

NAPLES, AUG. 6.

"The inhabitants of this city are in a great state of alarm, being in daily expectation of a bombardment from the American squadron, consisting of the Washington, 74 guns, Java, 50, Constellation, 38, and Eric corvette, under the command of Commodore Chauncey, who brought here Mr. Pinckney, to demand from the Neapolitan government 4,000,000 dollars, being the amount of American property confiscated here in the time of Murat; which demand, we are given to understand, this government will not comply with. The government is very active in making preparations for defence against any hostile act the Americans may commit, in erecting furnaces for hot shot, and mounting guns of large calibre, as well as bombs; and I hope, ere they dare to commence an attack on the town, an English squadron will arrive, as a brig of war looked in on Friday evening last, and the Captain, after waiting on Sir Henry Lushington, set sail immediately for Gibraltar—we doubt not for the purpose of making Lord Exmouth acquainted with the American squadron being in this port, and their hostile intention. The Austrian troops have got possession of the castle and all the forts, the King having taken 13,000 of them into his pay; they have now double guards in the batteries, and have matches lighted during the night."

FROM BELL'S WEEKLY MESSENGER.

THE COUNTRY OF ALGIERS

Is bounded on the North, by the Mediterranean Sea; on the East, by Tunis; on the West, by Morocco; and on the South, by Mount Atlas, and the desert of Sahara. It extends about four hundred and eighty miles from East to West, and varies from forty to one hundred in breadth from North to South. It is governed by an absolute monarch, called a Dey, who is always chosen from the Janizaries, or Turkish troops, and is nominally subject to the Porte, though he pays no other tribute than certain rich presents annually.—There is a Dwanne or council, composed of the principal officers, both civil and military, but though still formally convened, they are so much under the influence of the Dey, that the whole power may be said to be lodged in him.—The lowest soldier, though taken but yesterday from the plough having an equal right to the sovereignty with the highest, may be considered as Heir Apparent to the throne; and with this further advantage, that he lies under no necessity to wait till sickness or old age have removed the present ruler. It is enough that he can protect himself with the same scymiter which he has had the hardness to sheath in the breast of his predecessor. In consequence of this, scarce one in ten of the late Deys has had the good fortune to die in his bed. The predecessor of the present monarch was only chosen *pro tempore*, till a better man could be found; but it being the cruel policy of that country that no one who has once sat on the throne, can afterwards descend into the rank, no sooner was the election settled, than the unhappy proxy was strangled.

The City of Algiers, which the Turks dignify with the title of "The Warlike," is built on the declivity of a steep hill by the sea side, rising in the form of an amphitheatre one street above another. The houses are white, and the roofs being all flat, have a singular appearance from the sea. All the streets are narrow, but one, which is the market for corn and other commodities, and contains the principal shops. It is surrounded by a wall thirty feet high, the southern side of which is adorned with men's heads, trophies of Algerine cruelty, flanked with towers, and defended by about one thousand pieces of ordnance of every calibre, three hundred of which are of brass. The environs are eminently beautiful: the hills being ornamented with white country houses, which are surrounded by gardens, luxuriantly planted with fruit trees and shrubs, watered by rivalets, and commanding fine prospects of the sea.—The city has five gates, which are shut at sun set; and seven forts without the gates, well supplied with great guns. The chief supply of water (an important article in this sultry climate) is from a spring, conveyed by pipes to a great number of fountains, to each of which a bowl is fixed for the use of passengers, between whom a distinction always observed is, that a Turk is served first, and a Jew last. The Mosques are numerous; and besides three principal colleges there are

many inferior schools. The circumference of the city is not above a mile and a half, although it is computed to contain 100,000 Mahometans, 15,000 Jews, and about 2000 Christian slaves. The *cassabah*, or citadel, is built upon the highest part of the city toward the S. W. and is of an octagonal figure, each of the sides in view having port-holes or embrasures, defended with cannon. A ditch formerly surrounded the whole city on the land side, which at present is almost filled up, except at the west and south gates, and there it is of little defence; but toward the sea it is better fortified, the embrasures in this direction being all employed, and the guns of brass, with their carriages and utensils in good order. Half a furlong to the W. S. W. of the harbour is the battery of Fisher's gate, or the gate of the Sea, which, consisting of a double row of cannon, commands the entrance into the port, and the road before it.—The battery of the Mole Gate upon the east angle of the city, is mounted with long pieces of ordnance, one of which has seven cylinders, each of them three inches in diameter. At the entrance of the port, towards the mouth of the Mole, is a little tower, wherein a guard is kept, and in which, for the use of navigators, a great lantern is occasionally lighted.—Eight Moors stand centinel along the Mole, and a dozen more lie at the entrance of it in a boat. On this mole are sixty-six pieces of cannon, kept there only to commemorate a victory which they obtained in the year 1627 over the Bey of Tunis, when they became masters of these guns. The port is of an oblong figure, one hundred and thirty fathoms long, and eighty broad. The eastern mound, which was formerly the island that gave name to the city (Al Jezeire, signifying "The Island,") is well secured by several fortifications. The Round Castle built by the Spaniards while they were masters of the island, and the two remote batteries, are said to be bomb proof, and have each of them their lower embrasures mounted with thirty-six pounders; but the middle battery, which appears to be the oldest, is of the least defence.

