

DESTRUCTIVE HURRICANE IN THE WEST INDIES

(From the *Dominica Observer*, Sept. 24.)

We return our acknowledgements to ALMIGHTY GOD for his inestimable goodness in having this day allowed us to resume our labours to record a partial statement of the baleful effects of the storm of Saturday night; we say partial, for to portray to the distant readers a correct picture of the dismal scene which Dominica presents, is a task which bids defiance to our pen; and paralyses the power of description. We scarcely turn our eye to any part of the town, but the mass of ruins that cover each street bespeaks the appalling misery of Dominica, which has never been equalled since the fatal hurricanes of 1813.

The unsettled state of the atmosphere for some days preceding Saturday, and which greatly increased on the evening of that day led us to anticipate rather unpleasant weather, to which we are not unaccustomed at this season of the year, but it was impossible for human foresight to divine the impending danger which so immediately threatened us, or to predict the distressing tale of woe which we are now called upon to tell.—From about six o'clock in the evening the rain commenced to pour down in heavy showers, accompanied at intervals with smart gusts of wind, shifting occasionally from the North to the South until near 11, when the rain gradually subsided, but the wind continued to increase to an alarming degree, and must have done some damage during this time. At about midnight a dead calm ensued, and the weather appeared to be so far abated as to encourage sanguine expectations that we were once more safe; but alas! it was but a visionary dream! the too often excited anger of the Most High—the invoked displeasure of the most indulgent of FATHERS could not be thus easily appeased! The storm had ceased only to receive fresh vigour; in about quarter of an hour after the wind raged in every direction, and ere the clock had struck the hour of one, the work of devastation was completed; it was then and not till then—shall we record the sorrowful fact that perhaps many of us thought of the duty which we owed to Him whose commands we were a little before, mocking with scorn. How many souls had they been at that moment summoned from their earthly seats to appear before Heaven's solemn tribunal to answer for their past deeds, and unable to give a faithful account of their stewardships, must have been doomed to receive the dreadful sentence—"Go, ye cursed of my Father into everlasting hell fire prepared for you, by the devil and his angels." Let us however proceed. The lofty cocoa nut and other trees, the strongest of which the country could boast, unable any longer to bend under the huge force of the mighty winds, tossed to and fro like the wither, and snapped in two, or sprung from the earth with terrific noise—the smaller houses in the town, no longer capable to withstand the raging blast, were soon measured on the ground, every building on the garrison, has either been crushed to ruins, or has suffered considerably. The spacious hospital lately built on an improved plan, has been partly unroofed, and the Barrack-master's and Adjutants offices have been entirely destroyed, and it was with great difficulty that the troops escaped without loss of life. The left side of the Government House was blown down, and the other parts of the building partially damaged.—The office of the Auxiliary Commissioners of Compensation adjoining those premises has been materially injured, and a great many of their original documents destroyed. The new Commissariat building—the Customhouse—the Courthouse—Markethouse—the Gaol and the Protestant church and almost every other building in town has suffered considerable injury from the effects of the hurricane.—The mercantile houses of Messrs. Thomas Laing and Co., Messrs. James Garraway and Co., and T. W. Doyle Esq., on account of their proximity to the sea have also experienced heavy losses.

To detail more minutely the effects of the hurricane, is almost too tedious to go through, but from the above statement the reader may conceive an idea of the situation to which the island is reduced. Every hope is now centred in the Legislature, who we are confident, will not fail to exert every endeavour to afford us what relief they can; as some of the measures necessary to attain that end we should wish that the Executive could concur in the propriety of declaring the port free, and if possible that the Customhouse duties should be lessened for the present, not losing sight at the same time of that burdensome impost—the tonnage duty.

The following proclamation has been issued by the Governor of the Colony in consequence of this awful calamity:—

PROCLAMATION.

