

THE CAPTURE OF THE VIXEN.

The following letter was received yesterday by the owners, from the captain of the Vixen, announcing the condemnation of that vessel as a legal prize to the Russian government:—

Odessa, Feb. 23, 1837.

"Gentlemen,—Since my last, under the 17th January last, I have not had an opportunity of addressing you, and therefore embrace the present. On the 25th January, the admiral sent us the *Morning Chronicle* of the 20th December, in which it is stated that the cargo of the Vixen was chiefly composed of gunpowder, and this appears to me to be the leading cause of the capture and condemnation of the schooner. On the following day I was verbally told by the admiral that she was a legal prize to the Russian government, the Russian flag was hoisted, and that his Imperial Majesty most graciously pardoned myself and crew, as being ignorant of the vessel having gunpowder on board, and allowed us to take out of the Vixen all our private effects. On the 28th we were ordered to board the Russian brig Ajax, with all our private property; this was a trying moment for me, thus to be torn from the command of a favourite schooner. I had no alternative but to submit to this cruel persecution and insult, and without being allowed to go on shore was transported in the Ajax on the 29th from Sebastopol to Odessa. We have been above 50 days prisoners, and must be so during the pleasure of our captors. After the Ajax had been knocking about most lubberly for eleven days, she was obliged to put back to Sebastopol, during which time she ran ashore, and was detained four hours. Mr Bell, Mr Morton and myself, were then informed we might, if we thought proper, proceed by land at the expense of the Russian government; to which Mr Morton would not consent, but preferred waiting till the ports were open. Mr Bell and myself, however, agreed to travel by land, and on the 14th February commenced the dreadful journey, and reached Odessa on the 20th at midnight. On the following morning I waited on Count Wareszoff, and was informed by him we should be made comfortable till we could be sent to Constantinople, and for the present must return to our lodgings, and he would send to us. Shortly after this interview the officers of police called upon us and ordered us to another hotel close to the police guard house, with orders to make our rooms agreeable, and that the governor had most generously allowed Mr Bell and myself each five rubles per day, and two rubles for the servant for provisions. I have called on Mr Yeans, H.B.M. Consul. Count Wareszoff has acquainted me that his Imperial Majesty has extended his indulgence by sending us to Constantinople! I have therefore desired the Consul to inform his Excellency that I am a British subject, and no Mussulman, but have not received any reply. This morning (Feb. 23), a Mr Carruthers came to us from the police, and demanded a document binding ourselves not to attempt going any where without the knowledge of the police; we replied, he must give us this demand in writing, which was refused. The captain of police came and told us that if we did not furnish him with such documents as were demanded, he would immediately place sentinels at our doors; therefore, under the circumstances, we were compelled to accede. There is a risk of this reaching you, for we are strictly observed; go where we will, there is somebody in our track or wake. Yesterday my heart was a little relieved by a sight of *Gleaner's Messenger* of the 1st, 23, and 31 instant, in which I saw your letter, and also that some stir was making respecting this illegal business. I hope this harbour will be open in the course of another week. We shall be sent to Constantinople; and so soon as Mr Morton joins us, we shall make the best of our way to England.

"Trusting you are perfectly satisfied with my conduct, and that I have done my duty, I remain, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

(Signed)
"T. T. CHILDS."

THE APPROACHING CONSERVATIVE FESTIVAL IN MARYLEBONE.—The demonstration of conservative feeling in this radical borough is likely to be attended by some of our most distinguished noblemen and statesmen. Although a local affair, being the anniversary of the loyal and constitutional association, the meeting will be very numerous. The interest felt by the respectable tradespeople in the prosperity of the institution, is evinced by the important fact, that within seven days from the commencement of the arrangements, 100 individuals of various classes enrolled their names as stewards with the extra contributions to meet the requisite expenses. The proprietor of the Colosseum spares neither trouble nor expense in giving brilliancy to the arrangements. By the way, we believe that Mr Braham is the chief or sole proprietor, and if so, it is enough to ensure every thing that is magnificent. We are informed that the stewards have used endeavours to accom-

modate the numerous applicants for tickets; the difficulty was to secure within the borough a place sufficiently large for the occasion, and even at the Colosseum more space is required. The very elegant saloon at the end of the room, appropriated for the festival, is to be set apart for the ladies.