The people are void of all arts and literature, and their manners resemble the Turks, which may be attributed to their intercourse with the Janizaries or soldiery, who are all of that nation, and who domineer with unlimited tyranny over the Moors. They are fond of bathing, and have separate public bagnios for men and women.

Small crimes are punished by the *bastinado*, from fifty to one thousand strokes, according to the enormity of the offence; coining is punished by cutting off the hands; murder, by burning alive; other punishments are, impaling, hanging by the neck, or throwing the body on hooks fixed to the wall, from which the criminals sometimes break and fall on others, suffering the most exquisite torture. The western Moors use the horrid punishment of sawing criminals assunder, from the head downwards. While Lord Exmouth was at Algiers, in April last, three Jews were burned alive for being insolent, although one of them was afterwards proved to be innocent.

When a person dies, the corpse is carried to a mosque, and afterwards accompanied to the grave by the greatest part of the congregation, singing verses from the Koran. An upright stone is placed at the head and foot of every grave, with the name of the deceased, and the space between them is either planted with flowers, bordered with stone, or paved with tiles; but the graves of the rich are vaulted chambers, distinguished by cupolas, and beautified according to the rank of the possessor. Upon the hills around the city are several graves, covered with large flat stones, each of them big enough to receive two or three bodies.

Algiers was taken from the Christians by the Corsair Barbarossa, in 1516. It was burned by the English in 1655, and again in 1670. Charles V. besieged it without success in 1688, and in 1775 the Spaniards, attacked it both by land and sea, with a force of twenty thousand infantry, two thousand cavalry, forty-seven ships of war, and three hundred and forty-six transports; but through want of skill and subordination, the siege totally failed, and they were repulsed with great loss. They renewed their attacks by sea in the years 1783 and 1784, but were again compelled to retire without effecting that destruction which has been so gloriously accomplished by Lord Exmouth.

ROSCOMMON ASSIZES.

Connaghton & Dillon.

THE following display of Eloquence is extracted from the Speech of the celebrated Irish Barrister, Mr. PHILLIPS, on seeking redress for the wrongs of an injured female, in a case of seduction:—

In this case I am Counsel for the plaintiff, who has directed me to explain to you the wrongs for which at your hands, he solicits reparation. The defendant is the representative of an honourable name—the relative of a distinguished family—the supposed heir to their virtues—the indisputable inheritor of their riches.

My client's name, Gentlemen, is Connaghton; and when I have given you his name, you have almost all his history. To cultivate the path of honest industry, comprises, in one view, "the short and simple annals of the poor." This has been his humble, but, at the same time, most honourable occupation. It matters little with what artificial nothings chance may distinguish the name, or decorate the person—the child of lowly life, with virtue for his handmaid, holds as proud a title as the highest—as rich an inheritance as the wealthiest. Well has the poet of your country said it.—

Princes and Lords may flourish or may fade,
A breath can make them, as a breath has made;
But a brave peasantry, their country's pride,
When once destroyed can never be supplied.

For all the virtues which adorn that peasantry—which can render humble life respected, or give the highest stations their most permanent distinction, my client stands conspicuous. I cannot paint the glorious host of feelings—the joy—the hope—the pride—the blended paradise of rich emotions with which the God of Nature fill's the father's heart when he beholds his child in all its filial loveliness, when the visions of his infancy rises as it were re-animate before him and a divine vanity exaggerates every trifle into some mysterious women, which shall smooth his aged wrinkles, and make his grave a monument of honour! I cannot describe them—but, if there be a parent on the Jury, he will comprehend me. It is stated to me, that, of all his children, there was none more likely to excite such feeling in the plaintiff than the unfortunate subject of the present action—she was his favorite daughter, and she did not shame his preference. You shall find most satisfactorily that she was without stain or imputation—an aid and a blessing to her parents, and an example to her younger sisters, who looked up to her for instruction. She took a pleasure in aiding the industry of their home, and it was at a neighbouring market, where she went to dispose of the little produce of that industry, that she unhappily attracted the notice of the defendant. Indeed, such a situation was not without its interest—a young female, in the bloom of her attractions, exerting her faculties in a parent's service, is an object lovely in the eye of God, and, one would suppose, estimable in the eye of mankind. Far different, however, were the sensations which she excited in the defendant. He saw her arrayed, as he confesses, in charms that enchained him—but her youth, her beauty, the smiles of her innocence, and the piety of her toil, but inflamed a brutal and licentious lust, that should have blushed itself away in such a presence. What cared he for the consequences of his gratifications?—What thought he of the home he was to desolate?—What thought he of the happiness he was to plunder?—I turn from this subject with an indignation which tortures me into brevity—I turn to the agents by which this contamination was effected. I almost blush to name them—yet they were worthy of their vocation. They were no other than a menial servant of Mr. Dillon, and a base, abandoned, profligate ruffian, a brother-in-law of the devoted victim herself, whose bestial appetites he bribed into subservity! It does seem as if by such a selection he was determined to degrade the dignity of the master, while he violated the fine impulses of the man, by not merely associating with his own servant, but by diverting the purest streams of social affinity into the vitiated sewer of his enjoyment. Seduced by such instruments into a low public house at Athlone, this unhappy girl heard, without suspicion, their mercenary panegyric on the defendant, when to her amazement, he entered and joined the company; I do confess to you, gentlemen, when I first perused this passage in my brief, I flung it from