"Whereas it hath pleased Almighty God to visit this island with a most awful and disastrous hurricane, whereby the house and other buildings, plantations and estates, the provision grounds and almost every spe-

cies of property of all classes of his Majesty's subjects have in many cases been totally destroyed, and in all materially and ruinously injured; and in order to avert as much as possible the evils of famine and despair, and to enable the inhabitants to erect anew and repair their houses, buildings, and works, I hereby do by virtue of the power vested in me and by and with the advice of his Majesty's Council permit and authorise the importation into this island, in the vessels of all nations, duty and tonnage free of the following articles, the growth, produce, or manufacture of any foreign country whatsoever—that is to say flour, shingles of all descriptions, staves of all descriptions, pitch, white and yellow pine lumber, lumber of all other descriptions, wood hoops, beef, pork, and all species of salted dried and pickled fish; such importation to be permitted for the period of six months, from the date hereof.—By his Excellency's command, (Signed)

"HOWARD LLOYD,  
Lieut. Governor's Secretary.  
"Duly proclaimed in the town of Roseau this 27th day of September, 1834.  
"HENRY NISBET, Pro. Mar. Gen."

(From the *Morning Herald*, Nov. 11.)

If anything could open the eyes of Louis Philip to the madness of the course he is pursuing, it would be thought that the final resignation of those ministers who had driven Marshal Gerard from the Cabinet on the grounds of their inability to form an Administration would have the desired effect.—We confess however, we have but small hopes of the "Citizen king"; he has hitherto shown how little he is taught by experience, and has only convinced the world, that he is a genuine scion of the house of Bourbon.

That the amnesty, the refusal to grant which is now the unquestionable cause of Marshal Gerard's resignation, and of the subsequent dissolution of the Ministry will be granted, after some preliminary trial, is now considered certain; but it is almost superfluous to observe that as to Louis Philip or his Government deriving the benefit which might have been expected from such a measure as an act of royal grace or clemency is now wholly out of the question.—Too clearly has it been exhibited to the world, that this concession, if it can properly be so termed, has been wrung from him, by the most stern and inevitable necessity.

It may now, however, be considered as settled that whoever may be the nominal head of the French Ministry, there will be nothing more than a re-construction of the materials which formed the late Administration, on which our Paris correspondent observes, "the new Government will be rather milder and more respectable than the last." How easily may this prediction be verified and how very small an addition of honourable feeling will justify the use of the term more respectable: for, as has been observed both by Lord Durham and the QUARTERLY REVIEW on this head, have ever such shameless inconsistency in their principles and such gross jobbing in their practice been exhibited to the world by any set of men as have been by the present *Doctrinaires* and *Juste milieu* of France? That there is wanting in France an able and independent body of men, and such an influential and honourable House of Peers, is acknowledged by all who are acquainted with the present class of men in power in that country. Too many of them we regret to say, are persons of small means—we had almost gone on to say of as small character—who, having taken advantage of every convulsion or disturbance in the State have raised themselves to power and importance on the shoulders of the people, and having so done have turned traitors and apostates to the good cause. Another large party calling itself the *centre* is clearly too ready to support "the powers that be," of whatever shade of feeling they may profess; while the ultra-Liberal party are far too exorbitant in their demands, and are far too much inclined to Republicanism (to say nothing of their many personal disqualifications,) to render any service to their country.

The present state of things in France, we need hardly state, we consider to be most unsatisfactory. We are told however, we perceive by some persons that the people of France do not appear to consider what is now passing of any importance; and that there never was a greater calm amidst the political circles. But do such persons forget that a calm too often precedes a storm? or may not this apparent indifference arise from the hopelessness of any beneficial change emanating from Louis Philip? or may it not be attributed to a deeper brooding over and a more fixed and steady meditation upon their wrongs than formerly characterized Frenchmen? That this is the case with a very large and enlightened body of persons in that country we know—men, be it observed, who are no revolutionists or wild promoters of republicanism; but who are the enlightened and steady friends of good government, rational religion, and civil

liberty throughout the world. That we expected with these persons, that on the expulsion of Charles X. from the throne, the opportunity of forming a good government would have been taken advantage of by France, we admit. That we have been most completely and lamentably disappointed in that expectation we candidly confess; and we have no hesitation in adding, that when we see such a person as Louis Philip on the throne, and in addition, find him surrounded by persons who, under pretence of contributing their aid to the preservation of tranquility and good order, are, in fact, rendering themselves subservient to the arbitrary designs and caprices of their Sovereign, too often we suspect for the mere purposes of selfish and personal aggrandizement, we have small hope of the effectiveness or of the stability of such a Government.

