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LIFE AND LETTERS OF CAPTAIN FREDERICK MARRYAT.

VOL. I.
LIFE AND LETTERS

OF

CAPTAIN MARRYAT.

BY

FLORENCE MARRYAT

(MRS. ROSS CHURCH).

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

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1872.
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STAMFORD STREET AND CHARING CROSS.
Dedicated

to the

Right Hon. Francis Lord Napier and Ettrick,

the son of my father's friend,

In acknowledgment of much kindness shewn on his part

and gratitude felt on mine.
PREFACE.

I make no apology for offering these sketches to the public, for they do not profess to rank as a biography, complete in all its details, nor to claim a place upon the bookshelf beside such complete memoirs as those of Thackeray or Dickens. Had the same justice been done to my father as was considered due to his contemporaries in the world of letters, his life would have been written and published within six months of his death; but no one came forward to do it: his friends were either unwilling or incapable, and his children were too young.

But it has been represented to me lately that some record of his public and private actions is called for, if only to complete the notices of the leading men of literature of the last generation.

Under these circumstances, I have been
persuaded to attempt this work. The length of time (now a period of nearly four and twenty years) which has elapsed since my father's death places innumerable difficulties in my way. His contemporaries are either dead or scattered, his correspondence (which was voluminous and well worth preserving) is mostly lost or destroyed; and the account of his public services, with a few private letters and vague remembrances, are all the materials I have had; but I publish them in the hope that some information respecting the life of an author who, in his own peculiar line, has never been surpassed, may possess some interest for a generation that knows him only by hearsay.

To those members of his family who have assisted me with their recollections, to my aunt, Mrs. Bury Palliser, and my sister, Augusta Marryat (who originally collected the materials for this work), I tender my affectionate thanks.

Florence Marryat Church.

London, 1872.
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THE LIFE AND LETTERS

OF

CAPTAIN FREDERICK MARRYAT.

CHAPTER I.

Genealogy—Birth—School-days—He runs away and enters the Navy.

The name of Marryat (or Meryat) appears at a very early date in the annals of England. According to Sir Bernard Burke, three brothers of the family came over to this country with the Conqueror. Though the name is to be seen on the Battle Abbey Roll and another of the Rhyming Lists, little is known of those who bore it until the reign of Stephen, when they are found possessed of much lands at the village of
Meryat, Ashton Meryat, and elsewhere in Somersetshire; and later, one Nicotas de Maryet is deputed, together with the Bishop of Bath and Wells, to collect the ransom of Richard Cœur de Leon (then a prisoner in Austria) through the county of Somerset. The family continue to flourish, holding lands in Somerset, Wilts, Devon, Dorset, and Suffolk (in which county we find them established at Castle Carlton as early as 1311), and they are summoned to join the king with men-at-arms, in all the great wars during the reigns of the three Edwards. In the reign of Edward the First, Sir John de Maryet is called to attend the Great Parliament; in that of Edward the Second, his son is excommunicated by John de Drothensford, Bishop of Bath and Wells, for embowelling his deceased wife; "a fancy," says the county historian, "peculiar to the knightly family of Meryat;" of which a proof may again be found in the church of Combe Hay, where the heart of
Maude de Meryat, nun, of Canonlayne, is interred, by her own request, in the burial-place of her fathers; and as late as two years ago, an iron heart-case was found embedded in the wall of the church of Meryat, supposed to be that of Sir John Meryat, who died returning from the Crusades. The heads of this family were enjoined to receive knighthood at the age of twenty-one, and some were fined for neglecting the duty. In course of time the lands of Meryat passed away by the marriage of a co-heiress, the daughter of Sir John de Meryat and his wife (co-heiress of Lord Beauchamp, of Hatch) with Lord Brownlow, and the confiscation of the whole property to the Crown at the death of his great granddaughter, Lady Jane Grey. The Suffolk branch of the family vegetated in that county and appear but little on the scene before the sixteenth century, when one John de Maryat had the honour of dancing
in a masque before the virgin Queen at Trinity College, Cambridge. He afterwards joined the four thousand sent over by Elizabeth, under John Champernonne, to aid the Huguenots in their wars in France; rose to honour under Admiral Coligny; escaped the massacre of St. Bartholomew in 1572; and finally, on the death of his master, Henry IV., in 1610, returned to England, and having married Mary, the daughter and heiress of Daniel Lake, of the Convent Garden (a rank Puritan family in Hudibras), again settled in his paternal county of Suffolk. From this Huguenot officer, the subject of the present memoir descends in a direct line. During the civil wars the family sided with the Parliament, and adopted Christian names worthy of the Puritan cause, and, in the reign of Charles the Second, we find John Marryat indicted and fined £20 for nonconformity, and expelled from his living of Aston Clinton, in Buckinghamshire, and
again from a second living in Hants for the same cause. He is described as "a painful preacher," and no doubt his compositions were suited to the times. Of the same degree of merit appears to have been Zephaniah Marryat, another minister of the Gospel, who has bequeathed to his descendants a certificate of good conduct and ability, signed by one John Ker in 1706, and a book of sermons delivered in Gravel Lane, Southwark, in 1719, and entitled 'Jesus Christ, the Lord and God of true believers.' A passion for literature, indeed, seems to have pervaded the family, and long-forgotten works on abstruse questions of divinity, or experiments in chemistry, may still be found noted down in catalogues of old books written by three previous generations.

Captain Marryat (whom no one would have suspected to have been of Puritan descent) was the second son of the late Joseph Marryat, of Wimbledon House,
Surrey, whose father, Thomas Marryat, M.D., was the author of a work entitled, "Therapeutics, or the Art of Healing." Mr. Joseph Marryat was well known in the political world, being for many years member of Parliament for the boroughs of Horsham and Sandwich; he was also chairman for the committee of Lloyd's, and colonial agent for the island of Grenada. In 1790 he married Charlotte Von Geyer, the third daughter of Frederic Von Geyer, a Hessian of good descent, who had settled at Boston. This last-named gentleman was distinguished as an American loyalist, who not only suffered severely from his attachment to the cause of Great Britain, during the struggle with her revolted colonies, but sustained large pecuniary losses from the shock which all landed properties underwent in the establishment of their independence. Whilst member for Sandwich, Mr. Marryat was the chief agent in passing a Bill for the abolition of slave-grown sugar,
by which act he injured his own cause, being the owner of large property in the West Indies.

He was the author of several political pamphlets, much read at the time of their publication, and a very fair poet, though but few of his verses have appeared in print. So little did he care for worldly aggrandizement, that he refused the offer of a baronetcy from Spencer Perceval.

To show the high estimation in which he was held, the following lines, composed by Thomas Campbell, are inserted. They were written with a view to being placed upon his tombstone, but, as he was buried in the family vault at Wimbledon, were never used, and this is the first occasion on which they have appeared in print.

**LINES FOR THE MONUMENT OF JOSEPH MARRYAT, ESQ.**

"Marryat farewell! Thy outward traits express'd
A manliness of nature that combin'd
The thinking head and honourable breast.
In thee thy country lost a leading mind;"
Yet they, who saw not private life draw forth
Thy heart's affections, knew not half thy worth;
A worth that soothes ev'n friendship's bitterest sigh
To lose thee—for thy virtues sprang from faith
And that high trust in Immortality,
Which Reason hinteth and Religion saith
Shall best enable man, when he has trod
Life's path, to meet the mercy of his God.”

THOMAS CAMPBELL.

For some time previous to his death, Mr. Marryat resided at Wimbledon House; but it was in Westminster that, on the 10th of July 1792, his son Frederick was born to him.

He was one of fifteen sons and daughters, of whom ten attained maturity, and several have entered the lists of literature. As a family, they were vigorous both in mind and body and have evinced the possession of unusual talent; his eldest brother, Mr. Joseph Marryat, well-known as a collector of china, being the author of 'Pottery and Porcelain;' his youngest brother, Horace Marryat, of 'One Year in Sweden,' and
of "Nature and Art," 'The History of Lace,' and 'Historic Devices, Badges and War-cries;' and his cousin, Sir Edward Belcher, of 'The Voyage of the Samarang;' 'The Last of the Arctic Voyages,' and a book on Surveying. Of the boyhood of Frederick Marryat there is little to relate, excepting that, like most children with strong passions and precocious minds, he was very troublesome. Learning with great facility, he forgot his tasks with equal readiness, and being of a genial temperament, he preferred play to lessons, and was constantly flogged for idleness and inattention. His master was heard, on more than one occasion, to declare that he and the late Charles Babbage (who was at the same school with him) could never come to any good, or be otherwise than dunces, seeing how little heed they paid to his instructions.

The anecdote which follows, was pub-
lished in one of the newspaper obituaries of Mr. Babbage:

"One event of his boyhood deserves to be narrated, not merely as giving interesting evidence of the pertinacity with which Babbage adhered to a resolution he had once formed, but also as associating his name with that of a genial and deservedly popular writer—the late Captain Marryat. Babbage and a studious schoolfellow were in the habit of getting up in the morning at three o'clock, lighting a fire in the schoolroom, and studying surreptitiously until five or half-past five. Hearing of this, Frederick Marryat proposed to join them, but not so much from a desire to study as for the sake of doing what was forbidden. So, at least, Babbage interpreted the request, and he refused to let Marryat join them. One night, in trying to open the door of his bedroom, Babbage found that Marryat's bed had been pulled up against it. He gently pushed it back, without waking the
future captain, and pursued his way to the school-room. This happened on several successive nights; but at length Marryat improved the plan by fastening a string from his hand to the door lock. Babbage detected the trick, and untied the cord. A few nights later so stout a cord was used that he could only free the lock by cutting the string. Presently a chain took the place of the cord, and for one night Babbage was kept from his studies; for he was determined rather to stay away from the school-room than to waken Marryat. On the next night he had provided himself with a pair of stout pliers, with which he opened a link of the chain, and so effected his object. Each night he found a stouter chain; but he managed to remove the obstruction for several successive nights. At length a chain was made which he was unable to break. The next night, however, he relates, 'I provided myself with a ball of packthread. As soon as I heard by his
breathing that Marryat slept, I crept over to the door, drew one end of my ball of packthread through a link, and bringing it back with me to bed gave it a sudden jerk.' Marryat jumped up, but, finding his chain all right, lay down again. As soon as he was asleep Babbage unmercifully woke him again. However, the end of the matter was that Marryat was allowed to prevail, when the consequences predicted by Babbage presently followed. Others joined them, play took the place of work, fireworks were let off, and of course the delinquents were discovered."

