

# THE



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### (From the United States Gazette.) BURNING OF THE SIR WALTER SCOTT BY LIGHTNING.

Captain Clarke, of the Sir Walter Scott, arrived in this city on Saturday last, and proceeded yesterday morning to Boston. From his own lips we have received a full account of the burning of this gallant ship, an accident of a more extraordinary kind than has happened in the American seas for a long time past.

The Sir Walter Scott sailed from New Orleans on the 21st of May, with a cargo of 1,794 bales of cotton, 18 seamen, and three passengers, one of them a lady Mrs Hamilton, in a state of domestic solitude. The ship was owned in Boston, was only two years old, and was valued at 22,000 dollars. Her destination was Liverpool.

In coming down the Gulf stream, this vessel encountered a heavy gale from the south-west. The sea was running mountain high. On the morning of the 21st of June, about eight o'clock, in latitude 31 deg 24 min., longitude 75 deg. 43 m., when under double reefed topsails, bearing upon the wind, opposite, or nearly so to Charleston, South Carolina, a heavy peal of thunder broke over the ship. It seemed as if the heavens had been rent in sunder. The Captain and his three passengers were in their cabins. The two boats kept each other's company all that day and the succeeding night. It was still blowing hard. At the peep of dawn next day the captain espied a sail to the leeward. It was immediately determined to send the gig to the vessel in sight, and endeavour to get aboard if possible. Accordingly, a sail was rigged out of an old sack, a mast was raised, and this sail was spread before the wind. "Mate," said the captain, "you must go alone to that vessel, and get on board the best way you can."

"Ay, ay, Sir," said the mate. Away started the gig on the swelling billows before the gale, with the mate at the helm. "What a cheering sight it was," said the captain; "she treaded, Sir, over the billows like the forked lightning itself down the masts of the Sir Walter, now under, now above the waves."

In a short time the gig reached her destination. The vessel proved to be the Saladin, Humphreys. She backed her yards. In another brief space the long-boat appeared; all were taken on board, not forgetting the lady, who in the greatest danger had cheered and animated the men to their task.

Captain Clarke, his crew and passengers were landed at Norfolk. The captain himself had lost every thing on board. He had 15,000 dollars in English coin, but it went all to the bottom. When the people of Norfolk knew their situation, offers were made to raise a subscription, but he refused any aid of that kind. He sold his two boats, and with some private aid, paid all his own expenses, and those of his men, and when he reached New York had just ten dollars in his pocket. These he presented to Mrs. Hamilton.

Captain Clarke, throughout the whole of these horrible scenes, exhibited the highest gallantry and presence of mind. Such a man can provide against all ordinary accidents; but when lightning of heaven itself strikes a ship to the bottom we must all submit in silence.

into the long-boat," shouted the captain. The ship was at this moment rolling tremendously—the flames bursting forth in all directions—her masts tottering to the gale. The lady reached the boat in safety. "Thank God," said the captain. The disabled seamen were placed near her—six others put in the gig. The captain and his mate were the last to leave the deck of the burning ship. All were now in the boats. "Cut adrift—cast off," said the captain. They cut adrift from the burning ship, and pushed out of her wake. "All is lost," said the captain, "but our lives are yet left us. We have another chance to live out the gale." The moment the long-boat and the gig left the burning vessel, her masts fell by the board, the flames burst forth in greater magnificence than ever, the thunder rolled, the lightning still flashed, the sea was roaring around and the two small boats floated over the billows before the wind, and entirely at its mercy.

At last, in about 50 minutes from the first stroke, one long sheet of flame covered the wreck, and the whole gallant fabric of the Sir Walter Scott sank down into the water, and was seen no more. "It's all over with the gallant Sir Walter," said the lady.

The captain, crew and passengers now sailed for the coast. They had little provisions, every thing had been lost, and their prospect was gloomy enough. The two boats kept each other's company all that day and the succeeding night. It was still blowing hard. At the peep of dawn next day the captain espied a sail to the leeward. It was immediately determined to send the gig to the vessel in sight, and endeavour to get aboard if possible. Accordingly, a sail was rigged out of an old sack, a mast was raised, and this sail was spread before the wind. "Mate," said the captain, "you must go alone to that vessel, and get on board the best way you can."

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### RESOLUTIONS OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE, SUGGESTED BY THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CONNEXION.

