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CONDITIONS.

TWO DOLLARS if paid in advance—TWO DOLLARS & FIFTY CENTS in six months, THREE DOLLARS at the expiration of the year.

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FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN.

Richard Engle.

We have been favored with the perusal of two letters from a young officer of the Mediterranean, a native of Richmond, to his particular friend, which breathe so inquisitive a spirit, and such admirable sentiments, and contain such views of the places he had visited, that we do ourselves the pleasure of making the following extracts for the amusement of the public.

Gibraltar Bay, July 10, 1816.

My last letter was dated from Algiers, from whence we sailed to Tunis and Tripoli; in both of which places we found the British squadron under Admiral Lord Exmouth, busily fabricating a treaty for their Sicilian and Sardinian majesties, by no means consonant with the deservedly high character of the British arms. I was on shore for an hour in Tripoli; I was better pleased with it than either Algiers or Tunis, inasmuch as the streets are wider and cleaner, and admitting of a much finer draught of pure air.

We stood from Tripoli over to Malta—but unable to obtain pratique in consequence of our recent communication with the Barbary shore, we sailed for Syracuse, where we anchored for the second time, on the 3d of May—Though we continued in quarantine during the stay here, and of course unable to visit many remarkable antiquities of the place, it was still gratifying to behold the theatre of so many great events prominent in history, and to trace them with as much exactness as my feeble resources would permit.

The view which presents itself from the harbor of Syracuse, has more of grandeur and sublimity than any to be possibly conceived. The venerable heaps of hoary ruin, overlooked by the snowy crest of old Etna, reflecting the rising sun, form a collection of sublime and lovely objects, transcendentally wonderful, and calculated to inspire the dullest, most vapid mind, with sentiments of awe and reverence. When I beheld this scene, I could scarce contain an exclamation of rapture and delight. Surely a pious and exalted mind would have enjoyed the most enviable and holy pleasure in the contemplation of such objects. Added to all this, the scene is graced with tints of a softer, lovelier nature. A rich and almost immeasurable meadow presents itself, adorned with the finest cultivation, & intersected by a stream, on whose banks the finest cattle in the world are ever grazing. Indeed, it is a fairy spot; but time, ambition and oppression, have soiled it with their deepest tinge, and all those beauties are lavished on a race of corrupt and degraded wretches.

We sailed from Syracuse to Messina; of that place, and the view as you proceed up the Faro, I have spoken in a previous letter; so we will commence with Malta, of which you have so often read, celebrated as the long and well defended strong hold of the knights. It is now in the hands of different masters, who are as much for them, as you or I for Don Quixote, or his squire.—The fairy island of Calypso, now Cozo, is only 5 miles from Malta, though by no means corresponding with its former character of flowery banks, eternal springs, &c.

La Valette, the capital of the island, and residence of the governor, is second in strength only to Gibraltar. I was but a few hours ashore, and had only an opportunity of visiting one or two curiosities. The church of St. John is celebrated as having been one of the richest in Europe. It was built by the knights of Malta, and has twelve separate chapels, vying with each other in splendor and magnificence, and allotted to the different nations to which some of their distinguished order belonged. All its ornaments, such as statues, gratings, candlesticks, &c. were formerly of solid silver, but it was rifled by the French, who carried off, according to the story of the Maltese, a frigate ballasted with its spoils. A gate and railing of silver still remain round one of the altars, which, with many other ornaments, were painted black, to deceive the plunderers, and thus preserved. However, every

thing falls short of the tapestry work of which the execution is so exquisite, that it requires the nicest observation to distinguish it from the most delicate touches of the pencil. It is all on crimson velvet, representing the birth and most remarkable scenes in the history of our Saviour down to his crucifixion. The floors are of the most curious and beautiful mosaic, composed of the tombs of all the knights, whose remains are deposited, in which are inlaid a thousand singular and beautiful devices. The palace is a handsome and extensive building; it has a fine library, and one of the best armories in Europe. These I did not see; however, I have as good a right to mention things I never saw as Statius, who described the palace with the description of Calais, which he reached after dark, and left before day light.

From Malta we sailed two days after we anchored, steered for Palermo, off which place the Java, Erie and Ontario joined us. The latter vessel we despatched to Mahon, while we touched at Algiers and Tunis. At the former place we received orders to join Commodore Shaw, in Gibraltar. We therefore made sail without anchoring, and on the 4th of July anchored at Malaga. We dressed ship, manned the yards, and fired a salute in commemoration of the glorious event—Having caught 26 turtle the day before, we made a mess for all hands, and served a double allowance of wine and grog. When the loud peal of our cannon, and the hearty cheers of our brave fellows, proclaimed amidst despoils and slaves, a free, a great, and happy people, my soul swelled with an enthusiasm, one glow of which I would not barter for every selfish enjoyment.