As a child Marryat was very slightly built, so that his head appeared too large for the rest of his body. Whilst at a school at Ponder's End, kept by a Mr. Freeman, that gentleman was surprised one day to detect him, with a book in his hand, in the "dignified but graceful" position of standing on his head (like Mrs. Vincent Crummles) which, from the circumstance alluded to,
naturally (or unnaturally) formed his centre of gravity. But Mr. Freeman must have been still more surprised when, on asking his pupil why he chose so peculiar a mode in which to study his lesson, he received the answer: "Well! I've been trying for three hours to learn it on my feet, but I couldn't, so I thought I would try whether it would be easier to learn it on my head."

He ran away from school several times but was always recaptured and brought back again, until his final escapade, which took place when he was fourteen years of age. One of the excuses he gave for this behaviour, was characteristic of his independent disposition. His brother Joseph was but a twelvemonth older than himself, and, as he rapidly outgrew the skeleton suits then in vogue amongst the rising generation they were transferred to Frederick, which indignity appears to have rankled in his youthful mind. He ran
away, so he averred, not from books and hard work, but from his brother's cast-off garments.

Indeed, at this period of his life, he appears to have considered "running away" to be his mission, and most conscientiously endeavoured to fulfil his destiny by doing so whenever he could find an opportunity, and the place he ran to—the Eldorado of his imagination, was invariably the sea! On one occasion when his father, with much trouble, had pursued and caught him, he dispatched young Hopeful back to school in the carriage, but when it arrived at its destination the vehicle was found to be empty—Marryat having contrived to open the door and jump out, whilst it was in motion. He was subsequently discovered, sitting with much complacency at the theatre, in company with his younger brothers, whom he was treating with the money with which his parents had sent him back to school.
On leaving Ponder's End, he studied with a tutor from whose care he ran away for the last time. Mr. Marryat again followed his son with a view to bringing him back, but, as he was then old enough to hold a commission and his desire to go to sea was too strong to be turned aside by any arguments, his father made the necessary arrangements for his entering the navy, and on the 23rd of September, 1806, he started on his first voyage on board H.M.S. Impérieuse, Captain Lord Cochrane, for the Mediterranean.
CHAPTER II.

Sails on board H.M.S. Impérieuse for the Mediterranean—
She strikes upon a rock—Lord Cochrane takes Fort Roquette—Returns to Portsmouth to refit—Sails on
foreign service—Captures a Genoese privateer—Engage-
ment in the Bay of Arcasson—Sailors’ superstition
relative to Sunday.

When Marryat first went to sea, midship-
men were very differently treated to what
they are at the present time. To use his own
words, “there was no species of tyranny,
injustice, and persecution, to which young-
sters were not compelled to submit from
those who were their superiors in bodily
strength.” But, now that classes are organ-
ized on board ship and a general supervision
kept over the pupils, many abuses then pre-
valent in the cockpit have gone out of
fashion, in company with the cocked hat and shoe-strings. The proceedings of the *Impérieuse* after Marryat joined her can best be related by himself, in extracts from his unpublished papers and private log.

"The *Impérieuse* sailed; the Admiral of the port was one who *would* be obeyed, but *would not* listen always to reason or common sense. The signal for sailing was enforced by gun after gun; the anchor was hove up, and, with all her stores on deck, her guns not even mounted, in a state of confusion unparalleled from her being obliged to hoist in faster than it was possible she could stow away, she was driven out of harbour to encounter a heavy gale. A few hours more would have enabled her to proceed to sea with security, but they were denied; the consequences were appalling, they might have been fatal. In the general confusion, some iron too near the binnacles had attracted the needle of the compasses; the ship was steered out of her course."
midnight, in a heavy gale at the close of the month of November, so dark that you could not distinguish any object, however close, the Impéríeuse dashed upon the rocks between Ushant and the Main. The cry of terror which ran through the lower decks; the grating of the keel as she was forced in; the violence of the shocks which convulsed the frame of the vessel; the hurrying up of the ship's company without their clothes; and then the enormous waves which again bore her up and carried her clean over the reef, will never be effaced from my memory.

"Our escape was miraculous: with the exception of her false keel having been torn off the ship had suffered little injury; but she had beat over a reef, and was riding by her anchors, surrounded by rocks, some of them as high out of water as her lower yards and close to her. How nearly were the lives of a fine ship's company, and of Lord Cochrane and his officers, sacrificed in this instance to the despotism of an admiral
who would be obeyed. The cruises of the 
frigate were periods of continual excite-
ment, from the hour in which she hove up
anchor till she dropped it again in port;
the day that passed without a shot being
fired in anger, was with us a blank day; the
boats were hardly secured on the booms than
they were cast loose and out again; the
yard and stay tackles were for ever hoisting
up and lowering down. The expedition
with which parties were formed for service;
the rapidity of the frigate's movements,
night and day; the hasty sleep, snatched at
all hours; the waking up at the report of
the guns, which seemed the only key-note
to the hearts of those on board: the beauti-
ful precision of our fire, obtained by constant
practice; the coolness and courage of our
captain, inoculating the whole of the ship's
company; the suddenness of our attacks,
the gathering after the combat, the killed
lamented, the wounded almost envied; the
powder so burnt into our faces that years
could not remove it; the proved character of every man and officer on board, the implicit trust and the adoration we felt for our commander; the ludicrous situations which would occur even in the extremest danger and create mirth when death was staring you in the face, the hair-breadth escapes, and the indifference to life shown by all—when memory sweeps along those years of excitement even now, my pulse beats more quickly with the reminiscence."

During the three years that Marryat served on board the *Impérieuse* he was witness to more than fifty engagements, in which he took as active and prominent a part as a lad of his age could be expected to do; and in the winter that followed his joining it, Lord Cochrane captured and destroyed three French national vessels and twelve merchant ships; he also demolished Fort Roquette, at the entrance of Arcasson.

Marryat, speaking of this engagement, says:
“Preliminary to cutting out the vessels, it was necessary to storm and take possession of the fort, which the enemy, not dreaming that we would venture to attempt, had left weakly manned—a proportion of the men having been sent to the beach to protect the vessels. Fort Roquette was not a mere battery, *d fleur d'eau*, but a regularly-planned and laid out defence, protected on the land side as well as on the sea. It was, however, entered and carried with small loss; four thirty-six-pound long guns, two field pieces, and a thirteen-inch mortar, spiked; the platforms and carriages destroyed, magazines blown up, with a large quantity of military stores, and the fort left wholly in ruins. The whole of the convoy were then boarded and taken possession of; seven were destroyed, and the remainder brought out to the ship in the offing. For their conduct in this brilliant and well-conducted affair Lord Cochrane paid that honourable testimony to the ser-
VICES of Mapleton, Napier, and Houston Stewart which they so richly deserved."

In Marryat's private log, kept at this period, we find the following entries:

"1806. December 16th. Anchored off Isle Dieu, with a prize.

"December 19th. Engaged a battery, and took two prizes.

"— 25th. Engaged a battery, and received a shot in the counter.


"January 4th. Anchored, and stormed a battery.

"— 6th. Took a galliot; blew up ditto.

"— 8th. Trying to get a prize off that was ashore, lost five men.

"After a cruise of three months, during which nothing but the tempestuous weather prevented the Impérieuse from constantly attacking the enemy, Lord Cochrane's private affairs demanded his presence in England and an acting captain was ap-
pointed to the ship. The consequence was that our guns were never cast loose, or our boats disturbed from the booms. This was a repose which was, however, rather trying to the officers and ship's company, who had been accustomed to such an active life. But the *Impéríœuse* returned home, and orders were sent down for her fitting-out for foreign service; and, to the delight of all, we found that the Mediterranean was to be our station and that Lord Cochrane was to resume the command.

"The Mediterranean was at that time the very focus of the war, and sanguine were the anticipations of the officers and men of what they would be able to accomplish in fine weather and smooth water, after having done so much on a stormy coast and during a winter's cruise. Nor were those anticipations disappointed, as the annals of the country will testify. Our orders were, to touch at Gibraltar and Malta and then proceed to the admiral off
Toulon; and it was during this passage that an unfortunate mistake took place, which was attended with a great waste of human life, and that without indemnification.

"On Sunday, the 15th of November, 1807, the *Impérieuse* having then sailed from Malta about ten days, and, with light and baffling winds, coasted down the shores of Sicily, we observed a large polacre ship in-shore. When we first saw her the wind was very light, and soon afterwards it fell calm. The warlike appearance of the vessel was too suspicious to allow her to pass unnoticed: it was evident that she was an armed vessel, and built for fast sailing, and the general opinion was that it was a Genoese privateer. The boats were hoisted out, and, under the command of Napier and Fayrer, sent away to examine her. As soon as they were within half a mile, the ship hoisted English colours. The sight of those colours, of course, checked the attack; the boats pulled slowly up towards
CAPTAIN FREDERICK MARRYAT. 25

her, and, when within hail, demanded what she was, for, if an English vessel, she could have no objection to be boarded by the boats of an English frigate. Now, as it afterwards was proved, the ship was a Maltese privateer of great celebrity, commanded by the well-known Pasquil Giliano, who had been very successful in his cruises, and, if report spoke truly, for the best of reasons, as he paid very little respect to any colours; in fact, he was a well-known pirate, and, when he returned to Malta, his hold was full of goods taken out of vessels, which he had burnt that he might not weaken his crew by sending them away; and in an admiralty court so notoriously corrupt as that of Malta, inquiries were easily hushed up. Although such was the fact, still, it had nothing to do with the present affair.

"When the boats pulled up astern the captain of the polacre answered that he was a Maltese privateer, but that he would not allow them to come on board; for, although
Napier had hailed him in English, and he could perceive the red jackets of the marines in the boats, Giliano had an idea, from the boats being fitted out with iron tholes and grummets, like the French, that they belonged to a ship of that nation. A short parley ensued, at the end of which the captain of the privateer pointed to his boarding nettings triced up, and told them that he was prepared, and if they attempted to board he should defend himself to the last. Napier replied that he must board, and Giliano leaped from the poop, telling him that he must take the consequences. The answer was a cheer, and a simultaneous dash of the boats to the vessel's sides.

