

Extract of a Letter from Rev. William Shaw, dated Graham's Town, June 10, 1819.

I write to you on the 3rd inst. informing you that I had just received intelligence from Port-Natal, of the safe arrival of Mr. Archbell and family, and that the British troops had taken possession of that Port and territory without firing a single shot; the Dutch farmers not having offered any warlike resistance. I am, however, very sorry now to inform you, that the day after the post left this place for Cape-Town, an express arrived from Port-Natal, bringing the most painful intelligence; a war of a bloody and desperate character, (considering the comparative small numbers engaged,) having commenced between the Dutch farmers and the British troops. I send you herewith a copy of the Graham's Town Journal for this week, which contains all the particulars of this unhappy warfare, as far as they have transpired. By this account you will see that the Dutch farmers, having laid an ambush, surprised a detachment of about one hundred of the troops, who were making a movement during the night, in order to be in a commanding position early the next morning. The result was, that one officer and fourteen soldiers were killed, and about thirty were wounded; nearly half of the entire number of the detachment being either killed or wounded. This sad affair will, of course, lead to strong measures on the part of the Colonial Government. Already a party of troops have been sent off from Graham's Town, to embark at Algoa-Bay for Port-Natal; and no doubt General Napier will dispatch a strong force from Cape-Town, as soon as the intelligence reaches him.

Two or three tribes of natives, namely, Ncapai's, Faku's, and a portion of the Amazulu, are burning to revenge upon these infuriated people the wrongs which they consider the Boors to have inflicted upon them. But I shall not be surprised to hear, that they avail themselves of this opportunity of the war betwixt the Dutch and English, to injure the former in every possible way. They regard the English as friends, and wish their established in full power at Natal. But they greatly dislike and distrust the Boors; and, from the treatment many of them have received from the people, it is undeniable that they have good reasons to wish that their power may be curtailed, and that the English may be able to establish a government which shall protect all classes, and put down the lawless and tyrannical despots, who have recently scourged the inhabitants of that country.

Mr. Archbell and family were safe when the express came away, having gone on board one of the vessels which happened at the time to be in the port. Of course his mission is suspended for the present; but I have written to beg that he will remain at Natal as long as any British are there, which I have no doubt he will do, from his own view of the propriety of doing so. When he wrote, many of the Dutch who had invited him to minister amongst them at Natal, were still friendly to the English, and had not joined the insurgents, but, it was said, had used all their influence in the Dutch Council, to prevent war and bloodshed. I have no apprehensions for our Missions in Faku's country or even with Ncapai, but I shall be very anxious till I hear from the Bechuana country. The emigrant Boors have placed themselves in great numbers all round our Stations there; and I am apprehensive, when they hear of the first success of their friends against the British troops they will more than sympathize with them; and should they commence a disturbance in that part of the country, I tremble at the consequences as to our Bechuana Missions. All the mischiefs we are now suffering, and all the evils which have been suffered, by the numerous native tribes in the Bechuana and Natal countries, result from not attending to the earnest representations of every local functionary, as to the great importance of establishing British power at Port Natal. Surely the friends of Africa will now call on the Home Government to throw its shield over this part of the continent, otherwise all will be confusion. Our Missions will be destroyed, and all the native tribes will disappear from the face of the earth.

MISSIONARIES ON THEIR VOYAGE OUT.

The Rev. Messrs. Hardey and Sanderson arrived at Cape-Town on the

2d June, on their way to Madras. Letters have also been received from the Rev. David Cargill, on his voyage to Hobart-Town, and the Rev. Thomas Cryer, on his voyage to Madras, who with their families were quite well.

ARRIVAL OF MISSIONARIES.

FRIENDLY ISLANDS.—On Saturday, the 25th June, the Rev. Charles Tucker and Mrs. Tucker, arrived in London from Tonga.

JAMAICA.—On Wednesday, the 20th of June, Mr. Whitehouse and family arrived from Jamaica.

APPOINTMENT OF MISSIONARIES.

The Rev. Messrs. Hornabrook, Fuller, and Walton, who formerly occupied Stations in the West Indies, have again received appointments to that part of the World; and are expected shortly to embark for their respective Missions. The Rev. Wm. Moss, formerly Missionary in Western Africa, is also appointed to the West Indies; the Rev. Richard Williams is also about to return to New-Brunswick, North America, the scene of his former labours.

The Rev. T. N. T. Hull, recently returned from Malta, is about to take charge of the Gibraltar Mission; the Rev. John Jenkins, recently from India, has embarked for Malta.

In addition to the above two Missionaries are to be sent to Jamaica, and two to Cape Coast, one of them with special reference to Badagry. See "Missionary Notices," December, 1811, p. 611.

