

were magnified, their treason lauded as the righteous resistance of free-born Englishmen struggling against tyranny, and the aid of their brothers in Great Britain was invoked to assist in freeing them from the newly forged chains which, after being rivetted on the necks of the American Colonists were to be attached to the poulty form of John Bull at home. The orators, not content with this agitation, kept up a correspondence with the leading rebels; but their own countrymen were not informed that the tyranny proceeded from the Parliament, and that those chains were to be forged in the house of which the talented demagogues were members. Oh, no, that would not have suited. The attention of the English people and the Colonists were carefully directed to the *throne*, behind that the tyrant lurked—it was there the danger was to be found, and in that direction it was to be resisted. So industriously was this idea promulgated that the Congress, in its Declaration of Independence, with incredible toly charges the King of England with setting aside by his own will and pleasure the fundamental laws of the Empire, and intentionally or inadvertently ignores the fact that their allged grievances arose from Acts Parliament, and it was not an order or mandate of the King they resisted but a law solemnly enacted.

It served the purpose of the home and colonial traitors to keep from the people the actual facts of the case, and there can be little doubt but the colonists themselves were persuaded by the eloquence of the Whig leaders and the English House of Commons that their grievances were unbearable.

The English Ministry though a craven fear of unprincipled demagogues lowered the rights of Parliament and the dignity of the crown in the dust in the vain hopes of conciliating traitors whose objects were to rend the empire in pieces; that there could be any danger from the influence of the crown is too nonsensical a proposition to be entertained for a moment. George the Third was an honest and conscientious man with nothing whatever of the tyrant about him; a high idea of his duties and Coronation Oath were his only faults, and his power was limited like that of all English sovereigns by the fact that he could not send a corporal's guard or a jolly boat to any quarter of his dominions without the direct sanction of Parliament. Little more than an hundred years before an English House of Commons overturned the Government and slaughtered their sovereign in cold blood for assuming the right to direct the working of the state on his own responsibility, and that House was elected under circumstances far more favourable to courtly influence than any representative body Great Britain has since seen.

Those concessions, therefore, wrung by demagogues from an unwilling ministry

needlessly lowered the national prestige, they encouraged the rebels, dismayed the loyal, decided the wavering to join with what had every prospect of becoming a rising cause and precipitated a contest with all maritime Europe, it being taken as a manifestation of weakness, and nations being desirous as well as individually of administering to a *sick man's* efforts. It was not Colonial rebellion aided by French intrigue and assistance, nor even the confirmed incapacity of English generals that secured the independence of the United States, but it was the openly traitorous conduct of the leaders of the Whig party in the House of Commons, who, by dividing the people of Great Britain into factions, paralyzed the Government and dismembered the empire.

The fate of the commission may be anticipated from the proceedings of the congress. Dr. Ferguson the secretary being known to some of the leading men in Congress was sent to Yorktown with a letter to Congress explaining the nature of the powers held by the commissioners and requesting that a place might be appointed where a conference could be held or the British commissioners might meet a deputation from Congress. A previous application had been made to General Washington for a passport and safe conduct, but on Dr. Ferguson's arrival at the first outpost of the American army he was not suffered to proceed further. General Washington having declined to grant the passport without permission of Congress.

The Secretary returned to Philadelphia and the papers were forwarded by the military posts to Yorktown where they arrived on 13th of June, and were presented to Congress; that body after deliberating for some days on the subject, through their President, returned for answer.—That the Acts of Parliament the Commission and Commissioners latter supposed the people of the United States to be the subjects of the King of Great Britain and was founded on the idea of dependence, which was utterly inadmissible, but that they were desirous to enter upon the conditions of a treaty of peace and commerce, not inconsistent with treaties already existing, whenever the King of Great Britain should demonstrate a similar disposition for that purpose, the only proof of which would be a recognition of the independence of the United States and the withdrawing of his fleets and armies.

This result damaged the interests of Great Britain abroad and of the Ministry at home. While this attempt at negotiation was in progress, General Clinton who had succeeded to the command of the British army, was preparing to evacuate Philadelphia; a measure rendered necessary by the anticipated arrival of a powerful French fleet under Count D'Estaing; the British squadron in those waters not being able to cope with him necessarily left the Delaware open, and as a matter of course endangered the communications of the British army, in any case

Philadelphia was the worst possible strategic position any army uncovered by a fleet could have selected; Washington had to abandon it and Clinton followed his example shewing that neither one or the other knew the value of the true strategical line, on which Burgoyne's army had been sacrificed for want of support the previous autumn. The fact that a larger fleet was not to be found in American waters was due to the exertions of Burke and his conferees, the Ministry being afraid to incur the expense.

A BRAVE CAREER.

Our naval service, as every one knows, teems with records of heroism and self sacrifice. But it is not in the Royal Navy alone that such instances of gallantry are to be found, as the following record will show:—The late Mr. Charles C. Hodgson, chief officer of the Royal Mail screw steamer *Mersey*, began his career as midshipman of the *Queen*, East Indiaman. He then entered the service of the West India Mail Company, and was fourth officer of the *Avon* during the Russian War. In the tremendous hurricane of November, 1854 in which the *Avon* narrowly escaped destruction. Mr. Hodgson, after seeing his own ship safe in harbour, called for volunteers, and in one of the *Avon's* boats went outside, in the teeth of the storm, to render assistance to the perishing crews of other vessels. In 1863, when second officer of the same ship at Colon, he was wrecked in the hurricane of November 22, when, after barely escaping with his life, he volunteered with a boat's crew to board the United States' corvette *Bainbridge*, which had parted from her anchors in the same gale. For this service he was presented by President Lincoln with a magnificent gold chronometer, suitably inscribed, and received a silver medal from the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society. In 1867, while in temporary command of the *Wye*, in the absence of its captain, he encountered the fearful hurricane which devastated St. Thomas and the neighbouring islands. In this emergency Mr. Hodgson had nothing left for it but to slip his cable, and steam full speed for an offing. While performing this difficult task Mr. Hodgson had his arm broken by a spar, the ship's compasses were destroyed by lightning, and she went ashore on Back Island. Mr. Hodgson's life was again preserved, and after severe suffering he returned to England. In September, 1868, he sailed on his last voyage in the *Atrato*, and became chief officer of the *Mersey*. At Barbadoes he was attacked by yellow fever, which cut short his promising career at the age of 33.—*The Times*.

A scheme to marry Eugenio's niece, the Duchess of Alba, to the Prince of Asturias, accounts for the Imperial preferences with respect to the Spanish Crown.

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favourite. The *Civil Service Gazette* remarks:—"The singular success which Mr. Epps attained by his homoeopathic preparation of cocoa has never been surpassed by any experimentalist. By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills." Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold by the Trade only in 4lb., 1lb., and 1lb. tin-lined packets, labelled—JAMES EPPS & CO., Homoeopathic Chemists, London.