"A most desperate conflict ensued, perhaps the best contested and the most equally matched on record. In about ten minutes, the captain having fallen, a portion of the crew of the privateer gave way, the remainder fought until they were cut to pieces, and the vessel remained in our
possession. And then, when the decks were strewed with the dying and the dead, was discovered the unfortunate mistake which had been committed. The privateer was a large vessel, pierced for fourteen guns and mounting ten, and the equality of the combatants, as well as the equality of the loss on both sides, was remarkable. On board of the vessel there had been fifty-two men; with boats, fifty-four. The privateer lost Giliano, her captain, and fifteen men; on our side we had fifteen men killed and wounded. Fayrer lost for ever the use of his right arm by a musket bullet, and Napier received a very painful wound, and had a very narrow escape—the bullet of Giliano's pistol grazing his left cheek and passing through his ear, slightly splintering a portion of the bone.

"The Impérieuse returned to Malta with the privateer and the wounded men, and I never, at any time, saw Lord Cochrane so much dejected as he was for many days
after this affair. He appreciated the value of his men—they had served him in the *Pallas,* and he could not spare one of them. I must here remark that I never knew any one so careful of the lives of his ship's company as Lord Cochrane, or any one who calculated so closely the risks attending any expedition. Many of the most brilliant achievements were performed without the loss of a single life, so well did he calculate the chances; and one half the merit which he deserves for what he did accomplish has never been awarded him, merely because, in the official despatches there has not been a long list of killed and wounded, to please the appetite of the English public.

"I say to please the appetite, for among the peculiarities attending every nation there is one in the English which has been attended with much evil. Whether it is that the history of our country, imparted to us in our youth, is so full of sanguinary
detail or that the phlegmatic disposition of our countrymen requires a certain stimulus to procure the necessary excitation; most certain it is, that although from desuetude they shudder at slaughter before their eyes, they have a pleasure in reading its details on paper.

"We are naturally a blood-thirsty nation. Those who join the ranks of the army, or enter into the naval service, fully establish the fact by their conduct; and those, who remain on shore in peace and security have as surely the seeds of the same vice as deeply implanted, and are but as the caged and domesticated lion who has had his nature subdued by kind treatment and sufficiency of food; but, let him once taste blood, his real disposition will be displayed and even his keeper will receive no mercy. We have become so wise now, that, if ever a revolution were to take place in this country it would, in all probability, be a moral one and attended with no bloodshed; but, should it be so unfortunate as to prove
otherwise, should blood once be drawn, the national character will then be developed by a slaughter and devastation which will equal, if not exceed, any that has hitherto been produced, even by that of the murderous French Revolution.

"I have dwelt upon this point in the national character, because I am about to show the effects which it has produced. John Bull is but half satisfied with a despatch, even if it proclaims an important victory, if it be not attended with a slaughter commensurate with his ideas of what it ought to have been. He is too apt to estimate the danger and difficulty by the list of killed and wounded. For instance—should two English frigates have each had an engagement, single-handed, with an enemy's vessel of equal or superior force; and should it happen that in one case the list of killed and wounded was very trifling while in the other the loss was enormous, the greater credit would, in England, be immediately
given to the officer who had lost the larger portion of his ship's company. Whereas, if the merits of the case were really known, it would, in all probability, have been ascertained that the officer who had lost so many men had run headlong and rashly into action, showing no other quality than mere animal courage; while the other, whose loss was so trifling, had, by skill and conduct, out-manevred his antagonist, and had cut her to pieces without permitting her to inflict any serious damage in return.

"I have often witnessed, during the time I have been in the service, the effects of this well-known feeling on the part of the people at home; and I have heard officers rejoice that there had been considerable slaughter, as they felt that their own good names depended upon such a holocaust having been offered up to this blood-thirsty national propensity. I have known officers beat up, if I may use the term, for wounded men after an action, and put down scratches
and concussions, which never would have been thought of by the parties themselves, to swell out the list of killed and wounded. This is all very bad, and very injurious to the service. It is the bounden duty of a commander to obtain the greatest possible results by the best possible means, and to watch with the utmost care over lives so valuable to the country; for it should be recollected that every good seaman has, in his being made one, cost the country some hundreds of pounds. In this point, as I have before observed, Lord Cochrane was most particular. He knew the worth of well-trained men, and he never would risk a life without he considered the object to be attained warranted his so doing.

"1807. December 23rd. Cut out a Turkish ship from the harbour of Vallona.

"1808. January 13th. Took a settee laden with cloth, iron, and hare-skins.

"February 10th. Took two prizes off Cape St. Sebastien with the boats."
"February 17th. Boats engaged and took two vessels laden with copper and hides.

"— 19th. At night, fell in with a brig and four gun-boats. Engaged and took brig and one gun-boat. Sunk two others.

"At one time, determined to cut out a vessel which had been chased into the Bay of Arcasson and taken refuge beneath a battery, Lord Cochrane ordered a party (of which Mr. Midshipman Marryat was one) to board her; but, on reaching the enemy, some difficulty was experienced in gaining her deck, and it was not until the men had sustained a serious loss that they succeeded in doing so. The lieutenant in command was shot dead, and Marryat, who was close behind him, being knocked down by his corpse and trampled upon by the rest in their eagerness to revenge the death of their leader, was left on the ground insensible; and after the capture had been effected, and the list of the killed and wounded was called over, his name was
returned amongst those of the former. To quote his own words from the 'Naval Officer,' where this and many similar adventures are attributed to his hero:

"I had no time to disengage myself before I was trampled on and nearly suffocated by the pressure of my shipmates, who, burning to gain the prize, or to avenge our fall, rushed on with the most undaunted bravery. I was supposed to be dead, and treated accordingly—my poor body being only used as a stop for the gangway, where the ladder was unshipped. There I lay fainting with the pressure and nearly suffocated with the blood of my brave leader, on whose breast my face rested, with my hands crossed over the back of my head to save my skull, if possible, from the heels of my friends and the swords of my enemies; and, while reason held her seat, I could not help thinking that I was just as well where I was, and that a change of position might not be for the better. About eight minutes
decided the affair, though it certainly did seem to me, in my then unpleasant situation, much longer. Before it was over I had fainted, and before I regained my senses the vessel was under way, and out of gun-shot from the batteries.

"The first moments of respite from carnage were employed in examining the bodies of the killed and wounded. I was numbered amongst the former, and stretched out between the guns by the side of the first lieutenant and the other dead bodies. A fresh breeze blowing through the ports revived me a little, but, faint and sick, I had neither the power nor inclination to move; my brain was confused, I had no recollection of what had happened, and continued to lie in a sort of stupor until the prize came alongside of the frigate, and I was roused by the cheers of congratulation and victory from those who had remained on board.

"A boat instantly brought the surgeon and his assistants to inspect the dead and assist
the living. Murphy came along with them. He had not been of the boarding party, and, seeing my supposed lifeless corpse, he gave it a slight kick, saying at the same time, 'Here is a young cock that has done crowing! Well, for a wonder, this chap has cheated the gallows.'

"The sound of the fellow's detested voice was enough to recall me from the grave if my orders had been signed. I faintly exclaimed, 'You're a liar,' which, even with all the melancholy scene around us, produced a burst of laughter at his expense. I was removed to the ship, put to bed and bled, and was soon able to narrate the particulars of my adventure; but I continued a long time dangerously ill."

When writing of this voyage, Captain Marryat said, "It certainly does savour of superstition, but sailors have an idea that ships have their lucky and their unlucky days; and the lucky day is soon found out. The dislike which sailors have to sail on a Friday
is well known; but we also know that there is an origin for this feeling, which arose from religious scruples, now lost in superstition. In the first ages of Catholicism the priests forbade vessels to sail on that day of fast on which our Saviour suffered for us all. And perhaps the common seaman may be forgiven for having a superstitious feeling on this point, when I narrate an anecdote told me the other day. One of our most gallant admirals, the friend of Nelson, was asked what his real opinion was about sailing on a Friday, and whether he believed in its being inauspicious. 'Why,' replied he, 'I was once fool enough to believe it was all nonsense, and I did, one cruise, sail on a Friday, much to the annoyance of the men. The consequence was that I run my ship aground, and nearly lost her—what I never did before in my life,—and nothing shall induce me to sail upon a Friday again!'

"But to this feeling, as I was about to
remark, the sailors add another, of lucky and unlucky days. Now, the lucky day of the *Impérieuse* was *Sunday*—a day of peace and holiness, which, with us, was certain to be attended with slaughter and devastation. The storming of Fort Roquette took place on a Sunday; the conflict with the Maltese privateer also occurred on a Sunday, and so did the affair in Almeria Bay, which I am now about to narrate in my private log of the proceedings of the *Impérieuse*. I have marked with an S. every time that this occurred, and it is strange that almost every affair in which the *Impérieuse* distinguished herself has the initial of Sunday placed against it. The sailors had the firmest reliance upon the good fortune of this day, and I will mention a remarkable proof of it in a circumstance which occurred in the Walcheren expedition, long after Lord Cochrane had quitted the ship, which was then commanded by Captain Thomas Garth.
"The *Impéreuse* was ordered to proceed in advance up the Scheldt; there were two passages, one of which was in mid-channel and out of the fire of the batteries, the other close to the shore. The pilot, an old Dutchman, whether from ignorance or on purpose, took us up by the one in-shore, which obliged us to pass by a very formidable battery on the Terneuse shore; and this battery, mounting fourteen to sixteen guns enfiladed the narrow part of the channel so completely that the ship was forced to steer right on for it, without being able to fire a shot in return. We did not know this until it was too late. When within a mile the battery opened its fire, and with the most unpleasant precision; shot after shot either struck us or was directed so well that we felt assured that, as we decreased our distance, we should meet with a heavy loss. We beat to quarters and cast loose the guns, although, until we were close to the battery, it was impossible to return the fire.
"'I think we shall get a hammering,' observed I quietly to one of the captains of the guns on the main deck. 'We've one chance, at all events, sir,' replied he, 'it's Sunday.'

"As the battery continued its fire the people came out of the church, and the men, women, and children, dressed in their best apparel, were seen standing about and on the battery, looking on; for no shot being returned, they felt secure. It was amusement to them, but it was death to us. But how soon was the scene changed! Not being able to fire our guns, we loaded a small brass howitzer which we had on the booms and returned a shell. By the merest chance, the shell not only fell into the battery but rolled into the magazine. A tremendous explosion ensued; bodies were seen in all directions flying up in the air—men, women, and children; all on the battery perished. The firing immediately ceased, and, as we passed the dismantled
ruins, the fragments of the poor creatures who had been induced by curiosity to witness the scene, were strewed, still burning and smoking, in every direction. I need not observe that this singular incident, so fortunate for us and so unexpected, only added to the conviction of the seamen, that Sunday was the lucky day for His Majesty's ship Impérieuse."
CHAPTER III.

