

Miscellaneous.

To the Editor of the Quebec Gazette by Authority.
SIR HUDSON LOWE.

Sir,—I have been more disgusted than surprised at the late brutal outrage on Sir Hudson Lowe, at the Isle of France: but I am not sorry to find that Sir Lowry Cole has at length been freed from the amiable delusion he entertained as to his petted Islanders.

The Mauritius, even independent of the nonsense of St. Pierre, is certainly a beautiful spot—the climate is delightful; the vegetation exuberant and perennial: still the moral character of the inhabitants has never harmonized with the luxuriant aspect of their Rose-covered Island. Not to speak of any antecedent crimes, of which a full catalogue might be collected, this remote colony was amongst the first to rush into all the atrocities of the French reign of Terror; and the guiltiest Jacobins found, on their banishment here, horrors of even a deeper shade than those for which they had been transported from the mother country. Isolated by its distance from France, and the want of communication during the long war, the population participated little in the return of order and the comparative improvement of manners under Napoleon. Agriculture was almost entirely neglected, and the inhabitants fostered amidst smuggling, privateering, and piracy, those ferocious habits of which they have lately indulged us with a specimen.

It is scarcely necessary to add that they were, and are to a man, Bonapartists of the fiercest order; that is to say, of the order of Bonaparte, the destroyer of the Sections.—Under the government of De Caen, who behaved so barbarously to poor Flinders, the cant terms of the Revolution continued in vogue ten years after they had been forgotten in Paris, and "Liberte et Egalite" were prefixed to all public documents up to the capture of the Island by the English in 1811. I was informed by a most respectable public Functionary, when in the Island, that at this period he had found the Atheistical Catechism of the early times of the Revolution in the public schools; in which was printed the appalling sentence—"There is no God!"

To compare great things with small, the decencies of society may be judged of by the notorious fact, that, even after the Island had been several years in our possession, at the Governor's public balls, the broken viands after supper were considered legitimate plunder; and the wings, legs, drumsticks, merry-thoughts, and parson's noses, were carried off, wrapped up with pastry, jelly, cakes, &c., in the pockets and reticules of the ladies and gentlemen. A Staff Officer assured me in 1817, that they had hardly then succeeded in putting a stop to this contraband trade, by a threat of searching and exposing the culprits. So difficult it is to eradicate bad habits.

It is pleasing to those who are acquainted with Sir H. Lowe, to turn from this subject to the affectionate reception he met with (after an absence of seven years) at St. Helena, where his character and conduct had been well known and justly appreciated. The benefits of his Administration and his personal behaviour there were palpable to all; and the calumnious misrepresentations by which he has been so inveterately assailed, received no credence amongst those who had been the witnesses of their falsehood. They knew that Sir H. Lowe in the discharge of a great, but obnoxious public duty, had been necessarily placed in collision with his illustrious prisoner; and that to him the coercion and restraint which his safe custody demanded, must have been disgusting, though under the direction of an Arch Angel. They saw in their Governor, a man who fulfilled all the social duties with fidelity. They knew him to be a kind husband and father, and an impartial Magistrate, they participated in a most extended hospitality at his table, they witnessed his assiduity in the promotion of their local interests: they saw their goat-paths converted into broad roads by his exertions, and their charities, schools, and other institutions, fostered and supported by his purse and patronage. They even conceded to his representations that—of which insular proprietors are so jealous—the emancipation of their slaves; for, it was one of the singularities of Sir H. Lowe's government, that at a full meeting of the inhabitants, at James' Town, in 1819, where the Governor presided, all slaves born on or after Christmas Day, of that year, were declared to be free.

Seeing the Governor, therefore, an honest upright man in all social relations, they could scarcely believe it possible that he could become a cruel and wanton tyrant over his celebrated charge, particularly as his own interest was so vitally affected, and as he received about £15,000 a year as long as their relative situations continued.

From circumstances unnecessary to be mentioned, the individual who now addresses you was very intimate with the French suite of Napoleon, and particularly the Bertrand family. He had therefore ample opportunity of being well acquainted with what took place at Longwood during the last four years. In the course of a morning ride, a few days after the burial of Napoleon, he met the Bertrands and Montholon on their way to Plantation House, where Sir H. Lowe resided. The Countess Bertrand then informed the writer "that the Emperor had asked for Bertrand and Montholon shortly before he lost consciousness, and directed them to call on the Governor, and express to him Napoleon's dying request that a reconciliation should take place between the parties." She added that in obedience to the Emperor's desire they were now on their way to Plantation House.

