

MONTERRAT, 9th Feb. 1843.

"entrance." The channel and entrance have been carefully sounded, and it does not appear that there is any alteration whatever in the depth of water either at the entrance or in any other part of the harbour.

The subjoined is part of a letter from a Medical officer of high rank at the Ridge, a name given to a chain of heights above the Naval Yard, twelve or fourteen miles from St. John's, and the Head Quarters of the military stationed in this Island:—

February 10th, 1843.

"The morning broke forth fair, and perhaps more refreshing than common, with a gentle breeze from E. N. E., temperature at sun-rise 75.8 and Barometer 30.192 In.—I happened at the instant to be on horseback on the road opposite the Commissariat Office, when all of a sudden, a terrific rumbling sound saluted my ears, at the same instant my horse became restive and unmanageable. Having dismounted as soon as possible, the concussions or undulations under my feet were so violent that I was obliged to lean for support upon the horse, to keep myself from falling.—All the walls and stone buildings near me were seen crumbling and tottering every instant, and every thing was enveloped in a cloud of dust from the universal desolations, of even the very cliffs. The hurricane proof Barracks at the Block-house and Shirley Heights were in a few seconds literally a heap of tottering ruin, those left standing (I will not say in their original position) are ready to crumble with a less severe repetition. Indeed it is the general opinion that the greater part of them are untenable; several other slight vibrations have been since experienced, but not followed by any material damage, beyond keeping up a state of feverish excitement and alarm.—All the Soldiery escaped unhurt, an infant of the Signal man on Shirley Heights was buried in the ruins of his hut, but on being examined was providentially found not materially injured.

Every cooking-house on the Ridge was early demolished, and the public bakery was very seriously injured and every private oven in the immediate neighbourhood, I hear, are unserviceable."

The throng from all quarters to places temporarily appropriated to Divine Service on Sunday was great. The Clergy used the Conversion Society's School-room in which four services were performed that day and evening, by the Archdeacon and the Rev. Mr. Piggott, and Rev. Mr. Warner,—also an afternoon service at Government House. The Wesleyans had the loan of the Mico School-room, and at the same time in another part of the enclosure under the trees one of their Missionaries went through the same religious duty.—At 4 o'clock, the Rev. Mr. Brown, Minister of the Scotch Church, had also the use of the Mico School-room. The low wooden house of the Moravians which escaped was crowded, and was also their School-house. It formed a strong commentary upon human presumption and waywardness to see people belonging to different denominations flocking to wherever they could find room, without stopping to inquire whether they were to hear the word of warning and consolation from Paul, Apollos, or Cephas. Exclusiveness and selfishness gave way to an overwhelming sense of human insufficiency and weakness, and all worshipped one Lord together and in charity. How vain is human wisdom when the avenger is behind and the earth yawning to receive us.

Of the destruction on the Estates, it is quite impossible to estimate the amount with any thing like accuracy, because taking merely the value of the buildings as they stood and would have been rated if they were to be sold, gives no adequate idea of the actual and contingent loss. One must take into the account the loss of the crop,—the thousands of pounds it will cost to restore, rebuild or repair that which was worth thousands before, and the exorbitant charges of mechanics, who already with little feeling for the general distress, are doubling and trebling their charge for daily work. And even this is not all; for those who must borrow will have to pay interest, besides purchasing materials at the dearest rate. We are not to look, moreover, at the ruins of the manufactory apparatus alone, but the prostrate or shattered dwelling-houses, Managers' and Overseers' houses, out offices, stabling, cisterns and other indispensable appurtenances of a sugar estate; moreover the planter will have to replace or re-establish the laborers houses which have gone in the general wreck. Then when the eye turns to the Churches, Chapels and School houses, it bewilders all calculation, and in despair of forming any idea of what can be done for this afflicted Island, we abandon all estimate.

We must confess that we have fears of drought. Many cisterns have been rendered useless, and the ample spouting of the Cathedral is lost to the Church cisterns. Therefore water should be carefully used, and what remains in the Country ponds in town and country overlooked by the Police and Constables to prevent expenditure.

BARBUDA.—The shock as severe as in Antigua, every stone building level to the ground, except the small room used as a School.

BARBADOS felt it but slightly.

ST. CHRISTOPHER.—We learn from passengers arrived on Saturday evening, and by the Steamer yesterday, that the Earthquake was equally violent at that Island, but the injury to property generally not so great or conspicuous, there being so many more wooden buildings than in Antigua:—four lives were lost.