(From the Liverpool Mail.)

The impudence of the radicals is notorious, but the effrontery of the Westminster radicals is actually without parallel. They are satisfied with the services of De Lacy Evans in Spain, and have patiently submitted to his prolonged absence, but they cannot submit to the occasional absence of Sir Francis Burdett, whom they have, for so many years, forced into parliament. The hon. baronet was once as outrageous as any of them, but time and experience have sobered down the "patriotism" which, some years since, made him a martyr for the mob. Ultra as were his opinions, he could not, and did not, forget that he was a gentleman by birth, education, and fortune; and because he has not stooped to flatter the electors of Westminster, the faction who misgovern that borough have thought fit to call him to account for his conduct at various times. We venture to say that Sir Francis Burdett's attachment to his country is as warm now as it ever was; the times have changed, and not the man—circumstances have altered the actions of public men, but have left the principles of the senior member for Westminster the same as they ever were. It is audacious impudence for his constituents to attack him, because he declines following, as a disciple of revolution, in the wake of O'Connell and the other mendicants of Ireland.

The electors of Westminster—that is, a few of them who make bad speeches, and scribble worse newspaper paragraphs—have taken the trouble of asking Sir F. Burdett what he thought of the ministerial measures. His reply was short and pithy—he wholly disliked them! This answer was deemed unsatisfactory, and a second letter was written. The reply is to the purpose, for it completely fixes the actual character of the present cabinet measures:—

"I can, therefore, only repeat my entire disapprobation of them, and of the whole system of ministerial policy, both foreign and domestic; that the measures now before parliament are ill concocted, unjust in principle, feebly sustained, and mischievous to the public."

As an English gentleman of the first rank, Sir F. Burdett had no alternative but, when the question was pressed, to give his real opinion. It is decisive. The oldest radical reformer in the country—one who has suffered, in person and in purse, for his opinions—unmasks the mock reformers of the cabinet. He distinctly declares that he disapproves of their policy, foreign and domestic, considering their measures to be "ILL CONCOCTED, UNJUST IN PRINCIPLE, FEEBLY SUSTAINED, AND MISCHIEVOUS TO THE PUBLIC." This opinion is precisely what the people of England entertain. Sir F. Burdett has written a character of the ministry which millions feel to be a just one. It must be noted, also, that this is the deliberate verdict against the cabinet of incapables and destructives which an avowed Reformer finds himself compelled to give!

It came out, at a meeting on Wednesday, that the first letter which Sir F. Burdett had written contained the following declaration:—

"I am sorry to say that, in my opinion, no ministry in this country, ever stood in a situation more humiliating and disgraceful than the present."

The Westminster electors object to this opinion. The question is this—is it true or untrue? If it be untrue, let its falsehood be proven; but if it be true—and true it is—how lamentably deficient, even in common decency—are the ministry! They are laughed at throughout Europe for their wilful as well as their ignorant blunders, and cling to their places apparently without one thought except as to how they can rub on from quarter-day to quarter-day, and provide for their needy relatives and connexions out of the public purse. They have fallen so low in public estimation, that, at length, they cannot fall lower. But a few weeks will witness their dismissal from that situation in which they have effected more to disgrace and injure England than her bitterest enemies could do, if their aims and wishes were successful. They will leave office, and few will regret them. Honest men must rejoice at their total wreck.

The *Philadelphia Commercial Herald* of February 23, gives the following *on dit* relative to the affairs of Texas:—

"A rumour, important, if true, is in circulation to-day. A treaty is said to have been concluded with General Santa Anna, as president of Mexico, while he was here, for the recognition of the independence of Texas, and the cession of that territory, with the assent of Texas, to the United States, upon certain conditions.

"Upon making some inquiry, I have ascertained, from an authentic source, that

rumour represents facts this time, and that the following are the terms of the treaty:—

"The independence of Texas is to be acknowledged both by the United States and by Mexico. The boundary between the United States and Mexico is to be the Rio del Norte. The United States, on their part, assume the payment of the claims of our citizens upon Mexico—estimated at two millions. They also pay Mexico the sum of three millions; and, thirdly, they agree to allow grants of lands in Texas made by Mexico, in all cases where the conditions of the said grants have been complied with, and to make a *pro rata* allowance to such grantees as have in part complied with the said conditions.