I am pleased to find the prosperity of the navy still increasing. The Dutch Admiral, to whom I carried several papers from the captain, told me we ranked the first in the world, and that the American navy was the finest profession for a youth the world afforded. It is, indeed, a glorious service, and I am devoted to it life and soul.

Naples Bay, Aug. 21, 1816.

We have been at anchor here since the 20th of July, without the occurrence of any remarkable circumstance, save an eruption of Vesuvius on the 7th. What has been the nature of the result of Mr. Pinkney's demand, we are left to conjecture. Whatever they are, it is reported among us, that the king has acquiesced in their justice.—The squadron, with the exception of the schr. Hornet, are all here, making a formidable appearance, not altogether to the relish of the Italians. We expect every moment to sail; I believe only waiting the decision of a court-martial to be made public. Most probably we shall sail for Messina, thence to Syracuse for the arrangement of our hospital, thence we shall pay a visit to the Barbary powers. Our business there being settled, we will go into winter quarters, very probably at Syracuse. What ship will return, I know not. My determination still remains unaltered as to continuing in the Mediterranean. There appears no probability of active service on the home station; and such service is so evidently indispensable to improvement, there can be no alternative than the adoption of such an advantageous opportunity.

I have been highly gratified and delighted in visiting many of these curiosities, which my short stay when we were here last summer, prevented my seeing. The king's palace at Portici, the ruins of Baia, the museum, &c. were all sources of renewed pleasure and satisfaction. The palace was superbly decorated by Murat, and shows among its finest ornaments, his portrait, with that of Joseph Bonaparte, his wife and children; that of Napoleon and his mother, specimens of exquisite execution. The apartments are all superb; that of Madame Murat particularly.—The gardens are decorated with equal taste and magnificence. The museum of Naples produces some rare collections in painting and sculpture; the former are modern, and from the hands of the best masters in Europe; among them, some productions of Raphael, M. Angelo, &c. The statues are mostly from Pompeia and Herculaneum—a few from Rome. They are numerous, some equestrian, colossal; besides many busts.

The ruins of Baia require a longer description. We obtained permission, to go in one of the ship's cutters; so we had nothing to hurry us. We got a guide from Puzzoli, and passed by Caligula's bridge, 13 arches of which are still above water. It was intended to join Baia and Puzzoli, but it was never completed except by boats and spars, which were soon washed away.

We passed in sight of Mount Barabara, where the Romans got their Falernian wine, of which we read so much,

particularly in Horace. We landed where Port Julia formerly stood, which was destroyed at the same time that Solfatara sunk, by the sudden appearance of Monte Nuovo, which filled up its mote, of which some remains are still seen. Here we saw the Libyan lake, where were preserved the fine oysters for the luxurious Roman.—About a mile beyond this is lake Avernus, of which the ancients give such a horrid description: it is now a beautiful lake, remarkable only for the ruins on its borders. A temple of Apollo still remains on one side; its venerable ruins, moss grown, still defying time and weather. On the opposite shore to the temple, is the grove of the Sybils, as remarkable as the grove of its priestesses. We entered a cavity at the foot of a high hill, and descending gradually about 40 yards, were conducted by our guides, each having a torch, down a gloomy narrow passage hewn in rock. I assure you had I been at all inclined to superstitious fears, this was as fair a subject to exercise them, as any you can well conceive.—We soon arrived to water, when on the backs of our guides we were transported to the baths of the priestesses, the appearance of which was no more inviting than the other apartments. We retired through another avenue equally difficult and disagreeable, leading through the hill. We were next arrested in our progress by Nero's baths. After ascending a high hill, and entering a cavity as before, we were conducted down a narrow regular descent several hundred feet, till we were stopped by the boiling spring. From the moment I entered, I was in a profuse perspiration, the steam continued more oppressive, and after reaching the bottom, as soon as the guide got a bucket of water, and threw the eggs we had provided in, I was glad to make my retreat; in 2 1/2 minutes, the eggs were boiled, and it is remarkable that however long they are kept in the boiling spring, they never become hard, always continuing in the most delightful consistency.

