, from the 30th September till the 5th of October following. At Ferryland, on the 12th day of October, to continue until the 18th of the same month.

The Proclamation further provides, that in the event of either of the Judges of the said Circuit Courts being prevented by unforeseen circumstances from opening the Courts respectively on any of the days appointed, or if either of them should arrive at any of the places named for holding the Courts before the time stated for the opening thereof, should it be thought proper, the said Judges may open and hold the Courts on any other day or days than those specified, and keep the same open for the periods before stated, should it be necessary for the despatch of business so to do.

MAILS will, until further notice, be made up at this office at 10 o'clock, a.m., for Harbor Grace, Carbonear, and Brigus, on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.  
W. L. SOLOMON,  
General Post Office,  
St. John's, 18th May, 1858.

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THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN  
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NOTICE

THE BOARD notice that the Green Island, Harbor, Trinity Bay was on the 13th inst by one of a more b sive range. This LIGHT burns at a high water, exhibits to sunrise, and is seen from E. N. miles. Vessels bound this Light open until Bonavista Light, Jean, will give the berth—or when co and bound for Catala A moderate berth, y Rocks by steering for Green Island is long. 53,03 West.

Acting Board of Works Office St. John's July 8

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