The present peculiar circumstances of the Connexion having directed the preachers, assembled in this Conference to a careful and solemn consideration of the great work in which they are engaged, they feel it their duty to pledge themselves anew to the principles led down in certain important Resolutions of the Conference held at Liverpool in 1820; but as upwards of three hundred and fifty preachers have been admitted into the Connexion since that period, they deem it proper further to express their views and purposes on points of even more vital consequence than general disciplinary regulations; and therefore resolve unanimously,—

1. That we do again most solemnly and heartily recognize the original purpose of Methodism, "to spread scriptural holiness through the land," as the first and great calling of the whole body and especially of the preachers; and determine in the strength of God, to make this the great rule of all our other designs, and to renounce or subordinate all other plans and pursuits to this our special calling.

2. That since the spread and increase of true godliness in our Societies, and through the world, as far as it may be connected with our instrumentality, depends so greatly upon our maintaining the principles and spirit of our fathers in the ministry, we resolve more than ever to study their character and lives, and to be followers of their faith and conversation; that we may be more thoroughly imbued with the spirit of true Christianity, and more conformed to the scriptural standard of personal holiness; so that by our living as well as by our preaching, we may hold forth the word of life, and rejoice, in the day of Christ, that we have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

3. That as the spirit of the times exposes us, in common with our people, to peculiar excitements and temptations in reference to matters foreign to the exclusive calling of Methodist ministers,—we resolve, in dependence on the grace of God, to keep aloof from all merely party purposes, and from party spirit, and to caution and warn our people against these evils.

4. That we will use our best endeavours to convince of their errors any of our people who may be deluded by the various arts of those who oppose us; and that by every consistent means we will seek the recovery of such as we believe to be the deceived, rather than the deceivers, especially when there is reason to hope that they have not by their general spirit and conduct, rendered themselves unworthy of Christian communion with us.

5. That our conviction is more decided than ever, that those doctrines of Christianity which we consider it our peculiar calling to publish, enforce, and defend, have always been acknowledged of God as his truth, and are the great means of saving sinners, and bringing them into connexion with his church. We are therefore resolved, to be explicit and careful in stating them, and faithful and urgent in their application to the consciences of our hearers. And being aware that the prominence which among preachers has always been properly given to the

doctrine of a present salvation, is evitable to Antinomian abuses, and the under present circumstances, we are peculiarly exposed to certain dangers of that description, we will diligently and evangelically preach the precepts as well as the privileges of the gospel; endeavouring to build up our people in knowledge and in holiness; and urging them especially, to fidelity in family duties, to the religious care of children, and to the cultivation of peace, and of things whereby one may edify another.

6. That under a deep persuasion that the unity, order, purity, edification and good feeling of our Societies, may be greatly promoted by our pastoral intercourse with them, and regretting that that intercourse has not been more sedulously and extensively cultivated, we resolve to give ourselves more fully to this branch of our work; and more especially that we will care for the sick and the poor, and will endeavour to obtain the help of our brethren, in order to secure to our people of every class that affectionate and christian oversight of their spiritual interests, which is so desirable and beneficial.

7. That as we are fully persuaded from our whole history and experience, that the doctrines we hold cannot be preserved and transmitted in their purity, nor the practical efficiency of Methodism in accomplishing its original design be maintained, without the most careful adherence to its whole economy, as left to us, in all its essential features, by our venerable founder, and since modified only according to the urgency of new circumstances; we deliberately resolve, that we will continue to walk by the same rule, and to mind the same thing; that we will ourselves cheerfully submit to those rules and usages which more especially concern ourselves; and that we will conscientiously attend to the faithful administration of that godly discipline which is necessary to purify the church, to protect the weak, and to edify the body of Christ.

Lastly. That we determine by God's gracious assistance, to be more fervent and importunate in supplicating upon ourselves, and upon our officers, societies and congregations, that rich effusion of the Holy Spirit, which is always necessary to the success of the labours of christian ministers and pastors, and which is peculiarly needed at the present time, to prepare both ourselves and our people for the duties, trials, and temptations of the coming year.

The following despatch, dated Algiers Sept. 6, was addressed by Marshal Clausel to the Minister of War, by Telegraph—Abdel Kadir experienced a check near Oran on August 29. The Bey, Ibrahim, and the Douaries fought him bravely.—The fire of our artillery decided his retreat. The enemy's loss was very considerable.

The cholera is very fatal in Italy; all the letters give melancholy accounts of the progress of the disorder. The opinion that it may be averted, by sanitary cordons and the like is still prevalent, and the government are obliged to quiet the people's minds, by adopting such measures, though experience does not confirm their efficacy.

Mr Rae Wilson, adduces as a proof of the length of time during which the vital principle of vegetables may be preserved, the fact that a bulbous root

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