me with contemptuous incredulity. What! I exclaimed, as no doubt you are all ready to exclaim, can this be possible? Is this the employment of the miserable aristocracy that yet lingers in this devoted country? Am I to find them, not in the pursuit of useful science—not in the encouragement of arts and agriculture—not in the relief of an impoverished tenantry—not in the proud march of an unsuccessful but not less sacred patriotism—not in the bright page of warlike immortality, dashing its iron crown from guilty greatness, or freedom's laurel with the blood of the despot! but am I to find them among the drunken panders and corrupted slaves, debauching the innocence of village life, creating the materials of the brothel! Do not imagine however, that she yields immediately and implicitly to their persuasions; I should scarcely wonder if she had. Every day shews us the rich, the powerful, and the educated, bowing before the spell of ambition, or avarice, or passion, to the sacrifice of their honour, their country, and their souls; what wonder then if a poor ignorant peasant girl had at once sunk before the united potency of such temptations—but she did not. Many and many a time the truths which had been inculcated by her adoring parents, rose up in arms—and it was not until after various interviews and repeated artifices, and united efforts, that she yielded her faith, her fame, and her fortunes to the disposal of her seducer.

I now come, Gentlemen, to another fact in the progress of this transaction, betraying in my mind as base a premeditation and as low and as deliberate a deception as I ever heard of. While this wretched creature was in a kind of counterpoise between her fear and her affection—struggling as well as she could between passion inflamed, and virtue extinguished, Mr. Dillon, ardently avowing that such an event as separation was impossible—ardently avowing an eternal attachment, insisted upon perfecting an article which would place her above the reach of contingencies. Gentlemen, you shall see this document voluntary executed by an educated and estated gentleman of your country.—I know not how to feel, but for my part I protest I am in a suspension of admiration between the virtue of the proposal, and the magnificent prodigality of the provision.—Listen to the article—it is all his own hand writing. "I promise," says he, "to give Mary Connaghton the sum of ten pounds sterling per annum, when I part with her; but if she, the said Mary, should at any time hereafter conduct herself improperly, or (mark this gentlemen) has done so before the drawing of this article, I am not bound to pay the said sum of ten pounds; and this article becomes null and void, as if the same was never executed.—John Dillon." There Gentlemen, there is the notable and dignified document for you—take it into your jury box, for I know not how to comment on it. Oh, yes, I have heard of ambition urging men to crime—I have heard of love inflaming even to madness—I have read of passion rushing over law and religion to enjoyment; but never until this did I see frozen avarice chilling the hot pulse of sensuality and desire, and pause before its brutish draught, that it might add deceit to desolation. I need not tell you, that having proved in the very execution of this article for its predetermined infringement, that knowing, as he must, any stipulation for the purchase of vice to be invalid by our law; that having in the body of this article inserted a provision against that previous pollution which his prudent caprice might event hereafter, but which his own conscience, her universal character, and even his own desire for her possession, all assured him did not exist at the time—I need not tell you that he now urges the invalidity of that instrument—that he now presses that pollution—that he refuses from his splendid income the pittance of ten pounds to the wretch he has ruined, and spurns her from him to pine beneath the reproaches of a parent's mercy, or linger out a living death in the charnel house of prostitution.

Verdict of the Plaintiff.

This Mr. Dillon had a verdict of £5000 given against him at the late Galway assizes, at the suit of Miss Wilson, a very beautiful and interesting young Lady, for a breach of promise of marriage.

FOR SALE.

THEODOLITE.—For particulars inquire at this Office.
10th Dec. 1816.