

FROM AN ENGLISH PAPER.
PAPERS RELATING TO
Correspondence between the ADMIRALTY and SIR ALEXANDER COCHRANE, touching the conduct of the Honorable WARWICK LAKE.

We insert below some further papers relating to the affair of the seaman left by Captain Lake upon the Island of Sombiero; or, we should rather say, relating to the performance chiefly concerned in bringing this unpleasant occurrence to light—Mr. Charles M. Thomas, the *quondam* purser of the *Demerara*. This man certainly appears to possess a most pernicious inclination to handle the goose-quill; yet did the affair of which he first gave intelligence unquestionably demand investigation.

It can hardly be conceived that one, competent to such a degree as this Mr. Thomas, could have sunk into the situation in which he was found (according to Sir Alexander Cochrane's account) in Barbadoes, without great indiscretion; yet ought not his conduct to be considered in anywise affecting the facts which he relates. They derive no credit, indeed, from the informer; they must therefore be weighed by their simple merit—their inherent claim to attention.—We say this, because THOMAS's other letter, published in the Mail two months ago, contained information upon other subjects as well as that of Jeffery.

It is worth the while to mention that this Thomas has never been heard of since he was first known to have transmitted this intelligence to England.

Copy of a Letter from the Secretary of the Admiralty to Sir ALEXANDER COCHRANE.

Admiralty-Office, 7th June, 1809.

SIR,—I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you the accompanying copy of a letter from Mr. Charles M. Thomas, late purser of the *Demerara*, addressed to the Right Honorable Charles Bathurst, stating that he resigned his warrant to you, upon condition of being discharged from the service, but that he is still detained a supernumerary on board the *Neptune*; and I am to signify of their Lordships' directions to you to state the case of the person. I am &c.

(Signed) J. BARROW.

The Hon. Rear-Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane, K. B. Leeward Islands.

Extracts from Mr. Thomas's letter to Rear-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane:—

"I am, Sir, in possession of facts which, if more provoked, I will bring forward, which will involve, if not all, at least the greater part of the Captains of the Squadron under your command; at the same time that I will not commit one of my brother officers; and having a most retentive memory, I shall recur thereto for some facts as far back as the year 1806."

"I am fully master of my subject, for I never pretend to handle things to which I am incompetent, like the late Convention mongers of Cintra; and, if I fall, I'll fall gloriously."

"I shall give the substance of what I know to the first instance, to his Majesty's Ministers; and if they take no notice, I shall take a walk to St. Stephen's Chapel, and report it there. I already anticipate the remarks that will appear in Cobber's Register: I shall make my own comments in the Barbadoes Mercury."

"If, Sir, you will not leave me alone, I will light such a torch in England, which it will be out of your power to extinguish; and I will make the year 1809 memorable in the historic page by the discoveries I shall cause in almost every department in these regions."

"Voltaire has observed to this effect, 'that streams become more impure, the farther they are removed from the fountain head; I will undertake to prove this assertion just.'"

"Captain Dowers having acquainted me that I am to go on board the *Pelorus* before the mast, I do protest, most solemnly protest, against such a proceeding until the Lords of the Admiralty shall have submitted my case to the King."

No. 2, is a letter from Mr. Barrow to Sir A. Cochrane, dated July 14, communicating Mr. Thomas's charge against Captain Lake. It has already appeared in the MAIL.

Copy of a Letter from Sir ALEXANDER COCHRANE, to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

SIR, Pompee at Sea, 4th August, 1809.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 7th June, enclosing the copy of one written by Mr. Charles M. Thomas, lately Purser of his Majesty's sloop *Demerara*, to the Right Hon. Charles Bathurst and signifying to me the digestion of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to state the case of this person.

About three years ago my Secretary found him wandering about the streets at Barbadoes, without clothes, money, or friends, and he applied to him (though an utter stranger) to get him received on board a vessel of war, to keep him from starving. The Captain of the flag-ship, in consequence, received him, and he was soon after employed in the office, and when he had served about eighteen months, promoted in his turn to be Purser of his Majesty's sloop *Heureux*; ever since which time he has been an extremely troublesome character. He has served with several Captains, with none of which could he agree, and was constantly pestering me with letters of complaint; one of which was against the conduct of the late Captain Combe, of the *Heureux*, which I directed three Captains to enquire into, and found that his representations were frivolous and without foundation. After this he was removed into the *Demerara*, a smaller sloop, at his own request, where he continued the same line of conduct; and when I found, by the representations of his two last Captains, that he never kept any accounts, I directed him to be superseded, and to be sent to England in the *Acafta*, which was done before I received your letter on the subject.

As a specimen of his rich for writing, I transmit herewith an extract or two from his letters to me, wherein he accuses half the Captains on the station; but immediately after I received another, of which I enclose a copy, requesting forgiveness of what he had done; I therefore thought the best way to get rid of him was to send him to England, that the Victualling Board might lay hold of him, if he

should be deficient in his victualling; as for accounts, he has none whatever.

