

ted them. A few indeed escaped, and dispersed themselves over various parts of the globe: many of them terminated their existence in the prisons of the American islands; while others were sent to England, where they were put to death as Pirates.

There had now, for a long time, remained no traces of the Free-booters properly so called. Their name only had continued to be given to those assemblages of robbers who infested the West Indies both by sea and land; until, after the peace of Utrecht, the services of this second race of Free-booters having become useless to the belligerent powers,—and the civilized world, which had so long been desolated by war, having for some time recovered tranquillity,—the name of that association of Pirates became completely obliterated.

Such was the end of the celebrated republic of Free-booters; which, during the latter part of its existence, only wanted a chieftain possessed of great genius and grand views, to subject America from one pole to the other, and to give our globe a political form, altogether different from that which it has since acquired, in consequence of the establishment of colonies, of commerce, and of navigation. These men, however, just as we have delineated them,—with their tumultuous and lawless conduct, and independence,—without fixed rules, or any determinate object,—without a real thirst of fame,—instigated solely by the attraction of trifling enjoyments;—in a word, the Free-booters have formed such a corporation, that the annals of mankind do not offer a second like it,—have displayed that energy, and those mental and corporeal powers, by means of which great undertakings are carried into execution;—and by their singular achievements, have deserved, if not the admiration, at least the astonishment, of the most distant posterity.

FINIS.

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