[From the Watchman]

DEATH OF THE REV. JOSEPH ORTON, AT SEA, AND OF MR. WYATT, AT CAPE COAST.

We deeply regret to have to announce the death of these valued missionaries. Mr. Orton, in 1823, suffered imprisonment in Jamaica in company with the Rev. Isaac Whitehouse, at a time when the local authorities had determined, that it was a crime to preach the gospel to negroes. His confinement in the common jail of St. Ann's—at that time a most unwholesome prison was very injurious to his constitution, and rendered a change of climate necessary. In 1831, he received an appointment to Australasia, where, for several years, he rendered faithful and acceptable service to the Society. Before his embarkation for his return home from Melbourne, his health had considerably failed; the weather which was encountered off Cape Horn was more than his enfeebled frame could bear, and he sank under his sufferings on the 30th of April. His end was calm and peaceful, and his remains were committed to the deep in full and certain hope of a resurrection to eternal life. His sorrowing widow and seven children have arrived in this country.

Mr. Wyatt proceeded to Cape-Coast as probationer in December last; and his zeal and devotedness encouraged the hope that he would prove very useful to the Africans, in whose welfare he was deeply interested. His career was suddenly cut short. He had safely passed through the seasoning fever, and was supposed to be fast recovering, when he was seized with epilepsy, and died, after a short illness, on the 7th of April last.

Civil Intelligence.

[From the Toronto Herald.]

The Royal Mail Steamship Britannia, Capt. Hewitt, from Liverpool, arrived at Boston, Tuesday morning, 15th instant. She brought 14 passengers from Liverpool to Halifax, 68 from Liverpool to Boston and 12 from Halifax to Boston, altogether 94.

The steamer Caledonia, Capt. Lott, arrived at Liverpool, on the 1st inst.

ADVANCE ON IRON.—We have seen two letters to a merchant in this city, one dated London, the 1st inst., and announcing the advance of 10s. per ton upon bars, rods, hoops, sheets, &c. The other letter, dated September 7th, announces a further decline of 10s., being a total advance of £1 per ton.—York Herald.

Prices have declined for most descriptions of produce, very extensive parcels having been pressed upon the market, both by private contract and public sale—the principal part of the goods, however, have been actually sold.

The unsatisfactory condition of credit

in general, has raised the rate of money accommodation in the discount world to parties who may require it extensively; but in ordinary transactions, we do not believe it can be quoted higher than 2 1/4 to 2 1/2 per cent.

The Indian Mail had not arrived. The Warspite, Captain Lord John Hay, arrived at Spithead on the 23d Sept., bringing home Lord Ashburton.

LOSS OF A RUSSIAN MAN OF WAR.—A Russian ship of the line, a new 74, going from Archangel to the Baltic for her stores, was lost about the middle of September, on the coast of Norway, off Christiansand, with about four hundred men, the greater part of whom are supposed to have been lost.

A decided improvement has taken place in the manufacturing districts of England. Many of the hands have returned to their work, but some of them are still discontented, and are threatening a more formidable strike at a future time.

THE GREAT FIRE.—The fire, whether we regard the calamity in respect to the rapidity with which it spread, its extent, the destruction of property, or the loss of life, is equally certain to excite painful feelings at the present moment, while it will form the subject of a gloomy record in the annals of the town hereafter.

The three principal streets affected, namely Crompton street, Formby street, and Neptune street, are nearly opposite the Borough Jail, run east and west between Great Howard street (in which the prison stands) and Waterloo road, close to the docks. The three streets and their boundaries, east and west, occupy an area of from six to seven acres, and nearly every building within this space has been destroyed. Piles of warehouses and extensive sheds, crammed with costly merchandise, have been suddenly reduced to heaps of heterogeneous and almost valueless matter. There have been destroyed 45,908 bales of cotton, 250 casks of tallow, 8,000 barrels of turpentine, 800 casks of flour, 60 tons of cod oil, rice and sugar, the cargo of the ship Bland from Calcutta, besides unknown quantities of flour, India Rubber, sperm oil, tallow, bark, Indian corn, suttic, and other foreign produce.

But it is impossible to form any thing like an accurate estimate of the total loss entailed by this disastrous event. The opinions hazarded on this subject have been various, the greatest amount being 700,000 and the least £400,000. Perhaps a mean between these two sums, which would give £550,000, may be near the mark.

It is now our painful duty to speak of the casualties which occurred at the fire, which were, as usual in such cases, greatly exaggerated by the tongue of rumour. Taking them at the best, however, they have been tearfully great, and the loss of life has been deplorable.

Of those buried beneath the fallen ruins it is impossible to form any correct notion. The prevalent opinion amongst those employed at the fire, from the commencement, was, that not less than eighteen or twenty had been thus destroyed. We hope, however, that this is an exaggerated notion, for in the confusion attendant on accidents so fearful, nothing could be known with certainty.