PORTUGAL.

FALMOUTH, Nov. 4.

His Majesty's brig *Espoir*, Lieut. Riley, arrived to-day from Lisbon, after a lengthened passage of 19 days, occasioned by a prevalence of N.E. and easterly winds. She left on the 19th ult., at that time affairs were tranquil, but the reported successes of Don Carlos in Spain, had cast a degree of gloom over the well wishers of the present Government. The Cortes continued their sittings but were doing little. The liberty of the press had not then been conceded to the people but the grant was still expected. Admiral Napier having received the amount due to him by the Government, was on the eve of proceeding to England, it is expected he will arrive here in the *Nautilus*. The honours and titles conferred on him by Don Pedro he had thought proper to return on quitting the service—an act, on his part which was by no means liked. The Duke of Leuchtenburgh's arrival, was looked forward to.—The *Espoir* brings on freight 10,000 seve-reigns. She left in the Tagus his Majesty's ships *Hastings*, *Stag*, *Castor*, and *Nautilus*! The *Revenge* had left for the Mediterranean.

LISBON, Oct. 18.

Referring to my last of the 11th and 12th per *Viper* and *Soho*, I now beg leave to inform you that Baron Mortier, the French Ambassador, embarked last Sunday in the most private manner, on board the *Soho* steamer, neither the Portuguese nor English ships of war saluting him; nay not even the only vessel of war belonging to his own nation, at present in the river Tagus the *Cuirassier* brig, fired a signal gun, according to the courtesy usually shown to diplomatists of his high rank, nor can this have arisen from ignorance, as the Capt. of H. M. S. *Hastings* was on board the steamer, and took leave of his Excellency, some hours before he departed—so that there would have been plenty of time to fire salutes according to the established etiquette. The fact is, and it would be useless to mince the matter, or attempt to palliate it, that the French Government is sorely vexed at the Queen's intended marriage with the Duke of Leuchtenburgh. Louis Philip having the mania to seat his children upon legitimate thrones, manifests his royal ire by withdrawing his Ambassador, and leaving only a Charge d'Affaires at the Court of the Queen of Portugal, his ally, for it is much doubted that Baron Mortier will speedily return. As the interests of France and the balance of power require a close alliance between the four constitutional kingdoms of the south-west of Europe, he dare not make this family disappointment the subject of a national quarrel; there is no fear of his going to any greater lengths at present. The French Ambassador did not observe the Court etiquette, or, in fact, the usages of society, by wearing mourning, but appeared upon deck in a green coat and mixed coloured trousers, which, in the streets of Lisbon, would have been taken very ill, so shortly after Don Pedro's death.

On Monday a Russian steamer, bound to the *Lavant*, put in here. That Power is understood to have sent a large naval force to the Mediterranean, and H. M. S. *Revenge*, 74, is under sailing orders for Malta.

But to return to the Queen. Distinguished individuals, who have no occasion to bow to the rising sun, assert that her Most Faithful Majesty has exhibited during her short reign powers of mind which no one suspected her to possess, she having been always overawed by her father's presence, who, with all his kind-heartedness, had military sternness of manners about him by no means calculated to make the young Queen unbend before strangers. When the Cortes wished the selection of a Royal Consort to be confined to the reigning Sovereign families of Europe, M. Freire wanted a definition of the word, as in countries where the Salic law is in force the descendants of Royalty, through the female line, were excluded, having obviously the Duke of L. in his eye, who, but for the opposition of France, would have been elected King of Belgium before Prince Leopold. The number of Princes being very small, a Neapolitan would have been more acceptable to the Queen of Spain and other Courts; but England, of course, wants no Bourbon on the throne of Portugal; be-

ides, Neapolitan and Austrian sprigs of Royalty, educated in the principles of legitimacy and right Divine, would not have suited the meridian of this constitutional country; whilst the Duke of Leuchtenburgh has seen in the Napoleon dynasty enough to warn him against the pernicious consequences of despotism, and is said to be a man of high honour. France may grumble, but as Portugal does not adjoin her, like Belgium, she cannot make any reasonable objections on the ground of family disappointments. Besides, the Duke of Orleans not being married, his younger brother might succeed to the French throne, in case of his demise, and would, therefore, be doubly abjectionable.