I found him to be that sort of character, as unfit for an Officer in the Navy; and as for trying him by a Court-martial, I did not think it worth while, nor worthy of such an official proceeding; for the punishment of breaking him would in fact be no punishment at all; indeed I believe he has never been confirmed as a Purser.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) ALEX. COCHRANE.

The Hon. W. W. Pole.

No. 4, is a letter from Sir A. Cochrane to Mr. W. W. Pole dated Halifax, November 1, acknowledging the receipt of Mr. Barrow's letter of July 14; stating, that he was aware of "the irregularity of Captain Lake's proceeding; but that, being assured of the sailor's (Jeffery's) safety, and having seriously admonished Captain Lake, he had consented to let the business rest." This letter has also been inserted in the MAIL.

BOSTON, JUNE 12.
SPANISH AMERICA.

[Many accounts agree that a spirit of Independence is rapidly expanding in the bosom of our brethren in the southern section of the American Continent.—They do not yet speak unequivocally in favour of a complete dissolution of all political dependence on Spain; but under the cloak which prudence compels them to throw over their sentiments, enough may be seen to satisfy any one, that a period is not far distant when we shall see a new organized Independent Empire "rising in the West."—In the following official article some evidence of that spirit may be discovered.]

(Translated from the Spanish.)

The SUPREME JUNTA OF CARACAS to the GENTLEMEN who compose the REGENCY OF SPAIN.

We have received in this City the different Papers and documents, which in the name of the Supreme Junta of Cadiz, and of a tribunal called the Regency, have been directed by the same Junta and by your Excellency, to the Viceroy and Captain-General of these dominions, and to all its inhabitants, with the view to obtain the acknowledgment of the above mentioned tribunal as a legal depository of the Spanish Sovereignty.

If your Excellencies kept in view those, who in different periods, went from these Provinces to the Seville Junta and Central Government, you must, of course have formed a just idea of the indelible adherence of our citizens towards their beloved sovereign Ferdinand VII, and of their true and cordial sentiments of fraternity with respect to the Spaniards in Europe. But your Excellencies would be deceived if you should believe, that therefore we are also ready to bestow our obedience and homage to the various corporations, which substituting themselves indefinitely one after another, only resemble by attributing to themselves indistinctly a delegation of the Sovereignty, which have neither been created by the acknowledged Monarch, nor by the great community of Spaniards of both hemispheres, can be nothing less but absolutely null, illegal, and contrary to the principles sanctioned by our own Legislation.

In fact, what are the rights the Supreme Council of Regency affects to require of the Americans this homage which they only swore to their lawful Sovereign, and to whom alone it should have been rendered?—The national courts, in which alone the necessary legislative power resides to establish the provisional constitution, which the nation is to administer in the inter-reigns, did they precede? Even in the bosom of the Central Junta there was no ministers righteous and firm enough to oppose the spirit of corruption that had undermined her, and to protest against the enormous latitude which, was scandals to the kingdom, and in spite of our fundamental laws, that executive body assumed. Has there been any other species of national convention, which could be considered as the legitimate organ of the nation and as the true deposit of Sovereignty?

There is but little required to demonstrate that the Central Junta was in want of a true national representation, because its original authority proceeded from the tumultuous acclamation of some provincial capitals and whilst the inhabitants of the new hemisphere never had their corresponding legal representative share in it. The Central Junta expressly desired, that she considered the American dominions as integral and essential part of the Spanish monarchy; and America neither did nor could behold this declaration as the source of rights which she always should enjoy, and which without injustice, never could be denied her; but as a solemn confession of the despotism, by which, till now, she had been tyrannized. America was entitled to expect that as the government of the Peninsula, with so much solemnity acknowledged to her inhabitants, the period had arrived that, for the first time they were to be installed in the inestimable enjoyment of her civil prerogative, and so put a boundary to the insupportable pride and avidity of the administrators, who since its discovery, in the name of the monarch constantly vexed and disgraced her, suffocating all the elements of her prosperity, according to your Excellencies own acknowledgment and confession in the proclamation directed to us. Our hopes were but of a momentary duration, and neither in the order dispatched for the election of the individuals, who were called to complete the Central Junta, nor in the Convention to form the national courts, we have seen nothing but an intolerable partiality in favour of the disgraceful remains of Spain, and injurious reserve for inviting us to make use of our rights.

What free suffrage, what representation can your Excellencies imagine ever will exist in deputies elected by the American Senate, this body which the Spanish ministry has always designedly intended to vex, to depress, to strip from public confidence, and ignominiously to subject them to the despotical scourge of its agents? Has not Caraccas seen an irrefragable testimony of this truth in the election of the recent Don Joaquin Mozquera, at the same time he was loaded with the general detestation of its inhabitants? Although it is true that the Central Junta, by an impulse of decency, denied to ratify the election; yet it is also true that this denial included palpable contradictions in itself, and by the anterior order, and that the new established me-

thod for such elections, instead radically to root out the vice, does no more than to cover it with miserable palliations, as insufficient for the decorum of the government as for the deceptions of the Americans.