"Texas, of course, is a party to the whole arrangement. If Santa Anna should succeed in resuming his power in Mexico, this treaty will be carried into effect. The senate will be convened for the special purpose of submitting this treaty to them."

DEATH OF THE MARQUIS OF BATH.—The death of the Marquis of Bath, took place on Monday in Lower Grosvenor-street. His Lordship had been for some time seriously indisposed with the dropsy, but his death was rather unexpected. His lordship was in his 73d year, having been born Jan. 25, 1765; he married in 1794, the Hon. Isabella Elizabeth Byng, third daughter of the fourth Viscount Torrington, by whom (who died in May, 1830) he has left a numerous issue. Lady Elizabeth, his eldest daughter is Countess of Cawdor, and Lady Charlotte Anne, born in 1811, is Duchess of Buccleuch; another daughter, Lady Louisa, is married to the Hon. Henry Lascelles, second son of the Earl of Harewood. The late Lord Weymouth, the Marquis's eldest son, was long estranged from his family; he died a few months since, but leaving no issue.—The title and estates now devolve on Lord Henry Frederick Thynne, who is a captain in the Navy, and married to the Hon. Harriet Baring, daughter of Lord Ashburton; their eldest child John Alexander, now Viscount Weymouth, was born March 1, 1831. The present Marquis has four brothers—Lord John, William, Edward, and Charles Thynne.—The family name is Botteville; and John Botteville, however, got the name of John of the Inne, from residing in one of the inns of court, whence the aristocratic name of Thynne. By the death of the late Marquis, ministers have at their disposal a ribbon of the Garter and the Lord Lieutenantship of the county of Somerset, both of which will be given to the supporters of reform principles.

DEATH OF MRS. FITZHERBERT.—This lady, whose death has for some considerable time been declared, died on Monday night, at ten minutes past seven o'clock, at her mansion on the Strand, Brighton, in the 93d year of her age. For some years Mrs. Fitzherbert has not joined many parties, but has received visits from all our leading fashionables. This much respected lady had lately been subject to an asthmatic oppression on the chest, which increased to an alarming degree by the effects of influenza. Mrs. Fitzherbert, who was Miss Smythe, was first married to the late Mr. Weid, of Lulworth Castle, a brother of the Cardinal Weld. To the last she retained traces of her former celebrated beauty of appearance.

LONDON, MARCH 31.—Madrid papers and letters to the night of the 21st give no account of the state of feeling in the capital at the failure of Military operations in the north.

The deputy Lujan writes to the War Minister from Bayona, on the 17th:—

"Yesterday morning the firing commenced at 7 o'clock, the enemy being repulsed to the plains of Herpan. At 11 o'clock, at the moment when the General gave orders to attack the village, the enemy received a reinforcement of eight battalions and three pieces of artillery. With these, and the forces already at their disposition, they attacked our two wings vigorously. On the right they drove in the guerillas, who fell back on the regiment of the British Royal Marnes, which opened its fire. The enemy was repulsed, but in the movement of attack a company of the Oviedo regiment was abandoned in a house, and compelled to surrender. On our left, affairs did not go on so well. Three of the enemy's battalions passed the bridge of Astigarraga, and attacked the extremity of the wing. The 1st battalion of the Legion retreated suddenly. Those of Castile followed its example; and from that moment confusion gained amongst the soldiers. The enemy profited by it to push the attack, and it became impossible to preserve the positions won the day before. But efforts were redoubled, and resistance sufficiently prolonged to enable us to carry off the artillery and wounded, blow up the fort of the Venta, spike two guns, and retreat into the lines held on the morning of the 15th.—Our loss is considerable in killed, but the wounded amount to 800, besides the company taken prisoners, amounting to 60 or 80 men.

General Evans is busy re-organizing the regiments. The soldier will soon recover his ardour, especially as we learn that Gen-

Espartero has passed El Orria and Villafranca. I proceed to Pamplona inform Saarg-field of the event, and prevent his exposing himself to a check.