Engagement in Almeria Bay—Death of Lieutenant Caulfield—Impérieuse cruises off Balearic Isles—Castle of Mongat surrenders—Defence of Castle of Rosas—Anecdotes of wounded men—Capture of vessels laden with wheat off Barcelona—Marryat saves the life of Mr. W. Cobbett.

"On the morning of Sunday the 21st February, 1808, the Impérieuse stood into Almeria Bay, Lord Cochrane having received intelligence that there were several vessels lying there under the protection of the heavy batteries which lined the bay and flanked the town and citadel. At daylight we were well in, with American colours at the peak. The Spaniards had their suspicions, but, as we boldly ran into harbour, anchored among the other vessels, and furled our sails, they did not fire. They were puzzled, for they could not imagine
that any vessel would act with such temerity, as we were surrounded by batteries. We had, however, anchored with springs upon our cables; close to us, within half musket shot, lay a large polacre privateer of sixteen guns, the same vessel which had been attacked by, and had beaten off, the boats of the Spartan with a loss of nearly sixty men, killed and wounded. On our other side were two large brigs heavily laden, and a zebecque; the small craft were in-shore of us, the town and citadel about half a mile ahead of us at the bottom of the bay, the batteries all around us and evidently well prepared. Our boats had long been hoisted out and lay alongside; which circumstance added to the suspicions of the Spaniards; still, as yet not a gun was fired.

"Lord Cochrane's reason for running in with the frigate was, that he considered the loss of life would be much less by this manœuvre than if he had despatched the
boats, and this privateer he had determined to capture. He did not suppose, nor indeed did any one, that, lying as she was under the guns of the frigate, she would dare to fire a shot; but in this he was mistaken. The boats were manned, and the remaining crew of the *Impériouse* at their quarters. The word was given and the boats shoved off, one pinnace, commanded by Mr. Caulfield, the first lieutenant, pulling for the polacre ship, while the others went to take possession of the brigs and zebecque.

"To our astonishment, as soon as the pinnace was alongside the ship, she was received with a murderous fire, and half of our boat's crew were laid beneath the thwarts; the remainder boarded. Caulfield was the first on the vessel's decks—a volley of musquetoons received him, and he fell dead with thirteen bullets in his body. But he was amply avenged; out of the whole crew of the privateer, but fifteen, who escaped below and hid themselves, remained alive;
no quarter was shown, they were cut to atoms on the deck, and those who threw themselves into the sea to save their lives were shot as they struggled in the water. The fire of the privateer had been the signal for the batteries to open, and now was presented the animated scene of the boats boarding in every direction, with more or less resistance; the whole bay reverberating with the roar of cannon, the smooth water ploughed up in every quarter by the shot directed against the frigate and boats, while the Impérieuse returned the fire, warping round and round with her springs, to silence the most gallant. This continued for nearly an hour, by which time the captured vessels were under all sail, and then the Impérieuse hove up her anchor, and, with the English colours waving at her gaff, and still keeping up an undiminished fire, sailed slowly out the victor. Our loss on this occasion was not so severe as might have been expected; it only amounted to the first
lieutenant and twelve men, killed and wounded."

In 1808 the *Impérïeuse* sailed from Malta on a cruise to Catalonia and the Balearic Isles, and in the course of four months destroyed one national brig, six gun-vessels, one privateer and fifty sail of merchantmen; and, as will be seen by the extracts from Mr. Marryat's log, engagements and captures were events of every day occurrence.

"*July* 19th. Sailed with a convoy for St. Filore.

"*S.* —— 24th. Taking guns from the batteries.

"—— 25th. Burning bridges and dismantling batteries to impede the French.

"*S.* —— 30th. Attacked and took the Castle of Mongat; received ninety-five prisoners.

"*August* 1st. Taking the brass guns from the batteries.

"—— 15th. Took a French despatch boat off Cette."
August 18th. Took and destroyed a signal post.

August 19th. Blew up a signal post.

—- 22nd. Sent boats to destroy a signal post but were repulsed.

—- 23rd. Blew up a signal post.

—- 24th. Destroyed a signal post and took a battery—seven men hurt.

September 3rd. Sent boats to cut out a privateer, but were repulsed.

—- 4th. Engaged batteries with shot and shell and rockets.

—- 7th. Cut out some small vessels—Dr. Sorrell killed—Spartan in company.

—- 8th. Destroyed a telegraph off Port Vendre.

S. —- 9th. Stormed and took two batteries—beat off from a third—ship much damaged in hull and rigging—two men hurt.

—- 11th. Rocketing the town of Adge and engaging batteries.

—- 12th. Rocketing the town of Cette—ship losing boats.
"August 13th. Destroyed the mud engines on the levels of Clette.


" S. —— 20th. Took a settee laden with wine off Majorca.

"—— 22nd. Chased three brigs—took one—Hydra took another.

" S. —— 27th. Took a Spanish ship—put prisoners on board and let her go.

"—— 28th. Took two settees laden with wine in Alicadun Bay.

"—— 31st. Took a Spanish settee and sent her to Malta.

" April 1st. Detained an American brig.

"—— 2nd. Took a Spanish tower and blew it up.

"—— 5th. Cut a brig out from under a battery.

"—— 8th. Took a brig laden with wine—went in her to Gibraltar.

"—— 11th. Took a Spanish settee.

"—— 13th. Engaged some batteries and barracks.
"April 21st. Took and destroyed a tower of three guns at Minorca.

"— 28th. Landed on the Spanish coast for water—beat off—one man wounded.

"— 30th. Engaged a battery.

"May 5th. Took a prize laden with lead.

"— 6th. Took a polacre ship laden with barilla.

"— 7th. Cut out a polacre ship laden with barilla.

"— 11th. Took a French bark, and cut out a polacre ship.

"— 21st. Engaged four gun-boats and a convoy of twenty sail—ran them all on shore, and set fire to them, except one gun-boat and two settees. Received wounded prisoners—one man wounded.

"— 14th. Took a convoy of six sail—burnt one and got five off.

"— 28th. Took and destroyed a telegraph.

"— 30th. Blew up a signal post near Cape Lien.
"October 2nd. Chased by the French fleet. Spartan to seaward.

"November 13th. At anchor off Barcelona—Blew up a fort, and took a French boat at night, rocketing the town of Barcelona.

"— 15th. Engaging batteries at Barcelona, with shot and shells—ship much damaged; one gun dismantled by a shot.

"— 21st. Came to an anchor in the Bay of Kous.

"— 22nd. French besieging the town of Rosas and Fort Trinity.

"— 23rd. Landing troops and engaging batteries; Spaniards repulsed, with loss—a master's mate and several men of Fame killed and wounded. Fame embarked marines from fort, not thinking it tenable.

"— 24th. Landed and took possession of Trinity Castle. Enemy keeping up a constant fire on the castle and tower.

"— 27th. Boats taking troops to the citadel.

"— 30th. French stormed the castle—
but were repulsed with loss of several men, scaling ladders, etc.

"December 5th. The Spaniards capitulated, and surrendered the citadel to the French. Embarked our ship's company under cover of the Fame and Magnificent. Blew up the Castle and spiked the guns. Total loss, five killed and twelve wounded.

"— 30th. Warped the ship into harbour of Cadaqués and took possession, after a short action, of the batteries, two men-of-war, and twelve sail laden with wheat.

"1809. January 9th. Ran into Port Selda, drove French from the batteries, employed getting brass guns off, marines repulsed and embarked. One man made prisoner, five wounded—got off four brass guns.

"— 20th. Engaging town of Sitges with shot and shells.

"— 22nd. Firing at the French army as they passed on the beach for six miles.

* * * * *

"On the 30th of July in this year;
the Castle of Mongat was attacked and surrendered to the Impér.úeuse, in which undertaking Marryat assisted, and during the months of August and September following, the ship cruised off the coast of Languedoc, thereby keeping it in a continual state of alarm, besides involving a total suspension of the enemy's trade. On the 13th November, a fort near Barcelona was blown up and the city annoyed with rockets and a small French vessel taken. Two days after the Impér.úeuse sustained great damage, one gun having been dismounted whilst engaging some batteries. By his subsequent heroic defence of the castle of Trinidad Lord Cochrane greatly retarded the progress of the French army, and was pleased on this occasion to make particular mention of Mr. Marryat in these words: —

'As to the officers, seamen, and marines of this ship, the fatigues they underwent and the gallant manner in which they behaved deserve every praise. I must, however,
particularly mention Lieutenant Johnston of the navy, Lieutenant Hoare of the marines, Mr. Burney, gunner, Mr. Loderick, carpenter, and Messrs. Stewart, Stovin, and Marryat, midshipmen."*  

In the course of these engagements Marryat received three wounds, one of which was in his stomach; but part of his shirt having been thrust in with the bayonet, it served as a plug and prevented bleeding, so that in the excitement of the action he felt no pain, and it was not until he undressed in his cabin and the removal of the linen caused the blood to flow, that he knew that he was wounded.

His description of the defence of the castle of Rosas, in which he took part, is as follows:

"The southern army of Spain, under the command of General St. Cyr, had already captured Figueras and Gerona, and were now forcing their way to Barcelona; but

* Marshall's 'Naval Biography.'
they could not advance and leave the citadel of Rosas in the possession of the Spaniards. Now, the weakest point in the citadel was protected by the castle, which the French had already reduced to a heap of ruins, when Lord Cochrane threw himself in it with the major part of his ship's company, and held it against the efforts of the French army for a period of six weeks. He did not abandon it until the Spaniards in the citadel capitulated, when, of course, it was useless to remain there longer. The French stormed us with a thousand picked men; but unfortunately they selected Sunday for the attempt, and they were beaten back with heavy loss. In this instance a mere handful of seamen detained the whole French army for more than six weeks. In this long contest we lost only seventeen men of our ship's company killed and wounded; the total loss I do not know.

