

into our palanquins. We had a guard to escort us, and, having crossed the river in our conveyances, I looked back and was astonished at the dense mass of spectators. Mandarins of every grade were in attendance. Indeed the excitement in Ningpo was indescribable. Our road to Chinhae led principally along the river side, and our travelling was any thing but comfortable, the pass being so bad that I feared our palanquin bearers would slip. When near Chinhae, one of my bearers tumbled and the palanquin thumped on the ground. I struck my head, but the alarm was more than the injury. I thought my troubles would not be at an end, until I reached Chinhae. On the road we met several emissaries urging on the bearers to use all speed, to the mutual gratification of both parties. At last we arrived safely at Chinhae, where we were received with honour by the mandarins. We had not breakfasted, and when the gentlemen asked for food, a filthy fellow came in with an apron full of cakes. Afterwards they brought us each a basin of meat.

Captain Anstruther was now taken to see Commissioner E., and after remaining a little while, he returned, telling us that we should soon be sent for to hear the same story told him—namely, that we should not have come to Chinhae if the Admiral had not sent us, and that we must now return and tell the commanding officer, he must get the ships away with all speed, and with his compliments say, that a great many soldiers were waiting to enter Chusan, as soon as the English evacuated it; but at the same time he entreated us to labour under no apprehension, for they had no hostile intentions. At first it was concluded that Lieut. Douglass was to accompany me to Chusan, while Captain Anstruther could remain and see all the men embark; but when we were with E., Lieut. Douglas told him that Captain Anstruther had nothing to do with the people, and begged that he might accompany me. It was at length determined that both the gentlemen should stay behind, and only Mr. Witts accompany me. I made every inquiry for my only bonnet and other things, which the mandarin had previously sent for to inspect, but in vain, as the officer kept them and would not restore the same. Soon after, I took leave of the gentlemen, and re-entered my palanquin, which conveyed me to the water side, where the linguist presented me to the water side, where the linguist presented me with a far. On the mandarin's premises I had the pleasure of meeting all my fellow prisoners, which relieved my mind, as I was not before aware that they had come down from Ningpo, and had not seen them for several months. I spoke a few words to them as my sedan passed. On our way we were taken to the soldiers' tents: it being a late hour and quite dark, I could see but little of them, but they appeared to be numerous, and occupied a very large space. Every attention was now shown me; they carried me close to the boatside, and fixed a chair in the sampan for my comfort. The mandarin who accompanied me showed every attention. For some hours our boat lay at anchor to enable the other prisoners to embark, and during the night proceeded on our way to Chusan. About seven o'clock in the morning of the 26th, I was once more gladdened by the sight of an English vessel. Soon after we were boarded by two naval officers, and Mr. Johnson was the first to welcome me to freedom. In a short space of time, we saw several other vessels which lay at the outer anchorage; a few moments more, and the whole fleet was before us. I thought I saw a great change on Chusan as on myself; the tents were no longer on the hills; and to me at least all things looked strange, but per-

haps the alteration was in me alone. As the boat drew near, Captain Bouchier, of the *Blonde*, sent his pig to convey me on board, and glad indeed was I to step into it, and thus quit for ever a people, at whose hands I had received such bitter wrongs. When safely arrived on the deck of the *Blonde*, I received the warmest congratulations of Captain Bouchier, and the many friends to whom I was then introduced. What my feelings were at that moment, none but one so long in captivity can conceive. Every one seemed a participator in my enjoyment, and each countenance wore the smile of heartfelt sympathy. I once more sat down to a comfortable breakfast, but my joy was too exquisite to allow me to partake. I remained on board the *Blonde* until the arrival of my fellow prisoners, whom I was most anxious to see once more. Lieut. Douglas and Captain Anstruther soon joined us, and it heightened my pleasure greatly to see those I so much esteemed, restored to their usual comforts and warm friends. Ere long the European part of the crew came safely on board. I was much distressed at seeing their wasted frames and pale countenances, yet it was a cheering certainty that every kindness would now be shown them. It is to be hoped that, by the blessing of God, they will soon regain their wonted strength, and I trust the sad lesson they so dearly learned, will never be erased from their memories. Being most anxious to see you, my dear friend, and Dr. Lockhart being in waiting to accompany me, I lost no time in hastening to the ship *Blundell*, where you had so carefully provided for my comfort. My dear friend Lieutenant Douglas did not leave me, until I was safely on board; and no sooner had I reached the deck, than I received the loud and hearty cheers of the whole crew, which not being anticipated, was completely overwhelming, combined as it was with the cordial welcome of Capt. Trail, and his officers. To describe our meeting would be needless—it is too indelibly engraven on the heart of each, ever to be forgotten; but I would not conclude without a sincere, solemn, and heartfelt ascription of praise and thanks to the Almighty Father and Gracious Saviour, and the all-sustaining Spirit, who has so truly fulfilled his promise, "I will not leave thee, nor forsake thee."

