

IRELAND.

SENTENCE TO THE TRAVERSERS.

DANIEL O'CONNELL.—To be imprisoned for twelve calendar months; to pay a fine of £2,000, and to enter into securities to keep the peace for seven years—himself in £5,000, and two sureties of £2,500 each.

JOHN O'CONNELL, JOHN GRAY, T. STEELE, R. BARRETT, C. G. DUFFY, AND T. M. RAY.—To be imprisoned for nine calendar months, to pay a fine of £50, and to enter into securities to keep the peace for seven years—themselves respectively in £1,000, and two sureties of £500 each.

Sentence having been passed,

M. O'CONNEL immediately rose, and said that he wished to remind the Court, that he had made a solemn affidavit, declaring that he had never entered into a conspiracy with the other traversers, or committed the crime with which he was charged. He had now only to say it was his painful conviction that justice had not been done.

A sudden and vociferous cheer from nearly all parts of the court followed this result; and although it was accompanied by the clapping of hands amongst the junior bar, and two or three times repeated, the Judges did not interfere, although evidently displeased.

The Traversers immediately surrendered into the custody of the Sheriff.

After a delay of about an hour and a half, which gave time to allay the excited feelings of the people out of court, as well as for the necessary preparations, the Traversers were conveyed to the Richmond Penitentiary, in the Circular-road, their future place of confinement. They proceeded thither in three carriages, attended by a large body of police. A great many people ran along and kept up with the carriages, and there was also a large assemblage outside the Penitentiary on his arrival. When Mr. O'Connell stepped out of the carriage he was greeted with loud cheers, and immediately entered the gateway. Within the court-yard a large number of respectable persons, many of them his most intimate friends, were drawn up in two lines. They received Mr. O'Connell in silence and uncovered, and, as he walked up between the lines, he shook hands with many of them: his bearing was manly and undaunted. He thus entered the Governor's house, which, we understand, he and his other fellow-prisoners will be allowed to occupy. The Penitentiary is a vast pile of building, in an airy and salubrious part of the suburbs of Dublin. The Governor's house is large, and has a garden attached, in which Mr. O'Connell, with his daughters, Mrs. Fitzsimon and Mrs. French, walked alone, soon after his arrival. The prisoners, as they must now be called, dined together about half-past six. They were all cheerful. We are happy to state that there was not the slightest breach of the peace during the proceedings. The following address, which had been prepared in anticipation of the sentence, was issued on Thursday:—

ADDRESS OF O'CONNELL TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.—PEACE AND QUIET.

PEOPLE OF IRELAND—FELLOW COUNTRYMEN—BELOVED FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN.—The sentence is passed. But there is another appeal from that sentence. The appeal lies to the House of Lords. I solemnly pledge myself to bring an appeal against that sentence, and I assure you there is every prospect that it will be received. Peace, then, and quiet. Let there not be one particle of riot, tumult, or violence. This is the crisis in which it will be seen if the people of Ireland will obey me or not. Any person who violates the law, or is guilty of any violence, insult or injury to person of property, violates my command, and shows himself an enemy to me, and a bitter enemy to Ireland.

The people of Ireland—the sober steady, honest, religious people of Ireland—have hitherto obeyed my commands and kept quiet. Let every man stay at home. Let the women and children stay at home. Do not crowd the streets, and in particular let no man approach the precincts of the Four Courts.

Now, people of Dublin, and people of Ireland generally, I shall know, and the world will know, whether you love and respect me or not. Show your love and regard for me, by your obedience to the law—your peaceable conduct, and the total avoidance of any riot or violence.

PEACE, ORDER, QUIET, TRANQUILITY.

Preserve the peace, and the Repeal cause will necessarily be triumphant. Peace and quiet I ask for in my name, and as you regard me. Peace and quiet I ask for in the name of Ireland, and as you love your native land. Peace—quiet—order, I call for under the solemn sanction of religion. I conjure you to observe quiet, and I ask it in the adorable name of the ever-living God. Gratify me and your friends by your being quiet and peaceable.

The enemies of Ireland would be delighted at your violating the peace, or being guilty of any disorder.

Disappoint them—gratify and delight by peace, order, and quiet, Your faithful friend,

DANIEL O'CONNELL.

Corn Exchange-rooms, 29th May, 1844.

MASSACRE IN ONE OF THE SOUTH-SEA ISLANDS.

TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF THE HARRIET WHALESHIP.

THE details of another attack on an English whaler and murderous slaughter of the whole crew by the natives of one of the South-Sea Islands, have just been received by the *Sussex*, a whaler belonging to Mr. Lyall, M. P. for the city of London, under the command of Capt. Hammer, which arrived in the river recently, after an absence of four years and three months.

The particulars disclose nothing calculated to throw light on the cause of the melancholy catastrophe, as in too many previous instances; on the contrary, however, there appears to have been an absence of all motive for the attack, except that arising from a desire to plunder the ship, which, as will be seen by Capt. Hammer's statement, was subsequently burnt to the water's edge, and then scuttled in eight fathoms water, doubtless with a view to escape detection. The manner in which the affair came to light is most remarkable, and but for the singular circumstance alluded to, the owners of the *Harriet* and the friends of her crew might have remained in a state of uncertainty as to the fate of the vessel. The following details, kindly supplied to the reporter by Capt. Hammer, contain all the facts known in reference to the painful tragedy.