To concede to all the inhabitants of the Peninsula the right to name their representatives for the national courts, and to reduce the same to the passive and degrading votes of the city councils in America; to establish a tariff for the European Deputies, and another different one for the Americans, with the sole view to deny them the influence due to our importance and population—it makes plainly manifest, that the liberty and fraternity of which they are babbling to us, are but insignificant outcries, illusory promises; in a word the artifices by which our infancy and chains have been prolonged? Is not this to give us to understand that we are looked on as idiots; who do not know what belongs to them; or as slaves, who in humiliation must live satisfied.

Caraccas has long suppressed these feelings. She believed that the union of all the Spanish dominions was the only means which could save the metropolis from the tempest which burst upon her; and sacrificing to this precious union her private interests, gave to the world a sublime lesson of moderation and enfranchisement. But the principal part of the peninsula being occupied by the arms of the French tyrant—the Central Junta dissolved, and the individuals that composed it dispersed with contempt; what other part of safety remained for the Americans but this; no longer to confide their safety to the authorities constituted by that same Junta, and placed by the sad result of the war, the disorder and overthrow of the government, in a state of true independence? The conduct they had lately assumed in Caraccas; the vexations suffered, not only from the city council, but even from the tribunal of the Royal audience; their repeated attempts against the laws, and the general suspicion with which they were beheld, urged their disposition; and, in fact, the unanimity of the people of Caraccas verified it; but in such order, with such moderation and generosity as were unknown in the history of nations.

To the reasons indicated, and which regard all the deposed, your Excellencies will please to add others with respect to the Captain-General and Sub-Inspector of the Artillery. It is notoriously known that both were in Madrid at the period of Murat's administration, and at the time of its capitulation; they are, therefore, individually sworn to the French Government. The first has divulged that the same Napoleon destined him for Captain-General of Caraccas; and in a Gazette of that Court, we have seen the confirmation of it, given by the obtruded Spanish monarch in the name of the Central Junta.

These are the motives which Caraccas had; the rights she has obtained, she is determined to make known to the other provinces of America. We flatter ourselves soon or late, they will be unanimous; and if it should happen that such sentiments, so conformable to nature and equity, should be suffocated, it would be an additional proof of the violent despotism they suffer.

It is very easy to misrepresent the spirit of our proceedings, and to make a commotion, though produced by the loyalty and sense of our rights. But we appeal to the voice of reason and justice; we appeal to the vote of other cities and posterity; in short, we appeal to the internal testimony of your Excellencies consciences, and to the principles which the same Central Junta has repeatedly proclaimed.

We regret to hold to your Excellencies a language which of course must appear bitter to you; but we venture to say, that your Excellencies would render the best proof of your righteous intentions, and of the liberality of your thoughts, by giving an impartial ear, and inclining like us to a true and solid union of the Spanish dominions of both hemispheres—a union which, if not founded on equality of rights, can be of no duration or confidence. In fine, we disavow the new Council of Regency; but if Spain saves herself, we shall be the first to avow obedience to a government constituted on a lawful and equitable basis; we shall afford to our European brethren the aid our actual scarcity allows us, as long as the holy struggle in which they are engaged endures; and those, who despairing of its happy issue, shall seek for another native country in Venezuela, will find a general hospitality and true fraternity.

God preserve your Excellencies many years.

(Signed) JOSEPH DE LAS LAMOSA.

MARTIN TOVAR PONTE.

Caraccas, May 3, 1810.

FROM THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL.
CURIOUS ADVENTURE.

CALCUTTA, MAY 10.—A Princess of New-Zealand, one of the daughters of Tippahce, has arrived within these few days in Calcutta, accompanied by her husband, an Englishman by the name of Bruce. As the adventures of this couple are curious, and have excited a pretty general interest, our duty required that we should collect some authentic outline of their story; its principal points, we believe, are embraced in the subjoined narrative.

George Bruce, son of John Bruce, foreman and clerk to Mr. Wood, distiller, at Limehouse, was born in the Parish of Radcliffe highway in 1779. In 1789, he entered on board the Royal Admiral East-Indiaman, Capt. Bond, as Boatswain's boy. Sailed from England for New South Wales, and arrived at Port Jackson in 1790, where, with the consent of Capt. Bond he quitted the ship, and remained at New South Wales.

At Port Jackson, Bruce entered into the naval colonial service, and was employed several years under Lieutenants Robins, Flinders, and others, in exploring the coasts, surveying harbors, headlands, rocks, &c. During this time Bruce experienced various adventures, which do not come within the design of this narrative. After being thus employed for several years, in vessels of survey, he was turned over to the Lady Nelson, Capt. Simmonds, a vessel fitted up for the express purpose of conveying Tippahce, King of New Zealand, from a visit, which he made to the Government of Port Jackson, to his own Country. The King embarked, and the Lady Nelson sailed on her destination. During the passage, Tippahce was taken dangerously ill, and Bruce was appointed to attend him; he acquitted him-