"I have seen many strange results from wounds, and there were two or three on
this occasion worth relating. One of the men belonging to Lord Cochrane's gig received a musket-ball in his skull, which pierced it and lodged underneath. It was extracted by trepanning and sawing away a considerable portion of the bone. The brain was injured, and inflammation ensued; the wound was poulticed over the brain, which was laid bare, and every time that the poultice was removed a large portion of the brain came away with it; indeed, it was argued, from the numerous poultices and the quantity of brain taken away, that he ought to have very little brains left; this was not, however, the case; it appeared to be reproduced. The man's life was saved, and the effect was, not idiotcy, as might be conjectured, but a paralysis of the left side.

"It would therefore appear that brains are not quite so necessary as has generally been supposed, or, at all events, that we have duplicate organs of the brain, as
the phrenologists assert, and provided that one is left, we can get on very well without the other. However, I only state the fact and leave those who please to argue the point.

"A long brass twenty-four-pounder not having been properly spunged out, went off while the men where reloading it, and a marine of the name of Folkes and a mizen-top man, who were ramming the cartridge home, were the sufferers. The state of the poor marine was dreadful; his face was blown off to the bones; nose, eyes, lips, every feature, had disappeared, and the remains were left black as charcoal. Both his arms were blown off short at the shoulders; and the flesh of his chest had been carried away, so that you might perceive the motion of the vitals within. A more dreadful object could not have been imagined, and the poor fellow was carried away and laid down in a corner to die.

"Now the strange feature in this case was
that the man never complained, or appeared to feel the least pain. With his bared and blackened jaws he continued to abuse the French, and to swear that as soon as he was well again he would have his revenge upon them. He imagined himself to be very slightly hurt. I watched him for about two hours before he died; his voice gradually failed him, as he bled to death, and at last he spoke no more.

"It would appear, then, that a shock to excess does not carry pain with it, and, indeed, I have observed this in more instances than in the one I have now mentioned.

"The mizen-top man had his arm blown off, and, at the same time, he was himself blown over the castle walls, and fell on the hard rock from a height which, in any other case, would have dashed a man to atoms. We went down to his assistance, expecting to find him dead; on the contrary, he was quite sensible and collected.
He was taken on board of the frigate, his arm was amputated and he was put into his hammock. Now, it is most singular that the man was not injured by the fall, and he never complained of the least pain from it, nor was there to be observed the least contusion. He recovered, and was sent home. It is a well-known fact, that a man when intoxicated will fall from a height without injury, which fall, if he were sober, would occasion his death; and it is to be presumed that the same effect will be produced, even to a more extensive degree, when a man is in a state of total unconsciousness, which was probably the case with this man when he was blown over the castle wall.

"The French, who had possession of Barcelona, were now closely blockaded by the Spaniards on shore and at sea by the English cruisers. Incredible efforts were made by the French to throw provisions into the town, and convoy after convoy
crept along the coast, availing themselves of the protection of the batteries during the day, and of the darkness during the night. The *Impérieuse* was actively employed, and circumstances as singular as they were exciting often occurred. At one time we were on shore with the guerillas, with rocks for our beds and heaven for our covering; at another engaging the escorts which accompanied the military stores, breaking up the roads, dismantling batteries, and embarking the guns.

"We had received information that a convoy of eleven sail of vessels, laden with wheat for Barcelona, under the protection of an armed cutter and zebecque, had taken shelter in the small port of Cadaqués. This is a port on the confines of the Spanish Mediterranean coast, abutting on France. It is very narrow, not only at its entrance but in the whole length of it to its termination, where the town is situated. It forms a sort of long narrow pass, and it is lined
on each side with high rocky mountains abruptly rising from the water, and strewed with large fragments of rocks and small brushwood. A more secure retreat for the defenders, and a more difficult one to assail, cannot well be conceived. To have sent in the boats to take out these vessels would have subjected them to severe loss, as they would have been exposed to the musketry of the French troops concealed on both sides behind the fragments of rock, at the same time that they would have been raked by the fire of a battery raised by the French in front of the town, at the bottom of this cul-de-sac. There was scarcely room for the frigate to enter, or to warp her broadside across this narrow inlet; but, on the whole, this proceeding was considered by our commander as preferable. We therefore dropped our kedge at the entrance of the port before daylight.

"There was not a breath of wind shortly after we anchored, and we laid out our
warps, and made fast our hawsers before the French were aware that we were near them, for they slept in perfect security. At daylight, to their surprise, the frigate was in harbour, and, being soon able to point some of our guns, we drove them away and took possession of the vessels and the battery, the guns of which we spiked. The officers commanding the man-of-war cutter and zebecque had sunk them where they lay, by firing their own guns down the hatchway through the vessels' bottoms. But, although we had possession, the French troops received reinforcements, and rallied, stationing themselves behind the rocks, within half musket-shot, and keeping up a most galling fire. The guns of the frigate were fired at them, but with little effect as they were so well protected. Thus passed Friday and Saturday. We had possession of the vessels laden with wheat, but Lord Cochrane determined to raise the men-of-war and bring them out, for they
were very beautiful vessels, and of a character much wanted in the peculiar warfare in which we were engaged.

"But to effect this, it was necessary to dislodge and drive away the French troops, and have the whole harbour to ourselves. On the Sunday this was effected; and I mention the way, as it may be useful to others. We were so close that the shot from our large guns were thrown with terrible force against the rocks behind which the French were concealed. Finding that firing at the rocks was of little use we hit upon another plan, which succeeded to admiration. Instead of firing at the large fragment of rock from behind which the musketry proceeded, we aimed with the greatest precision at the rock next to it and a little behind it. The force of the shot splintered these rocks and produced all the effect of shells, for the fragments bounded off on every side and did such execution amongst the enemy that, in a few
hours, they thought it advisable to retreat and leave us in quiet possession.

"We remained there ten days, during which we careened and repaired the cutter, mounting seven guns, and thirty-two men, and the zebecque, a beautiful vessel, called the Julie, mounting five guns, and a complement of forty-four men; refitted them, and, when we left, carried them away with us. As for the convoy laden with wheat, we sold them to the Spaniards belonging to the place; the French, in reality, being the purchasers. That we cared little about, as they paid in hard dollars which we served out on the capstan head, not thinking it necessary that an agent should finger them at our expense."

Here ends Marryat's account of the engagements in which he shared whilst on board His Majesty's ship Impériouse. He was recommended in Lord Cochrane's despatch of the 8th of December, 1808, and in May 1809 received a certificate from the
same officer for gallantry in leaping overboard, whilst in the harbour of Malta, to save the life of Mr. Midshipman Cobbett, and holding him up until a boat could be brought to his assistance.

This incident is related in 'The Naval Officer,' but the motive for the action which he attributes to himself in print is very different from what it really was. There he says, "The officers and ship's company gave me more credit for this action than I really deserved. To have saved any person under such circumstances they said was a noble deed; but to risk my life for a man who had always, from my first coming into the ship, been my bitterest enemy, was more than they could have expected, and was undoubtedly the noblest revenge that I could have taken. But they were deceived, they knew me not: it was my vanity and the desire of oppressing my enemy under an intolerable weight of obligation that induced me to rush to his rescue; moreover,
as I stood on the gangway witnessing his struggles for life, I felt that I was about to lose all the revenge I had so long laid up in store. In short, I could not spare him, and only saved him, as a cat does a mouse, to torment him."

It is only necessary to compare this with the true version of the case, to see how poorly Marryat rated his own heroism and generosity. Writing home to his mother to relate the adventure (which took place, as stated, for the sake of a lad from whom he had received the most brutal treatment on first joining the ship, and with whom he carried on a war to the knife,) he says, "From that moment I have loved the fellow as I never loved friend before. All my hate is forgotten. I have saved his life."
CHAPTER IV.


On the 9th of January, 1809, the Impérieuse ran into Port Selda, drove the enemy from their works and embarked four brass guns. With this terminated the long list of Lord Cochrane's active and gallant services in the Mediterranean, but not that of Marryat, as he continued on board the Impérieuse, and, being in the succeeding April employed
in an explosion vessel under Lieutenant Urry Johnson, received the following certificate from that officer:

"This is to certify that Mr. Frederick Marryat, midshipman of H.M.S. Impérieuse, was in the explosion brig under my command in the attack of the enemy's fleet in Basque Roads, on the night of the 11th of April, 1809, and conducted himself very much to his own credit and my entire satisfaction.

"U. Johnson, Commander,

"Late Lieutenant, H.M.S. Impérieuse.

"London, Nov. 10, 1809."

In June 1809, Captain Thomas Garth assumed the temporary command of the Impérieuse, and Marryat continued to serve under him until the October of the same year, when he was discharged into H.M.S. Victorious, 74 guns, for his passage from Flushing to England, a severe attack of Walcheren fever being the cause of his
temporary suspension from active service. Temporary, indeed, as, on the day following his arrival at home, he joined H.M.S. Centaur, the flag ship of Sir Samuel Hood, being at this time eighteen years of age.

With Sir Samuel Hood he returned to the Mediterranean, and whilst serving in the Centaur, September 1810, saved the life of Thomas Mowbray, seaman, who fell overboard from the main-yard, whilst the ship was cruising off Toulon.

After an absence of twelve months, Marryat returned home from Cadiz in the Atlas, 74 guns, Captain James Sanders; and proceeded to Barbadoes (the scene of his dignity ball) and Bermuda, as a passenger on board the Africa, 64 guns, Captain John Bastard. On the 1st of March, 1811, Marryat jumped overboard in a very daring manner from the poop of this vessel, whilst she was under sail and going seven knots an hour before the wind, in order to save the life of James Walker, seaman; an
attempt which unfortunately proved futile, as Marryat was nearly two miles astern of the *Africa* and upwards of thirty minutes in the water before a boat could be sent to his assistance." * For this act he received a certificate of gallantry from Captain Bastard.

From Bermuda he went to Halifax in the *Chub* steamer to join, April 11th, 1811, the *Æolus* frigate, Captain Lord James Townshend.