FRANCISCO DE LUJAN.

St. SEBASTIAN, March 24.—Colonel de Lancey, late Commander of the 1st regiment, died the evening before last. He is to be interred with military honours to-morrow.—Captain Fielding, of the Rifles, and Lieut. Muster, of the 4th regt., have died of their wounds received on the 15th and 16th. In the late affair with General Evans, the colours of his 9th regiment remained with the Carlists.

The following extracts are from the "*Jamaica Conservative*":—

We regret to learn by the arrival of the packet, that an insurrection had taken place in Haiti,—about thirty-eight hours previous to the packet leaving Jacmel. It occurred first at the North side of the Island at Fort Catherine, by the revolt of a Colonel who took possession of the arsenal, from which place he was driven by the Militia, and he took refuge in the woods, in which place he has been joined by several holding high military rank, and the most serious consequences are anticipated.

"It is reported that as soon as Commodore Peyton arrived at Carthagea, General Santander visited him on board, and stated that he was authorised to treat for the settlement of the matter in dispute. "So am I," replied the Commodore, "but you are authorised to deliver up Russell." "No I am not," said the General. "Then," continued the Commodore, "you may get in your boat and go on shore, and the moment you land this port and the whole coast of New Grenada will be in a state of blockade; but stop! let us have a drink together before you go—it may be a long time before we have another. My orders are only to keep your coast in a state of strict blockade—but if you fire a gun, I'll blow your town to pieces." The belligerents then had their drink and the General departed."

A mail from Jamaica, which left on the 14th Feb., brings advices of the settlement of the dispute between England and New Grenada, in every respect to the satisfaction of Englishmen. The information was conveyed to the Mayor of Kingston, in a letter from Admiral Sir Peter Haller, dated at Sea, Feb. 3d, the day after he had left Jamaica for Carthagea, Sir Peter having fallen in with the *Wendelker*, sloop of war, which gave him information that M. Pro Consul Russell was released, and on board Commander Sir John Peyton's ship the *Madagascar*, which ship was in the harbour of Carthagea, and the release of which functionary embraced the whole gist of the dispute. The "*Jamaica Conservative*" subsequently asserts that Mr. Russell has received 5000 dollars for the insult offered to him, and that the New Grenadian Government had dismissed the officers who were the cause of his imprisonment; Paredes and Diaz, who wounded Mr. Russell are said to be sentenced to prison for six months. The British Flag was re-hoisted at the Consulate, under a salute from the batteries on shore, which compliment was returned by a salute from the *Madagascar*. Commodore Peyton has issued a notice, that the blockade of the Coasts of New Grenada was at an end. Mr. Turner, the Consul at Panama, (and not Mr. Turner, the Envoy at Bogota), was dead.

Advices have been received to-day from the Cape of Good Hope to the 8th January. The affairs of the frontier appear to wear a more favourable appearance. A meeting of the Caffre chiefs had been held in King William's Town, for the purpose of taking more effectual measures to secure the future tranquillity of their own country, and of the colony. Many of the chiefs addressed the meeting, and it was unanimously agreed among them that no past aggression on either side should in future be agitated at the councils. In order to enable the Caffre chiefs freely to discuss measures for future security, the Lieutenant-Governor issued a proclamation absolving them from their allegiance. In the discussion of a new treaty which they had under consideration at this meeting, complaints were made of the patrol system, and fears were expressed by them that the King of England would attribute the crimes of natives, who were not attached to any particular tribe, to a desire on the part of the Caffres to break faith. The treaties having been previously prepared in the English and Caffre language, were signed by each chief, in the presence of a numerous meeting. The meeting ended very satisfactorily. "The colonists," observes a communication, "should, therefore, now cooperate, and forsake the doctrine that peace can only be maintained by the bullet. Advance education and commerce among the Caffres, and at no distant period a rich harvest and permanent tranquillity will be the reward." The forts are all demolished in Caffraria, and the head-quarters of the 75th, with Colonel England, were about to leave the frontier. A frontier order had been issued at Fort Willshire, explaining the new system for governing the frontier, and which, if it had been adopted some years