Capt. Hammer states that, on the 31st April, last year, having occasion to take in water, he bore down towards the island marked Quollaw on the chart, but usually termed Strong's Island by British seamen, being in lon. 126 deg. E. by lat. 6 deg. N. On approaching the harbor he observed three American ships and one Canadian vessel, lying at anchor. The vessels subsequently proved to be the *Pacific*, Capt. Rounds, from St. John, New Brunswick, and the *Lydia*, the *Lexington*, and the *Pearl*, three American whalers. As the *Sussex* neared the island, the captains of each of these vessels came off in boats to meet her, and Capt. Rounds of the *Pacific*, immediately communicated to Capt. Hammer the fact of the wreck of the English whaler called the *Harriet*, belonging to the port of London, and commanded by Capt. Bunker, lying in eight fathoms water, within the harbour. Having cast anchor at a convenient distance from shore, Capt. Hammer returned with Captain Rounds on board the *Pacific*, where portions of the *Harriet's* log book, her figure head, anchor, &c., all of which had been recovered at that time, were shown him, by which the identity and fate of the vessel were placed beyond a doubt. It then appeared that about six weeks previously, Captain Rounds having visited the same island, had cast anchor in a bay on the other side, and took in from thence a native man to assist his crew in fishing. They put to sea, and in the course of a day or two came up with a whale, which, after considerable trouble, they captured. The native observed this, and remarked to the captain a few hours afterwards, "Why do you keep looking about here for fish to procure oil, there is a ship lying in the harbour full of it?" It should here be mentioned that the inhabitants of Strong's Island speak the English language remarkably well, even to the little children; and, as the manner of the native in question was such as to lead Capt. Rounds to believe that he might place some reliance upon his information, conceiving it also possible that a ship might have been wrecked near the island, he at once determined to hear down upon it without loss of time. Arriving there, the man pointed out the spot where the ship lay, and on soundings being taken it was discovered that some large object met the lead.

Captain Rounds then, with considerable ingenuity, rigged out one of his large oil casks in the top of a diving bell, and having made the necessary preparations a man was sent down, who immediately reported the fact of the hull of a vessel lying to the water's edge lying beneath its surface, in about eight fathoms. The American ships above-named were lying in the harbour at the time, and Capt. Rounds at once communicated the circumstance which had come to his knowledge to the several captains, when it was thought advisable to set an inquiry on foot, as to the fate of the crew, the name of the vessel, &c. A formal application was made to the Toco Sa, or principal chief of the island, but for some days without success.

It is well known that when whaling ships touch at these islands, the native women frequently come on board in large numbers, and, generally speaking, they are considered well conducted savages. On this occasion advantage was taken of their familiarity, and the fact that a vessel had been attacked, and the crew murdered, was elicited from several among them, and confirmed by a variety of circumstances. Capt. Rounds then decided on requiring an explanation of the whole affair from the king or chief, and took an armed party on shore with him for that purpose. The chief met the party, and appeared considerably alarmed at the manner in which Captain Rounds pursued the investigation, but after several interviews no satisfactory information was obtained on the subject. Captain Rounds insisted that the chief should repair on board the ship, and even went so far as to threaten to hang him, in case some explanation was not afforded. The chief himself appeared willing to go on board, but the natives would not allow him; and at this point all further communication between them ceased, the natives taking to their canoes and seeking refuge within the creeks with which the island abounds. Here it was found impossible to pursue them, but from the females, and a few stragglers among the men, the following particulars were obtained. The *Harriet* had put into the island for wood and water, and the intercourse between her crew and the natives was apparently carried on in the usual friendly manner. A deep plot, however, seems to have been laid by the natives, which was, at the time, wholly unsuspected by Captain Bunker. One day, shortly after their arrival, the captain and the surgeon went ashore, to enjoy the sport of shooting, two boats' crews being engaged in collecting wood, and one in taking in water. Out of a crew of from twenty-seven to thirty persons only five remained on board the ship, and this fact, doubtless, being observed by the natives, who were anxiously watching an opportunity, they simultaneously attacked the different parties, killing each almost instantaneously. Resistance would appear to have been hopeless, for although the island is not more than twenty-seven miles in circumference, it is very thickly populated, and from 300 to 400 natives were frequently seen on the shore at one time by Captain Rounds. The five persons who were on board ship at the time, observed the attack on their comrades, and seeing a number of canoes putting off towards the vessel, they hastily embarked in a boat, and have not since been heard of, the probability being that, as Strong's Island is situated at a long distance from any other, they also must have perished in the course of the few following days. In the course of Captain Rounds' investigations on the island, he fortunately discovered four or five leaves of the *Harriet's* log, from which it appeared that the ship had recently been to Port Jackson, for the purpose of undergoing some repairs, and the Captain had made an entry to the effect that he had some trouble with his men. Finding all their endeavours fail to procure more information, the several ships above alluded to bore up, and stood away from the island together, parting some days subsequently.

The *Harriet* was the property of Messrs. Boalcott of Paul's Wharf, London. She left England in June, 1839, and had consequently been absent nearly five years. No tidings had been heard of her during the last eighteen months, and her owners had recently effected an additional insurance of £1500, making a total of £7,500. Many of her crew left her at Sydney, whose places were supplied by others; it is therefore impossible to give the names of those lost correctly.

It is generally believed that three other vessels have been destroyed in a similar manner at the same island, information to that effect having been