FALMOUTH, Nov. 8.

At four, p. m. H.M. steamer *Confiance* arrived here from Lisbon after only four days passage having left on Tuesday at the above hour. Admiral Napier came passenger—there is little news which can prove of interest. The Duke of Palmella's case was decided on the 3d inst, in his favour by a majority of 11 votes, namely 53 to 42. The talent of the Chamber was on the side of the Opposition; the public are represented to be much against him. Pizarro, who had undergone his trial and been acquitted, has severely exposed the Government, so much so, that it is stated the Ministerial Papers dare not make allusion to the nature of the accusation. The falsehood propagated of Miguel's entrance into Spain has excited much indignation amongst the Constitutionalists. Preparation is at last making for the reception of the Duke de Leuchtenburgh; all parties appear anxious for his speedy arrival and union with her Majesty. The ships of war remain as usual.

RESISTANCE TO PAYMENT OF DEBTS.—Patrick Griffin, Sheriff's bailiff, proceeded to Clashmore from Dunganon, on the 29th Oct., to serve a writ on Laurence Dennehy, of the former place, for the recovery of the sum of £13 18s. 6d. for goods sold to him by Mr. Hayes, of this city. When Griffin was near Clashmore he was attacked by about 50 persons, principally women, who are now put foremost, and who beat the man in a most desperate manner, and took from him the writ and copy. They broke two of the poor fellow's ribs and gave him a pair of black eyes, and then left him on the road. He was afterwards taken up, being unable to walk, and carried on a cart into Dunganon. In fact, there cannot be served any process of law in that part of the county now without imminent risk of the life of the unfortunate persons who may so happen to be employed.—The day previous a man of the name of Hackett, a process-server, who had been engaged on a similar mission, had nearly met a desperate death.—*Waterford Mail*.

DUBLIN, Nov. 3.—A letter from Templemore, county Tipperary, relates an unsuccessful attempt at murder on the night of Thursday last, in that neighbourhood. As Mr. Carden, of Barnane, a relative of the Baronet of that name, was returning to his residence, he was waylaid by some ruffians, who fired at him. The horse upon which he rode was wounded, but Mr. Carden fortunately escaped uninjured. This is the third time his life has been attempted. One of the letters I have seen, in accounting for these repeated attacks upon him, mentions that some of his tenantry have been ejected; but whether the fact is so or not I am unable to state of my own knowledge.

The accounts from various parts of the country mention that serious apprehensions are entertained of a very turbulent winter, in consequence of the measure about to be adopted for the recovery of tithes, no matter whether by the landlords or the Clergy, who, it is stated, are about to proceed simultaneously in the Court of Exchequer. If the Legislature do not speedily interfere to settle the question finally and peaceably, the country is once more likely to be convulsed, by a system of outrage more formidable and bloody than any which has yet marked the struggle against the tithe system.

Some time since a quantity of oats, the property of James Grattan, Esq., M. P., was burned at Moyana, in the Queen's County. In a few days after an attempt was made to burn a school-house patronized by him, at Vicors-town. The patriotic inhabitants of Moyana, met last week, M. Dunne, Esq., in the chair, and offered a reward of £100 for the discovery of the persons concerned in these outrages.—*Dublin Paper*.

FALMOUTH, Nov. 4.—This morning His Majesty's packet *Briseis*, Lieut. Downey, arrived here from Jamaica, whence she sailed on the 24th September with mails. On that day his Majesty's steamer *Rhadamanthus* had returned to Kingston, after having been on a tour of inspection round the Island with his Excellency, the Governor, throughout Jamaica. A spirit of discontent amongst the slaves continued to manifest itself; they call loudly for entire freedom, and will not peaceably submit to work as apprentices. Their opposition to remain in the latter capacity had been the occasion of subjecting the Magistrates to an immensity of duty, and in many cases they had proved themselves