Below, on a level with the sea, are baths of a milder temperature; and the land on the beach below this hill, though covered constantly with cold water, is so hot as to be scarcely supportable to the touch. We next visited the temples of Venus, Mercury and Diana.—The walls are of brick, and yet stand! In that of Mercury, there is a remarkable echo in one of the apartments, usually termed the whispering room; by placing the mouth close to the wall, the slightest whisper can be as distinctly heard on the opposite side (60 feet) as if spoken in, the loudest tone. The apartments adjacent to the temples are generally in a more perfect state. Hence we proceeded to the tomb of Agrippa; it is but little injured, though not cleared of the rubbish; its interior has been elegant. We were thence conducted to Nero's prison—a dismal horrid place, well adapted to the complexion of his crimes.—The reservoir of Paoli, where the Roman fleet used to water, is immense & capacious, supported by 42 stupendous arches. Then, to wind up our fatigues, as the ancients in their mortal career, we were conducted to the river Styx and the Elysian fields; the former by eruptions, convulsions, &c. is now reduced to a small lake; the latter is now converted to a vineyard, not half so decent a receptacle as fiddlers' green, allotted to sailors. Thus have I, a second Aeneas, visited both Hell and Elysium; and though I was not gratified with a dish of chat, no doubt experienced otherwise as much satisfaction, and will spin as long a yarn as he.

We also got a view of the scite of Cicero's villa, and of the palaces of Julius Cæsar, Nero, and Scylla. A great part of ancient Baia is now under water, and can be plainly seen in passing from one place to another in boats. In contemplating these venerable ruins, I have experienced much gratification, and been taught a wise lesson of the frailty of earthly hopes. In ascending the rugged path to fame, our best support is but a brittle reed, and that course of conduct which ensures us happiness, is alone to be aimed at.

By the brig Virginia, Rueburn, which arrived at Baltimore on Tuesday last, in sixteen days from Barbadoes, we learn, that a vessel had arrived there on the 6th from Lagaira, the captain of which had brought verbal intelligence that the celebrated patriot general Sir George M'Gregor, had taken possession of Cumana, and was proceeding against Caracas with a sufficient force, it was believed, to take possession of that place.

Bell. Gaz.

A distinguished French General has lately arrived at Baltimore.

Kentucky Legislature.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, DEC. 5.

Mr. Rowan from the committee for courts of justice, reported the following bills as unfinished business of the last session, viz. 1st, A bill regulating appeals from the judgment of a justice of the peace in this commonwealth—2d, a bill to explain and amend the several acts concerning the trial of slaves—3d, a bill to amend an act entitled "an act further regulating the Penitentiary"—4th, a bill providing a mode of trial against justices of the peace for malfeasance or misfeasance in office—5th, a bill to amend several acts authorizing the change of venue in civil cases—6th, a bill for the benefit of the orphans of those who fell in the late war—7th, a bill to provide for the safe keeping of the public arms of this state—8th, a bill to amend the act providing a summary mode of collecting debts—9th, a bill providing for proceedings against absent debtors cognizable before a justice of the peace—10th, a bill to prevent the fraudulent practice of surveying or patenting land manifestly off and at a distance from entries or locations originally made, unless legally removed as the law on that subject directs—11th, a bill to prevent redemption of Land, so as to give title against certain claims—12th, a bill further to regulate the general court—13th, a bill to amend the act establishing the state bank—and 14th, a bill to prevent the practice of gaming.

Which bills were received and ordered to be laid on the table.

Mr. South nominated Messrs. Martin D. Hardin, Samuel H. Woodson, & Norborne B. Beall, as proper persons to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. Wm. T. Barry; and Mr. Given nominated Mr. Matthew Lyon.

Ordered, That Mr. South inform the senate of the said nominations, and that this house is now ready to proceed by a joint vote with that, to the said election.

A message from the senate by Mr. James Garrard:

Mr. Speaker, I am directed to inform this house, that the senate is now ready to proceed by a joint vote with this house to the election of a senator to represent this state in the congress of the United States, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the honorable Wm. T. Barry, and that the same persons stand on the nomination for that office, before the senate as those reported from this house.

And then he withdrew.

The house then proceeded to the election, and upon taking the votes they stood thus:

For Mr. Hardin—Messrs. Barrett, Birney, Booker, Boone, Carson, Cotton, Cox, Cummins, Davidson, Davis, Dollerhide, B. Duncan, (of Lincoln) Eggleston, Ewing, Fleming, Ford, Gaither, Gilmore, Goode, Green, Grundy, Harrison, Hart, Hawkins, Helm, Hopson, Holman, Hernbeck, J. Jones, H. Jones, Irvine, Logan, Love, Marshall, Mercer, Monroe, Owings, Reeves, Rice, Robertson, Rowan, Shephard, Slaughter, South, S. Stephenson, Stapp, Todd, Turner, Underwood, D. White, Wickliffe, Woods and Yantis.—53.

