

ever it may have been, it is a fact, that all I received was the unofficial thanks of the President, and that I suffered a deduction of two and a half per cent. from my commission.

That corporations have no souls, and that men in a corporate capacity are often guilty of acts of injustice and oppression, such as, individually, they would be ashamed of, is an old observation, the truth of which, almost every day's experience confirms. But comments on so clear a case are superfluous; and I will only add the curious fact, that almost simultaneously with the discovery that ten per cent. was too much for the laborious, laborious, and eminently successful services I had rendered the Company, one of the directors of this very Company did not perceive, that ten per cent. was too much for merely paying the disbursements on the building and equipment of the Greek frigates.*

More than twenty years have elapsed since the occurrence of the transactions above narrated, and those of the actors, who have not passed off the stage, may be surprised at a recurrence to affairs which probably have long since been forgotten by them. This, they may be assured, has not arisen from any hostile or unkind feeling toward them, but from the circumstance alone of perceiving that my narrative would be incomplete if they were omitted.

The voyage, just narrated in the Beaver, was the close of a series of voyages to most parts of the habitable globe, comprising a period of twenty-four years, in various kinds of craft, from the boat of twenty-five tons, to an Indiaman of one thousand tons; and on the most laborious and hazardous enterprises, as will have been seen. But a remarkable fact, which is worthy of note, may have escaped the observation of the reader, that during that long period, some portion of which was passed in the most sickly climates of the globe, I never lost but three men, — two by fever, and the third by a fall

* A letter which I received at this time, from the house of Tooke, Robinson & Co., of London, places in strong relief their conduct when compared with those with whom I had recently been brought in contact. Its object was to inform me of their holding a hundred and twenty pounds at my disposal, being principal and interest on a sum arising from a mistake accidentally discovered, in accounts relative to transactions in wheat eight or ten years previous; and which, they remark, I must consider somewhat in the light of a prize in the lottery. This was paid to my draft at sight.