Hodson, an active officer, was buried beneath the walls of a warehouse. Another man was killed instantaneously by falling walls. One laborer had his head almost severed from his body; and another his thigh cut in two. Several of those who were but slightly hurt were at once conveyed home. Those who sustained more severe injuries were carried to the Northern Hospital. In the course of Friday, 25 persons were received at the latter place, of whom 9 were police men, and the other 16 laborers. The deaths reported from the hospital are 3.

Several of the Chartis leaders, including Feargus O'Connor, have been arrested on a charge of conspiring to promote sedition.

The Queen has discontinued riding on horse-back, which makes people think that family causes, as I hinted in a former letter, are in operation.

The Baroness Lehzen has at length been sent away. She trudges back to Germany at once. Prince Albert has the credit of this, and every one is glad of it, as she was a low, vulgar, meddling intrigante.

Baron Stockmar, another of the German gens, leaves England immediately, and forever. He and the Princess Lehzen were doing all they could to keep the Queen in a state of pupillage. But the attempt has been foiled by the Prince.

FRANCE.—The Paris Commerce asserts, on the authority of a Washington correspondent, that immediately after the conclusion of the late treaty with Great Britain, the American Cabinet had addressed to the French Minister a note, declaring that, although the union was willing to co-operate with all the powers to enforce upon American citizens the strict observance of its laws against the slave trade, "at no period, and on no account, would it ever permit a foreign nation to exercise a right of Sovereignty on board American vessels."

It would appear that the French government, confident of the maintenance of peace, contemplates immense reductions in the land forces of France.

RUSSIA.—The news from Circassia and Daghestan continued to be unfavorable to the Russian arms.

A letter from St. Petersburg, dated Sept. 10, says:—We have received here the melancholy news that the greater part of the city of Kasan has been destroyed by fire. It is stated that 1,300 houses (40 of which were of stone,) 12 churches, the extensive magazine, and the university, are reduced to ashes. The details have not yet come to hand.

THE EAST.—Accounts from Constantinople of the 7th ultimo, are given in the Augsburg Gazette of the 22d ult. They state that a collision had taken place between the Maronites and Druses, in which lives were lost on both sides, and that the Pasha had been obliged to interfere. According to the same letter a camp of 20,000 or 25,000 men was to be formed near Malatin, and fresh reinforcements had been sent to Erzeroum.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

A complete Roman dwelling, apparently belonging to a family in the middle ranks of life, has just been excavated in the Loggia Wood, near Chateau-Guillari, by the Abbe Cocket. The flooring, pillars, ornamented ceiling, &c., are in a perfect state of preservation. . . . The largest sheet of glass in the world has just been finished by the Thames Plate Glass Company, at Poplar. It is fourteen feet eight inches long, by eight and a half feet wide, and will, no doubt, be placed in some public building, as there are few private residences in this country where it could be fixed.

On Friday night week, an extensive fire occurred in Exeter which, in a short space of time, burned down a spacious warehouse in the occupation of Messrs. Hall and Parrott, wholesale grocers, situate in Water-beer street. The extent of property destroyed is calculated at £300,000. . . . The cotton factory of Messrs. Lockwood and Thornton, Blackfriars-street, Salford, has been destroyed by fire. The mill, machinery, and stock, were insured for the sum of 12,500l., and this will probably cover the whole of the loss. . . . The object of the Rt. Hon. Henry Ellis' mission to the Court of the Emperor of Brazil, is the conclusion of a new treaty of commerce with Brazil, and the negotiation of stipulations for the more effectual suppression of the Brazilian slave trade. . . . There has been expended, in strikes of late years among the Glasgow cotton spinners 47,000l.; the Manchester cotton spinners 370,000; and the wool-combers 400,000l.; Leeds mechanics 187,000l. The late strike in and about Manchester has probably cost as much as all these put together.

The Gazette of Friday announces that the Rev. Dr. Parry has been appointed Bishop of Barbadoes; Rev. Dr. Daniel Gateward Davis, Bishop of Antigua; Rev. Dr. Wm. Pterey Austin, Bishop of Guiana; Rev. Dr. George Tomlinson, Bishop of Gibraltar; the Rev. Dr. Francis Russell Nixon, Bishop of Tasmania (Australia). . . . The will of the late T. N. Longman, Esq. of the firm of Rees, Orme, and Co., the well known booksellers of Paternoster-row has been proved, by the executors, in the Prerogative Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury, in Doctors' Commons. The personal property of the deceased has been sworn under the value of 200,000l., which is principally left to his widow and family. . . . A new break has been invented by Mr. Thornton, civil engineer, and of the late contractors of the London and Brighton Railway. The expe-