ANNE NOBLE.

#### WONDERFUL SIGHTS IN THE AIR.

THE venerable American Lexicographer has thought it worth while to notice, in the *New Haven Herald*, the use which appears to have been made in recent publications of certain atmospheric phenomena, in reference to the great change which, it is said, is to come over the world this year. He says:

"To persons not accustomed to see any unusual phenomenon in the heavens, such a fiery appearance of the clouds must be very terrific. Ignorance, in such cases, is a calamity. I had seen more wonderful appearances in the clouds of heavens, and was not in the least disturbed.

In the dark day, May 19, 1780, the heavens were covered with a dense cloud for three or four hours; the legisl. ure was in session at Hartford, and such was the darkness that business could not be transacted without candles. During this time the clouds were tinged with a yellow or faint red for hours, for which no cause has been assigned. I stood and viewed this phenomenon with astonishment, but I had not any fear that the world was coming to an end.

In the evening of March 20th, 1782, an extraordinary light spread over the whole hemisphere from horizon to horizon, north and south, east and west. The light was of a yellowish cast, and wavy. The waving of the light was visible, and some persons heard or imagined they heard a slight rustling sound. I then resided in Goshen, Orange county, New York, and stood half an hour on a bridge over the Wall Kill, to witness this extraordinary phenomenon, but I saw no person that was frightened at the sight.

In the year 1763, a great part of Europe was for weeks overspread with a haziness of atmosphere, which caused great consternation. The churches were crowded with supplicants. The astronomer Lalande attempted to allay the fright by endeavoring to account for the appearance, which he ascribed to an uncommon exhalation of watery particles from the great rain of the preceding year. But at last the cause was ascertained to be smoke from the great eruption of the volcano Heekla, in Iceland, which covered more than three thousand square miles with burning lava, in some places to the depth of forty feet. I had this account from Dr. Franklin, who was in Europe at the time.

In a late paper, published by the *Millerites*, I saw an article stating that the northern lights foretell something terrible. The writer seems not to know that in the high northern latitudes, in the sixteenth degree and northward, northern lights are of daily occurrence, and so have been from time immemorial. So illuminated are the heavens that persons may often see to read by the night.

During my life I have been so much accustomed to see northern lights, falling stars, so called, and fire balls, that they have long since ceased to excite my curiosity.—*N. Webster.*

#### NADIR SHAH, THE RAVAGER OF INDIA.

THIS Persian Emperor is said to have taken in conquest in jewels, £31,250,000; gold and silver plate, money and the celebrated peacock throne, £48,000,000 more; beside a vast quantity of other property, the whole equal in value to one hundred millions of dollars! He held in great contempt the arts by which the dervishes, and other religious mendicants imposed upon the credulity of his countrymen. Many of them believed that the holy Imaum Reza, who is interred at Mushed, continued to work miracles; and this belief gave rise to a number of impositions. Persons pretending to be blind, went to his tomb, and after a long period of prayer, opened their eyes and declared their sight had been restored by the holy Imaum.

One of these was seated at the gate of the sacred mausoleum when Nadir passed. "How long have you been blind?" asked the monarch. "Two years," answered the man. "It is proof," replied Nadir "that you have no faith. If you had been a true believer you would have been cured long ago. Recollect, my friend, if I come back and find you as you now are, I will strike your head off." When Nadir returned, the frightened fellow pretended to pray violently, and all at once found his sight. "A miracle! a miracle!" the populace exclaimed, and tore off his coat in small pieces as relics. The monarch smiled, and observed, "that faith was every thing."

An arrow was shot once into his quarters with a paper affixed, on which was written—"If thou art a king, cherish and protect thy people; if a prophet, show us the path of salvation; if a god, be merciful to thy creatures."

"Nadir, while he made every search for the author, commanded that copies of this paper should be distributed throughout the camp, with the following answer annexed to it:—"I am neither a king to protect my subjects; a prophet to teach the way to salvation; nor a god, to exercise the attribute of mercy; but I am he, whom the Almighty hath sent in his wrath to chastise a world of sinners." How well he fulfilled his mission, the history of Persia and India fully testify.

We are told of this prince that he had nearly one hundred and thirty sons, and one hundred and fifty daughters; and that, at the time of his decease, had all his descendants been gathered together, he would have seen a tribe of full five thousand souls—men, women and children, clustering around his throne.—*Malcolm.*

#### AT YOUR OWN DOOR.

THE celebrated John Randolph, on a visit to a female friend, found her surrounded with her seamstresses, making up a quantity of clothing. "What work have you in hand?" "O sir, I am preparing this clothing to send to the poor Greeks. On taking leave at the steps of the mansion, he saw some of her servants in need of the very clothing, which their tender-hearted mistress was sending abroad. He exclaimed, "Madam, madam, the Greeks are at your door!"—*C. C. Jones.*