For Mr. Woodson—Messrs. Armstrong, Blackburn, Caldwell, Clarke, Coburn, Cunningham, Dallam, Davenport, Gaines, Harrison, Grant, Hickman, Jamison, Lacky, Metcalfe, Mills, M'Coum, M'Millan, Parker, Spillman, T. Stevenson, Trigg, True, Wall, Ward, and P. White.—26

For Mr. Beall—Mr. Speaker, Messrs. Barbour, Cooke, B. Duncan, (of Davies) Given, Hunter, Meorman and Rudd—8.

For Mr. Lyon—None.

Messrs. Rowan, Yantis and South were then appointed to meet a committee from the senate, compare the votes, and report in whose favour a majority should appear.

The said committee then retired, and after a short time returned, when Mr. Rowan reported that the joint vote stood thus:

For Mr. Hardin, 74.

For Mr. Woodson, 31.

For Mr. Beall, 13.

For Mr. Lyon, 2.

A majority of both houses appearing in favor of Martin D. Hardin, Esq. he was thereupon declared to be duly elected to represent this state in the congress of the United States, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the honorable William T. Barry.

And then the house adjourned.

Mr. Helm moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend an act entitled a

act concerning occupying claimants of land, passed January 31, 1844.

And the question being taken on giving leave to bring in said bill, it passed in the affirmative.

The house took up a resolution from the senate to appoint a joint committee to examine the bank, which being again twice read, was concurred in; and Messrs. Parker, Robertson, Birney, Hopson, Owings, Breckenridge, Barratt, D. White, Davenport and Armstrong, appointed a committee on the part of this house.

Ordered, That Mr. Rowan inform the senate thereof.

Mr. Grundy asked for leave to bring in a bill to correct banks and insurance companies, to pay out specie to those when presented for payment.

Ordered, That the title presented on said motion be committed to a committee of the whole house on the state of the commonwealth.

Leave was given to bring in the following bills:

On the motion of Mr. Lackey—1st. A bill altering the time of returning fine money by justices of the peace, constables, sheriffs, &c. On the motion of Mr. Fleming—2d. A bill to establish an election precinct in the county of Fleming. On the motion of Mr. Harrison—3d. A bill to prevent fraud by the circulation of individual notes in this commonwealth.—On the motion of Mr. T. Stevenson—4th. A bill to regulate the duties of Magistrates, sheriffs and constables in this commonwealth. On the motion of Mr. Dallam—5th. A bill to authorize the sale of part of the public ground in the town of Hopkinsville. On the motion of Mr. Rudd—6th. A bill to prohibit the reading of reports of the sister states in courts of justice of this commonwealth. On the motion of Mr. Todd—7th. A bill to subject equitable titles of lands to sale by execution in certain cases. On the motion of Mr. Dallam—8th. A bill for the benefit of Nehemiah Cravens. On the motion of Mr. H. Jones—9th. A bill to authorize an election precinct in the county of Knox. On the motion of Mr. Lackey—10th. A bill to authorize the county court of Floyd county to sell a part of their public ground; and 11th. A bill to amend the law appropriating the vacant lands in this commonwealth; and on the motion of Mr. Blackburn—12th. A bill to alter the mode of taking in the lists of taxable property in this commonwealth.

SATURDAY, DEC. 7.

Mr. Rowan from the committee for courts of justice, made the following report, to wit:

The committee for courts of justice have according to order had under consideration, the petition of sundry citizens of Christian county, praying a reduction of the salary now allowed by law to the circuit judges of this commonwealth; and also praying some legislative provision, by which a more extensive circulation of the journals of both houses of the legislature may be had among the citizens of this state; and have come to the following resolution thereupon, to wit:

Resolved, That said petition be rejected.

Which was twice read, and amended by inserting after the word Commonwealth the words, "so as not to exceed the sum of eight hundred dollars."

It was then moved and seconded further to amend the said report by striking out therefrom the words, "be rejected," and to insert in lieu thereof the words, "is reasonable."

And the question being taken thereon, it passed in the negative.

The house took up a bill regulating appeals from the judgment of a justice of the peace in this commonwealth, and a bill providing for proceedings against absent debtors cognizable before a justice of the peace; which were laid on the table on the 5th instant.

TUESDAY, DEC. 10.

The petition of sundry citizens of the county of Fayette, representing the great inconveniences they experience from delay in the administration of justice in the Fayette circuit court, and from the crowded state of the docket of said court, and praying that the said county may be made one judicial district, and that a judge may be appointed to preside therein.

Was received, read and referred to the committee for courts of justice.

Mr. M'Millan from the committee of propositions and grievances, made the following report, to wit:

The committee of propositions and grievances have according to order, had under consideration the petition of sundry citizens of Christian County, to them referred, praying the legislature of this commonwealth would draw the attention of the congress of the United States to the subject of a change in their policy in relation to the disposal of the public lands; and recommend-