This certainly tends to prove that the hatred which Napoleon is represented to have felt towards Sir H. Lowe was extinguished, as all evil passions ought to be, on the approach of death.

But, to proceed—The Governor said that the dying wish of Napoleon should be sacredly obeyed, and it was obeyed. The parties partook of refreshment at Plantation House, and

were asked to dinner. A day or two afterwards, the Admiral, Commandant, many officers of the Fleet and Garrison, and the principal inhabitants, were asked to meet the Generals at dinner in the Castle in James' Town. All the past, aggravated as it had been by resentments no longer existing, appeared to be deposited with those irritable feelings in the grave.

As soon as the French people were ready, a large ship, commanded by a master of the Navy, was placed at their disposal to convey them to England. The Commissary put on board for their use as ample a stock of wines and provisions as the island afforded, whilst to ensure their protection, and gratify Madame Bertrand's musical propensities, the present Commandant of this garrison with the band and flank companies of the 66th Regiment were also embarked.

Still a difficulty existed. Marshal Bertrand owed £1000 to a Mr. Cole, a Merchant in the Island, and no funds being forthcoming, an arrest was threatened.—When Sir H. Lowe heard this, he paid the sum out of his own pocket, and the whole party (including the writer) sailed for England.

On the arrival of the ship at Spithead, the King, (then on his voyage to Ireland) with his characteristic politeness, sent Lord Graves on board to enquire after Countess Bertrand's health, a condescension which that lady will long remember.

As the above mentioned facts are not generally known, I have availed myself of the interest excited by the Mauritius affair to publish them in justice to the character of a brave and honorable man. I have no hesitation in asserting that Sir H. Lowe fulfilled his most difficult task with firmness and decision, without any unnecessary severity.

When an illustrious criminal under the ban of Europe, was confined to his charge, the British Government instructed him to convince himself of the personal identity and security of the Prisoner DAILY. As long as Napoleon was ignorant of this arrangement there was no difficulty, but when he was informed of it his rage became boundless, and he instantly secluded himself. How under those circumstances could any Governor act? He must either violate the privacy of the prisoner or his instructions from home, it may be naturally supposed. Sir H. Lowe did neither, and yet assured himself that the person of Napoleon was secure.

I am unconnected with Sir H. Lowe, and as far as I can know myself, disinterested and unprejudiced in every thing regarding the St. Helena transactions. It pains me, and many others to see this officer in consequence of having faithfully performed his duty to England and Europe, constituted the victim of the unrelenting hate of a criminal faction yet unsated with blood. He has been too conscious of rectitude, and has disdained to answer his calumniators, but in this his friends conceive he acted imprudently. By his vigilance he for ever defeated the project of the Bonapartists, and this they will never forgive him. He has been pursued by their calumnies, insults, and outrages, from one hemisphere to the other, and perhaps the dagger of some ferocious Jacobin yet awaits him.

Quebec, 19th Nov. 1828.

THE SACRED STANDARD.

Constantinople, Sept. 26.—The Grand Vizier is, according to some accounts, said to have arrived at Varna, where the Capitan Pacha endeavoured to detain the Russians by negotiations until the troops under the Grand Vizier could approach from Paravadi. Flattering hopes are now entertained here that Varna is saved. The departure of the Sultan to the camp of Ramistschik seems to have further explained the warlike spirit of the Mussulmans.—From 2,000 to 3,000 men land daily from Asia, and hasten to the Danube.

Sept. 17. (Old Style).—On the 15th instant, (26th N. S.) the Sultan left this city to go to the camp at Ramistschik, to bear, with reverent solemnity, the sacred standard to the head-quarters of the Moslem army.

On the preceding evening the whole city was in motion; soldiers of all descriptions, the innumerable servants of the seraglio, followed by a prodigious train of camels, loaded to the utmost of their strength to support the burden, with ammunition and provisions. At sunrise of the 15th the city was aroused by the clang of drums and martial music in all its quarters. The road from the seraglio to the outer gate was filled with an impenetrable crowd, composed in a great degree of women.—A singular phenomenon in Constantinople. At six o'clock the first column of infantry was put in motion, and it was speedily followed by a second, of about 3,000 men, other troops succeeded. In the mean time the sacred men of the law, Ulemas, the ministers of state, and all other functionaries, proceeded to the seraglio to offer their dutiful attendance to his Sublime Highness.