The *Æolus*, after visiting Quebec and Prince Edward's Island, was sent, in company with the squadron under Captain Bastard, to cruise off New York. On the 30th of September, a gale of wind blew with tremendous fury; the *Æolus* was laid on her beam ends, her top-masts and mizen-masts were literally blown away, and she continued in this very perilous situation for at least half an hour. Directions were then given to cut away the main-yard in order

* Marshall's 'Naval Biography.'
to save the main-mast and right the vessel, but so great was the danger attending the operation considered, that *not a man* could be induced to attempt it until Marryat led the way. The sequel is in his own words: "I confess I felt gratified at this acknowledgment of a danger that none dared face. I waited a few seconds to see if a volunteer would step forward, resolved, if he did, that I would be his enemy for life, inasmuch as he would have robbed me of the gratification of my darling passion—unbounded pride. Dangers, in common with others, I had often faced, and been the first to encounter; but to dare that which a gallant and hardy crew of a frigate had declined, was a climax of superiority which I had never dreamed of attaining. Seizing a sharp tomahawk, I made signs to the captain that I would attempt to cut away the wreck, follow me who dared. I mounted the weather rigging; five or six hardy seamen followed me. Sailors will rarely refuse to follow when
they find an officer to lead the way. The jerks of the rigging had nearly thrown us overboard, or jammed us with the wreck. We were forced to embrace the shrouds with arms and legs; and anxiously, and with breathless apprehension for our lives, did the captain, officers, and crew gaze on us as we mounted, and cheered us at every stroke of the tomahawk. The danger seemed passed when we reached the cat-hairpings where we had foot-room. We divided our work, some took the lanyards of the topmast rigging, I the slings of the main yard. The lusty blows we dealt were answered by corresponding crashes, and at length, down fell the tremendous wreck over the larboard gunwale. The ship felt instant relief; she righted, and we descended amidst the cheers and the congratulations of most of our shipmates.

"This was the proudest moment of my life, and no earthly possession would I have taken in exchange for what I felt when I
once more placed my foot on the quarter-deck. The approving smile of the captain—the hearty shake by the hand—the praises of the officers—the eager gaze of the ship's company, who looked on me with astonishment and obeyed me with alacrity, were something, in my mind, when abstractedly considered, but nothing compared to the inward feeling of gratified ambition—a passion so intimately interwoven in my existence that, to have eradicated it, the whole fabric of my frame must have been demolished. I felt pride justified.” * * *

His heroic conduct on this occasion excited universal admiration, and in a certificate awarded him for his courage, Lord James Townshend says that "he conducted himself with such bravery, intrepidity and firmness as merited my warmest approbation."

From the same officer, and almost at the same time, Marryat received a second certificate for saving the life of a boy who had
fallen overboard in Halifax Harbour, by jumping after him and holding him up until a boat arrived to their assistance.

On the 17th of November, 1811, he was removed to the Spartan frigate, Captain Edward Pelham Brunton, under whose command he continued to serve on the coast of North America until the 22nd of August, 1812.

A few days previous to his leaving this ship to come home in the Indian sloop of war, Marryat was engaged in two boat attacks in Haycock's Harbour and Little River, the result of which was the capture of six American vessels.

On the 26th of December, 1812, Marryat received his commission, and appeared in all the dignity of a lieutenant's epaulette. His promotion was conferred without the necessity of his going abroad, "a mark of favour which" (as Mr. Hay, Secretary to the Admiralty, says in a letter to Mr. Joseph Marryat,) "is only exhibited where
the particular services of the candidate appear to deserve it."

On the 8th of January, 1813, Marryat was appointed to l'Espiégle sloop, Captain John Taylor, and on the 8th of the following month Jacob Small, seaman, having fallen from the main rigging, as a matter of course he leapt overboard in hope of saving the man; but, owing again to the length of time that elapsed before a boat could be sent to his aid, was unsuccessful in the attempt. When Marryat was at last picked up, a mile and a half distant from the vessel, he was quite exhausted and nearly senseless. In after days, he would often speak of the sensations he experienced whilst drowning, and said that, the struggle for life once over, the waters closing round him assumed the appearance of waving green fields, which approached nearer and grew greener as his senses gradually forsook him. It was not a feeling of pain, but more like sinking down, overpowered by sleep, in the long
soft grass of a cool meadow. For this last act of bravery, Lieutenant Marryat was again rewarded by a certificate from Captain Taylor; and altogether, during the time he served in the navy, he was presented with twenty-seven certificates, recommendations and votes of thanks for saving the lives of others at the risk of his own, beside receiving a gold medal from the Humane Society.

Lieutenant Marryat next visited Surinam, Demerara, and Barbadoes, but having to quit l'Espiègle at New Providence, in consequence of having broken a blood-vessel, he proceeded thence to sick quarters at Halifax, and shortly afterwards returned to England as a passenger on board the Spartan.

His next appointment, on the 31st of January, 1814, was to the Newcastle, 58 guns, Captain Lord George Stuart; under whom he assisted at the capture of the American privateer Ida, 10 guns; and the
Prince de Neufchâtel, 18 guns. On the 19th of December he commanded the Newcastle barge, which was despatched in order to cut off four vessels from Boston Bay. In this engagement, he lost eleven of his crew killed and wounded.

In the private log kept by Lieutenant Marryat, from the time of his appointment to the Impérieuse, 1806, to that of his being sent home on sick leave in 1815, he reports himself on the 17th of April, 1813, as "discharged ashore into sick quarters," whilst the certificate from the surgeon of the vessel gives the following reason for the circumstance: "Lieutenant Marryat, on the 21st of March last, ruptured a blood-vessel of the lungs whilst dancing at a ball at Barbadoes, which produced an immediate discharge of about four pounds of arterial blood. By the use of proper remedies the complaint was mitigated so far as to induce him to return to his duty on the 28th of the same month; but in consequence of exertion
of the lungs in speaking, whilst carrying on the necessary duties of his station, a relapse was produced which rendered it necessary for him to go on the list again on the 6th of this month; since which, he has continually coughed up considerable quantities of arterial blood accompanied with thoracic pain and difficulty of respiration, which has produced a great degree of debility and emaciation." . . . . " Lieutenant Marryat's return to Barbadoes would be productive of the most dangerous, and ultimately fatal consequences to him."

The surgeon to the forces and the surgeon of the Second West Indian Regiment, also certified to his tendency to "hæmoptysis," and prophesied that, without great care, "the most dangerous, and perhaps fatal results," would be the consequence. (The tendency exhibited by Lieutenant Marryat's constitution at this period of his life was subsequently confirmed, as the disease which killed him was atrophy, produced by
weakness, consequent on the rupture of internal blood-vessels.)

Owing to continued ill health, on the 16th of February, 1815, he left the Newcastle at Madeira, and returned to England in the Conway, 24 guns; and on the 13th of the following June, he was made a commander.

"The military events of June 1815 being followed by a general peace, he occupied himself in acquiring a perfect knowledge of such branches of science as might prove useful should the Lords of the Admiralty think fit to employ him in a voyage of discovery or survey, and he was even recalled from Italy, in 1818, in order to conduct a mission into the interior of Africa; but circumstances afterwards occurred which induced him to relinquish his intention of joining it."*

The "circumstance" referred to, was Captain Marryat’s marriage with Catherine,

* Marshall’s ‘Naval Biography.’
second daughter of Sir Stephen Shairp, Knt., of Houston, Co. Linlithgow, for many years Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, and twice Chargé d'Affaires at the Court of Russia; which event took place in January, 1819.

It was in 1818 that he was presented by the Royal Humane Society with the Gold Medal before alluded to, and at the same time he received "their warmest thanks for his most gallant and benevolent exertions;" the president observing during the meeting, at which Captain Marryat was present, that "it was with extreme pain that the committee had been under the necessity of declining to recommend the Honorary Medallion in several cases of extraordinary merit, but which had been presented to the society at a period far beyond that prescribed by its necessary regulations. Two of these cases Mr. Pettigrew had narrated to the meeting; the first was the preservation of the crews of two ships by the
benevolent exertions of Captain Rowland Money; the other, the saving of at least a dozen lives by Captain Marryat, at the imminent hazard of his own."

The code of signals for the use of merchant vessels of all nations, including the cipher for secret correspondence, was invented and brought to perfection by Captain Marryat.

It was at once adopted in the merchant service, and is now generally used by the British and French navies, in Calcutta and Bombay, at the Cape of Good Hope and other English settlements, and by the mercantile marine of North America.

It is also published in the Dutch and Italian languages, and, by an order of the French Government, no merchant vessel can be insured without these signals being on board. On the 4th of March, 1817, Captain Marryat received a letter of thanks from the shipowners, for his able invention, and shortly afterwards a second vote of
thanks from the same society was conveyed to him through their president, Mr. G. F. Young.

In 1819, Captain Marryat was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and with respect to this election, an amusing anecdote is extant. He was a good draughtsman, and from a boy had exhibited a talent for caricaturing, which threatened sometimes to lead him into serious scrapes; indeed this unfortunate proclivity stopped for some months his promotion from lieutenant to commander. His published caricatures, both private and political, which were well known in their day, stood him in good stead, however, on the occasion of his being proposed as a member of the Royal Society. His name was submitted to Sir Joseph Barker, to whose decision the "Fellows" bowed without demur.

"Marryat! Marryat!" jerked out Sir Joseph. "A capital fellow! Elect him by all means. Puzzled which to choose! Puzzled
which to choose! I always have his caricatures on my table; wouldn't be without them for the world."

The caricature alluded to by Sir Joseph, and wherein Captain Marryat himself is depicted standing with his hand on his heart in an attitude of perplexity, before three dusky ladies dressed in the highest fashion of their country, is entitled "Puzzled which to choose: or, the King of Timbuctoo offering one of his Daughters in Marriage to Captain —— (anticipated result of the African Expedition)."

The draughtsman's own caricature figured in another publication called "The Adventures of Master Blockhead," which was one of the most popular of the series.

On the 13th of June, 1820, Captain Marryat was appointed to the Beaver sloop, and shortly after assuming her command he received an invitation to dine on board the royal yacht, then stationed at Portsmouth; an honour strangely at variance
with his Sovereign’s conduct to him at a later period. This compliment is mentioned, as it was bound to be, in his private log.

“1820. Sept. 27th. Dined on board the Royal George yacht, by command of His Majesty.

“1821. March 7th. Came to an anchor at St. Helena.

“May 1st. Weighed and made sail to cruise to windward; but was recalled in consequence of being attacked with dysentery and cholera morbus on the 3rd.

“— 5th. Napoleon Bonaparte died.

“— 9th. Exchanged into H.M. sloop Rosario. Attended the funeral of Bonaparte.

“— 16th. Sailed for England with despatches.

“— 21st. Made the Island of Ascension. Hove to to deliver despatches to the governor, and to procure turtle.