MONTERRAT.—This extract is from the Stipendiary Magistrate there to an official gentleman here:—

We were yesterday morning between 10 and 11 o'clock, visited with the most awful Earthquake ever experienced. I was in the Jail yard at the time and actually compelled to hold by a Pomegranate tree to steady myself. There is scarcely a house in the Town but what is injured, many of them seriously, and some to an extent that will compel their being pulled down. In the country the damage has been immense, the works of Mr. Dardis Furlonge, Paradise and Leigh's, are down, the Works of Mr. Edmund Semper, Gayes, down and great part of his dwelling house. The two setts of Works of Mr. Trott's to the North, down, his store in town cracked in every direction. The house at the Lawyer's, where Mrs. West and the Pilkington's reside, a great part down, all the family safe. Tar River,—Mr. Martin's down, and the road so destroyed that the Doctor could not get to it the last afternoon to see persons who have been injured. Roche's, down, 4 lives lost there. Frye's, Col. Shiell's down.

There is not a house or sett of Works in the Island but what have been injured. I consider the Island as ruined. The fall of Earth in various parts of this Island has been tremendous, the dust rising from it was so great as at one time to induce a belief that it was smoke from the Souffriere—this is however quiet, and not more than usually affected. It was a beautiful morning, clear as could be during the whole time, scarcely a ruffle on the surface of the sea, not more than usually warm, it was cool in the shade, the sun very powerful.

Another letter from a gentleman of the same Island, says "I was about 500 yards from the Sulphur Pit, opening an old Spring of fresh Water, the Earthquake commenced gradually, the oscillation slow, though sensible it was an Earthquake I was under no apprehension, till of a sudden I heard a dreadful noise; on looking toward the mountain over the Sulphur, it was involved in one mass of smoke as I thought—it was then time to move my quarters, but was thrown on my back from the violent motion—the path that I returned I observed cracking, I called to the man behind to be cautious it was giving way, he came instantly forward, saying it was well we had got over as we did, for the path was fallen in—the mountain to the extent of a mile is rent in various places, a man this instant has returned from the Sulphur, stating the Crater is open, but does not perceive any greater appearance of smoke from it than usual."

NEVIS.—Charlotte Town Court House to the ground. Bath House much damaged, Custom House partly down, and all the mills in the island more or less injured, nearly the whole of the Town destroyed, most of the wood built houses are left standing, all the stone buildings are so injured that they must be taken down and rebuilt, estimated damage at £50,000, only 2 mills on the Island that can be worked.

GUADALOUPE.—The next Island visited was Guadaloupe, the accounts from which are truly appalling and heart rending. The whole of the town of Point a Petre is no more. It appears this was the centre of the dreadful calamity. I relate as near as possible the account as given me by an eye witness of the scene, (Mr. Risley of Philadelphia.) At about 10h. 30m. A. M. of the 8th inst., in company with 150 or 160 persons, I was breakfasting at the Hotel situate in the large square, when all of a sudden a dreadful noise not to be described, with a rocking movement was felt; being near the door, I instantly rushed out and perceived the building falling in every direction. I perfectly recollect what happened for the first 15 or 20 seconds, and saw many persons either wounded or killed; the whole of my fellow companions at breakfast I never saw again! In the midst of all this calamity the earth in several parts of the town opened to a considerable extent, when volumes of water spouted forth with awful fury to the extent of an hundred feet perpendicular in columns of several feet in thickness, momentarily and most awfully swallowing up hundreds of the inhabitants, the earth closed again. What followed for 20 seconds after, I have no recollection of—on recovering I found myself beside 3 dead bodies, in the midst of a heap of ruins, my clothes torn, and my hat broken. My son, a child of six years of age, most providentially escaped unhurt, finding him shortly after on a heap of ruins. The scene which presented itself was more than words can express. Thousands were buried among the ruins living, and raising their voices for succour, many were saved; but alas, the work of destruction was not yet finished; a cry of fire was heard, which proved to be true; what the Earthquake and water begun, the fire finished.

The survivors are left in a most destitute state, being without food, clothing, and houseless; despatches were immediately sent to the neighbouring towns and Islands, informing them of the state of the town, who promptly responded to their call, and immediately the Governor of Martinique ordered the steam ship Gomez to load with provisions and clothing, and forthwith proceed to Point a Petre; all vessels in the harbour at the time were detained and not allowed to leave the port: A Proclamation was immediately issued by the Governor, declaring all ports in the Island of Guadaloupe free for all commodities, and also for timber for building purposes.

At the time of the fire the heat was so intense, that the iron safes with gold and silver in them melted, and became consolidated masses. The work of plunder commenced by some of the negroes, when it was found expedient to call out the military, and report says many of the negroes were shot in attempting to resist the mili-