The Ulemas, in the splendid turbans peculiar to their order, the other ministers of all classes, armed with sabres and pistols, and wearing white shawls on their heads and scarlet upper coats, and several carriages with ladies, accompanied the pageant, and the roofs of the houses were covered with spectators.

A burst of music, louder by far than that which had resounded for the whole day, was now heard, and a hundred camels richly caparisoned were seen advancing, led by Asiatics, singing, with apparent enthusiasm, the war songs of the Arabs. These camels bore the treasure and the wardrobe of the Sultan. Next followed a train of Agas and inferior officers, which was closed by a body of from three to four hundred Muderries and Ulemas.

The Seraskier Pacha followed with the cavalry; and in his company was the representative of the Grand Vizier, with the other Ministers.

Between the ranks of the guard of the Kuima Kain were twenty saddle horses for the private service of the Sultan. Behind a body of Nigmas of the first rank, many Emirs, the Muftis, Kadis (Judges), &c. was a superb carriage, bearing the case of the sacred Standard. The "Standard of the Prophet" was itself borne in the hand of the Chief of the Emirs,

whose office it is to guard this palladium, and who rode on horseback. The standard seems to be of small size; it was covered with green silk; it was surrounded by twelve singers, hymning glory to the Prophet, and as many pages, fanning over it the most costly perfumes.

Immediately after followed the Sultan in person, dressed with great simplicity. He wore a white shawl over his head, and a scarlet surcoat. He had no guard in immediate attendance upon his person, but he was followed at some distance by about 1,000 infantry and 1,000 cavalry, regular troops, all trained to the new tactics by the Monarch himself.

Next came several carriages. At the gate which leads to the camp, near the barracks of Ramistschik, the Minister, Pacha, and Grandees, awaited the Sultan.

The train came through the gate of Kupazi out of the town. At 12 o'clock of the day the Sultan arrived at the barracks.

Since the 15th ult., an immense quantity of troops, cannon, and ammunition, is incessantly pouring in upon the camp. It is said that the Sultan will set out for Adrianople; the Minister's assistants, &c., are all still dressed in the military costume, and are under orders to hold themselves in readiness to set out for the scene of operation at a minute's notice.

The author of *The Clubs of London* relates the following anecdote of Mr. Richard Wilson, a member of the Beef-steak Club:—

"Dick one day called at the Secretary's office in the India House, upon Cobb, who happened for a few minutes to be absent; but on returning, who should he see but Dick, earnestly exploring a map of Asia that was suspended on the wall, measuring the scale of it with a pair of compasses that he found on the table, and then applying them to a large tiger which the artist had introduced to embellish it, as one of the animals of that country. 'By heavens Cobb,' exclaimed Dick, 'I should never have believed it! Surely it must be a mistake. Observe now—here,' pointing to the tiger, 'here is a tiger that measures two-and-twenty leagues. It is scarcely credible!'"

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By Virtue of several Writs of VENDORUM EXPONAS to me directed will be sold by Public Auction, on the third Tuesday in July next, between the hours of 12 and 5 in the afternoon, at the Market-House, in Fredericton;

All the real estate of Alexander Campbell, within my bailiwick, or so much thereof as will satisfy the aforesaid Writ.

E. W. MILLER, Sheriff.

Fredericton, Dec. 29. 1828.

To be sold by Public Auction, on the 30th day of June next, between the hours of 12 and 5 o'clock, at the County Court House, in the Parish of Fredericton, and County of York, viz:—

ALL the right, title, property, claim, and demand whatsoever, of John Brown, of, in, and to that lot of land, situate, lying and being, on the Nashwalk, in the Parish of St. Marys, in the County of York, being the third of an undivided part of the estate of the late Alexander Brown: The same having been taken by Execution issued out of the Supreme Court at the suit of James Sloc, and William Wilmot.

E. W. MILLER, Sheriff.

Fredericton, December 23. 1828.

To be Sold by Public Auction at the Court House in Dorchester, on Tuesday, the 12th day of May next, between the hours of 12 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, All the right and title of Thomas Taylor in and to the real estate of his late father late Taylor deceased, situate and being in the parish of Hillsborough, in the county of Westmorland, the same having been taken by Execution issued out of the Supreme Court of this Province at the suit of Catherine Steves.

W. P. SAYRE, Sheriff.

Dorchester, 30th Oct. 1828.

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