“June 9th. Mr. Cowan, purser, died of dysentery.
"July 6th. Anchored at Spithead.


"—- 17th. Weighed and made sail with the squadron for Cuxhaven; the Glasgow having on board the body of Her late Majesty Caroline, Queen of England."

As mentioned here, Captain Marryat, leaving his wife and child at Wimbledon, sailed for Madeira, Teneriffe, St. Iago, Trinidad on the Main, Tristran d'Acunha, Cape of Good Hope, and St. Helena.

It was at this time that the emperor was confined there, and the Beaver continued to cruise round the island until his death rendered the guardianship of his person no longer necessary.

The news of his decease was brought home by Captain Marryat in duplicate despatches from Rear-Admiral Lambert and Sir Hudson Lowe. On the afternoon of the day on which Napoleon died, Captain Marryat took the well-known sketch of him
in full profile, which was afterwards engraved both in France and England.

It represents the dead emperor lying on his camp bed with his hands crossed above the crucifix upon his breast, and has been considered one of the most striking likenesses preserved of him.

After the emperor's death, being attacked by dysentery, Captain Marryat exchanged from the Beaver into the Rosario sloop, and returned home in her on the 9th of May, 1821.

This ship formed part of the squadron appointed to escort the remains of Her Majesty Queen Caroline from Harwich to Cuxhaven in August of the same year, and after he had cruised in her with some success against the smugglers in the British Channel, she was pronounced no longer seaworthy, and paid off on the 22nd of February, 1822.
CHAPTER V.

Pamphlet containing 'Suggestions for the Abolition of the present System of Impressment in the Naval Service'—Letter to the Admiralty on the 'Prevention of Smuggling.'

In 1822 Captain Marryat published a pamphlet entitled 'Suggestions for the Abolition of the present System of Impressment in the Naval Service,'* in which he pointed out the propriety of all merchant vessels carrying apprentices proportioned to tonnage, instead of West Indiamen only, as was then the case. A few months after its appearance His Majesty's Ministers put this suggestion in force, taking the scale proposed by him as their guide, with little, if any, alteration.

* Marshall's 'Naval Biography.'
The following letter was also written to the Admiralty relative to the prevention of smuggling in the Channel, in answer to which Sir G. Cockburn wrote: "I have much pleasure in saying I very much concur with him (Captain Marryat) on some of the points to which he has adverted":

"MY LORDS,

"Having been informed that Government has lately instituted an inquiry into the measures resorted to for the prevention of smuggling, I trust I shall not be deemed presuming if I venture to submit to your Lordships the circumstances that came under my observation during the few months I was employed upon that service. In so doing I shall confine myself to the western side of the Channel, where I was stationed—a line of coast, of which Portland may be considered as the centre, extending from Portsmouth to the Start Point. I have taken these two extremes, there being, com-
paratively speaking, but little smuggling on the English Channel to the westward of the Start, and that which is carried on to the eastward of Portsmouth is from other ports of France, and on a different system.

"I believe I may confidently state that every cargo run on the line of coast above laid down is shipped from the port of Cherbourg. It will be necessary, first, to direct your Lordships' attention to the system upon which the smuggling is carried on; and, secondly, to the means at present resorted to for the prevention of it; to consider whether those means are effectual, and if not, by what measures they may be made more so than they are at present. Although it will occasionally happen that several interests are combined, it may be generally considered that there are three parties in this traffic having interests distinct from each other.

"The first is the owners of the vessel, who receive a freight for her employment;
which, if she be successful, will in a short period repay the whole expense of building and fitting out. The second is the crew of smugglers hired to sail in the vessel, who are paid so many shillings per tub, provided that the cargo be landed safe; if the cargo is sunk for concealment, a deduction is made for the expenses attending the recovery, unless the crew recover it themselves, which they generally do. If the cargo be thrown over in deep water and irrecoverably lost, they receive no compensation whatever for their risk and trouble. The third is the smuggling companies, consisting chiefly of the farmers in the neighbourhood, who provide the beach parties to receive and run the cargo when landed, and who bear the whole responsibility after the tubs are on the beach.

"There may be other occasional arrangements, but the above-mentioned are the most usual. The locality and other circumstances may sometimes render it ex-
pedient to combine the several interests, and to allow the risk to be shared in certain proportions until the ultimate safety of the cargo shall have been secured.

"It has been asserted, and I think with truth, that if one cargo in three is landed the smuggling companies are not losers. The price of a tub at Cherbourg is about seven and sixpence, the freight, &c., per tub about eight shillings, and the expense of running it after landing about six shillings. A tub will therefore stand in £1 1s. 6d. The loss of the two first cargoes will increase the total expense to £1 16s. 6d., which is several shillings less than the value of a tub when sold in England.

"Your Lordships will observe that in the above arrangements the smuggling companies are always the least sufferers in case of failure, the profits of the parties employed by them being neither so sure nor so great as has been imagined. The men employed by the companies to sail with vessels are
not very numerous, with the exception of the Bere men, who work at the bottom of West Bay in smaller vessels. I have seldom boarded a smuggler in ballast on any part of the coast herein laid down (excepting the Isle of Wight) without finding that most, if not all the crew, were composed of Portland or Weymouth men. We usually found one stranger on board, and whenever we could ascertain what part of the coast he came from we had no doubt that the cargo either had been, or was about to be run in that direction, this man being put on board on account of his perfect acquaintance with the proper landing place for the tub boat.

"I now proceed to state the measures at present resorted to by the revenue cruisers, employed in the prevention of the contraband trade. The vessel is more at anchor than at sea, and when under weigh is seldom out of sight of the English coast. Her boats are left on shore where the vessel may be; sometimes a boat is left for weeks
and months at a station many miles distant from the cruising ground of the vessel. As an instance, the *Greyhound* was never out of Portland Roads, unless for a few hours, and very often got under weigh with three or four hands on board—not with an intention of cruising, but that it might appear on the log that she had conformed to the letter of her printed instructions.

"As an instance of the latter, the *Lion*, stationed at Guernsey, had always a detached boat at Weymouth; the *Dove* and *Scourge* always left one at Bere. Your Lordships will be sensible that under this system the expense of the vessels might as well be saved, as the Revenue cruising vessels became in fact little more than an extra Preventive service.

"By watching the smugglers on market days and ascertaining where the farmers reside with whom they hold conference, by boarding the vessels when they sail, and observing the wind, weather, and age of
the moon, it is true that the officers of the revenue vessels calculate to great nicety the period and the direction of the vessels' return with their cargoes. But should they interrupt them, the smugglers have generally time, before the boats can board, to sink their cargo, which is all strung together upon a hawser with heavy sinking stones to one end. When these stones are thrown over the side, the whole cargo runs out with such rapidity that it requires less than two minutes to sink a cargo of three or four hundred tubs. Indeed, the practice of sinking has become general on this part of the coast; the smuggler prefers doing it, whether interrupted or not, as he finds it more safe to raise his cargo in small quantities the ensuing night, and it renders him independent of the beach parties, who would otherwise often be collected without being employed, in the event of the vessel, by being chased off, or other unforeseen circumstances, not arriving at the time appointed.
"Your Lordships will observe that throughout the whole transaction the smugglers have a manifest advantage over the parties employed against them. They have the advantage of being under sail in their vessels, and, running away from the boats a few miles, sinking their cargo in another direction; they are not kept on the alert for any length of time, being employed for only a few hours; whereas the men in the King's boats have probably been up several nights, and are harassed with cold and fatigue. The smugglers have also the advantage of silence on their side, and the warning of the noise made by the oars of the parties employed against them; and, from their knowledge of the different sinking grounds and marks on the coast, they seldom or ever miss finding their cargo at the first throw of their creepers.

"I have entered into the above details in explanation of the grounds of my confident opinion, that not one tub out of ten, if so
many, falls into the hands of those employed against the smugglers. The great number of tubs which have been seized by the means at present resorted to may therefore be rather considered as evidence of the enormous extent to which the smuggling is carried, than of any effectual check having been put to its continuance.

"If the printed instructions to the Revenue cruisers, which state, 'that unless forced by stress of weather, they are not to be at anchor for more than twenty-four hours,' were rigidly complied with, smuggling would have received a greater check than it has hitherto done. That these orders have not been enforced, appears to have arisen from the erroneous idea, entertained by all parties, that the more tubs are seized the greater is the check to the contraband trade. The Admiralty have, in an indirect manner, sanctioned the non-compliance, by holding out prospects of promotion to those officers who make the most
seizures. The commanders-in-chief on the stations, being also misled, have not enforced this order, from the idea that the vessels were more effectually serving their country by the system in practice; and the officer commanding the Revenue cruiser has naturally preferred a system by which, living on shore with his family, his comforts were promoted, his emoluments increased, and his hopes of promotion encouraged.

"In proceeding to consider the means of more effectually preventing smuggling than by those at present in use, I must beg to refer your Lordships to a letter written by me to Admiral Whitshed, when I paid off H.M.S. Rosario, in which I represented the necessity of employing two vessels of a certain description in West Bay; and expressed an opinion that unless such a measure was resorted to there would never be any effectual check to the smuggling in that direction.

"The situation of Cherbourg is so advan-
tageous from its proximity to the English coast, as to make it the interest of smugglers to load at that port, as the only one from which they can start in the evening and land their cargo on the opposite side before the break of day. This consideration gives weight to the remark previously made, that every cargo run on the line of coast laid down is shipped at Cherbourg, which port may therefore be considered as the centre from which they all start, and the line of coast which I have described as the circumference.

"I before stated my opinion that the men employed with smuggling vessels are not very numerous, and the fact of their receiving no remuneration when the cargo is thrown over in deep water; it appears to me, therefore, that by following up a system by which the smugglers would be forced to resort to this expedient or be taken, would be the most effectual discouragement to them that could be practised.
"The officers of the Revenue cruisers are aware of this, but at the same time are aware that by so doing they would have neither prize money nor the chance of promotion. One officer only, Mr. Pettit, of the Adder tender, has followed up this system; and the smugglers acknowledge that he has done more mischief to them than all the other Revenue cruisers combined.

"By forming a cordon round Cherbourg, which, as I observed, is the centre from which all the vessels start, his Majesty's cruisers would have a better chance of falling in with them, than when dispersed over a coast of one hundred miles circumference; and having the advantage of superior sailing, would oblige them to throw their cargoes overboard to enable them to make their escape. The cruisers would also have a better chance, by a vigilant look-out upon the vessel when chased, of making a total seizure, by seeing her heave her
cargo, whereas, when close in shore, if the vessel and cargo be taken, the men generally escape in the tub boat. However sensible the Revenue officers may be of the truth of these observations, your Lordships will feel that they can hardly be expected to act upon them, so long as their comfort and emoluments and chance of promotion are augmented and realised by pursuing the opposite system.

"It will therefore remain for your Lordships' consideration (if you shall be of opinion that what is respectfully submitted in this letter is worthy of your attention), whether it may not be expedient to substitute some other claims to promotion than those at present acknowledged, and to enforce with strictness the execution of a duty which the comfort and emolument of the officers will naturally impel them to neglect."
"Without trespassing further upon your Lordships' valuable time, I beg to subscribe myself,

"My Lords,

"Your Lordships' most obedient

"Humble servant,

"Frederick Marryat."
CHAPTER VI.

Appointed to the Larne—Joins the expedition against Rangoon—Attack upon stockades—Dalla—Capture of five Burmese war-boats.

Gazette details are proverbially dry, but they are trustworthy, and for that reason such matter as relates exclusively to Captain Marryat’s public career has been gleaned from their resources. At the same time it is to be deeply regretted, that with the exception of a single letter written to his brother Samuel during the progress of the Burmese war, no private communications of his relative to that struggle, which took its rise in the aggression of the Burmese on the possessions of the East India Company, and in which he so greatly distinguished himself, should have been preserved.
Captain Marryat was appointed to the command of the *Larne* in the early part of 1823, when he was only thirty-one years of age, and accompanied by his wife, he sailed from Spithead on the 3rd of July following.

* "March 29th. Hoisted the pennant on board H.M.S. *Larne*.

"June 23rd. Went out of harbour and anchored at Spithead.

"July 3rd. Sailed from Spithead.

"—— 10th. Anchored at Carrick Roads, Falmouth. Gig upset with captain."

When this gig was capsized it contained, beside Captain Marryat, a middy and an old bumboat woman. The woman could swim like a fish, but the boy could not, and as Captain Marryat, upon rising to the surface of the water and preparing to strike out for the ship, found himself most needlessly clutched and borne up by this lady, he shook her off impatiently, saying:

* Private log.
“Go to the boy, go to the boy—he can’t swim!”

“Go to the boy!” she echoed above the winds and waves. “What! hold up a midshipman when I can save the life of a captain! Not I indeed!” And no entreaties could prevail on her to relinquish her impending honours. Who eventually did the “dirty work” on this occasion is not recorded, but it is certain that no one was drowned.

From Falmouth Captain Marryat sailed under sealed orders, for Madras, touching at Madeira, Bombay, Cochin, and Point de Galle. On his arrival at his destination, finding that the Larne was ordered to Burmah, he left his wife at Madras, and proceeded to join the remainder of the expedition at Rangoon.

“The division of troops* under the command of Brigadier Michael McCreagh, C.B., another under that of Brigadier-General

* Marshall’s ‘Naval Biography.’
William Macbean was ordered to be embarked at Calcutta for the purpose of attacking the Burmese, the command of which forces united was entrusted to Sir Archibald Campbell, K.C.B. Owing to calms and light winds, the Bengal division did not reach the place of rendezvous before the end of April, and the Madras division not until the 2nd of May, and several ships were absent. Sir A. Campbell had determined that the force should assemble at Port Cornwallis; but this was prevented by the scarcity of fresh water. "This difficulty," says he, "was very speedily removed by Captain Marryat, of H.M.S. Larne, whose indefatigable exertions in collecting and appropriating the scanty supply which the land springs afforded, and distributing a proportion from such vessels as were well supplied to those most in need, enabled him on the following day to report the fleet ready to proceed to sea."

The fleet reached Rangoon on the 10th
of May, and on the 31st of the same month, owing to Commodore Grant, of H.M.S. Liffey, having gone in ill health to Pulo Penang, Captain Marryat succeeded to the chief command of the naval force at Rangoon. The following description of the taking of the town is from Wilson’s ‘Narrative of the Burmese War.’

* * * *

“The expedition arrived off the mouth of the Rangoon river on the 9th, and stood into the river on the morning of the 10th of May, when the fleet came to anchor within the bar; on the following morning, the vessels proceeded with the flood to Rangoon, the Liffey and the Larne leading, and the Sophie bringing up the rear; no opposition was made to the advance of the fleet, nor did any force make its appearance, although a few shots were occasionally fired from either bank. * * *

“After a short pause a fire was opened on the fleet, but was very soon silenced by the
guns of the frigate. In the meantime, three detachments were landed from the transports, of H.M. 38th regiment, under Major Evans, above the town, and H.M. 41st, under Colonel Macbean, below it, whilst Major Sale, with the light infantry of the 13th, was directed to attack the river gate, and carry the main battery. These measures were successful. The Burmas fled from the advance of the troops, and in less than twenty minutes the town was in undisputed possession of the British."

* * * *

We must now have again recourse to Captain Marryat's log.

* "1824. May 10th. Anchored within Rangoon Bar; released Powerful, cutter, which had been taken by the Burmese.

"— 11th. Made sail, leading up to Rangoon. Ran ashore on a sandbank; kedged off with the rising, and ran up to Rangoon.

"— 13th. A sunken vessel, cut down

* Private log.
by the Burmese, came athwart Pioneer's hawser. John Adams, boy, wounded, and leg amputated. Sent boats round on service. Stockade stormed up the river.

"May 26th. Boats on service.

"—- 28th. William Beel, seaman, killed.

"—- 29th. On service in steam-boat.

"—- 30th. Captain and party returned.

"—- 31st. Towing the Liffey down the river, on shore.

"June 2nd. Returned in steamboat, with a fever.

"—- 3rd. Attack of Kemmendine stockade—Peter Knox killed.

"—- 11th. Boats on service.

"—- 12th. George Paine, captain's coxswain, died of cholera.

"—- 13th. General attack of cholera and fever—John Adams died.

"—- 17th. James Gurney, M., died; John Brown died.


"—- 22nd. William Stanley died.
"June 23rd. William Ray died.

"— 29th. Sent a party to the row boats, under Lieut. Fraser.

"— 30th. Fire shafts came down.


"— 3rd. Burnt Dalla.

"— 6th. Fitted out and manned Satellite as a battery vessel.


"— 13th. Sailed H.M.S. Alligator, having supplied me with twelve men.


"— 17th. Went down to Elephant Point to recruit the ship's company.

"— 21st. Sent boats to forage.

"— 24th. Sent to a village — Took possession without loss, bringing off corn for the army.

Sir A. Campbell, in an official despatch
dated "Headquarters, Rangoon, July 11th, 1824," in speaking of an attack upon the enemy's stockade, thus expresses himself:

"I therefore resolved to try the effect of shelling, and consulted Captain Marryat upon the employment of such armed vessels as he might select to breach in the event of our mortar practice not succeeding. The shells were thrown at too great distance to produce the desired effect, and the swampy state of the country would not admit of any advance. The armed vessels now took their stations according to a disposition made by Captain Marryat, and opened a fire which soon silenced that of fourteen pieces of artillery, swivels and musketry from the stockades, and in one hour the preconcerted signal of "Breach practicable" was displayed at the main-mast head."

Further down he adds:

"To the officers and men of the breaching vessels every praise is due; and I much regret that severe indisposition prevented
Captain Marryat from being present to witness the result of his arrangements.” And in a letter from the Governor-General in Council to Sir A. Campbell, the former writes that “he unites with” him “in regretting that the severe indisposition of Captain Marryat, the senior naval officer, prevented his witnessing the successful result of his judicious arrangements on the occasion alluded to. You will be pleased to assure Captain Marryat that his Lordship in Council entertains the highest sense of his valuable services, and will not fail to bring them under the notice of his Excellency Commodore Grant.” *

This must have been a return of that fever by which Captain Marryat had been attacked in June, and which, combined with cholera, was the cause of so many deaths on board. “Constantly exposed to the vicissitudes of a tropical climate, and exhausted by the necessity of uninterrupted exertion, it

* Marshall’s ‘Naval Biography.’
need not be a matter of surprise that sickness began to thin the ranks and impair the energies of the invaders. No rank was exempt from the operation of these causes, and many officers, amongst whom were the senior naval officer, Captain Marryat, the political commissioner, Major Canning, and the commander-in-chief himself, were attacked with fever during the month of June." *

* * * *

A week after the date of Sir A. Campbell's dispatch the Larne "dropped down as far as Dalla Creek, whence she returned, fever much decreased on board. July 27th."

On the 4th of August Sir A. Campbell, having been informed that the Governor of Syriam had assembled a force on the banks of the river, proceeded with six hundred men in gunboats, under the command of Brigadier-General Smelt and Lieutenant Dobson, to dislodge the enemy, who were employed

* 'Narrative of the Burmese War.'
in raising a large field-work, intended to command the river and protect the surrounding country. The troops having disembarked, marched on, until stopped by a deep, impassable nullah, the bridge over which had been destroyed, but, to quote Sir A. Campbell's letter on the subject, "this difficulty was soon removed, and a very tolerable bridge constructed by Captain Marryat and part of the officers and men of H.M.S. Larne;" and again, "From Captain Marryat and the officers of His Majesty's navy I ever received the most prompt and cordial co-operation."

The enemy after this having become very troublesome by their predatory excursions, Sir A. Campbell determined to drive them not only from the stockades, but permanently to a greater distance, and in furtherance of this intention on the 2nd of September sent a detachment of infantry and artillery up the Dalla Creek for the purpose of shelling them from their posi-
tion. In his despatch of the 4th of September he says: "Such was the excellent practice of the artillery and gunboats, under the immediate command of Captain Marryat, manned by the officers and crew of H.M.S. Larne and Honourable Company's transport Moira, that the enemy were soon forced to abandon their defences with some considerable loss, and I am happy to say with only one man slightly wounded on our part. On gaining possession of the stockades, Captain Marryat and Major Evans pushed up the creek and succeeded in taking twenty-five boats and canoes from the enemy," who, on seeing themselves closed with, jumped overboard and escaped into the jungle. "I cannot do adequate justice to the sense I entertain of the ability and readiness with which I find myself at all times supported by Captain Marryat and the officers and crew of the ship under his command."

Captain Marryat appears never to have
been at a loss for overcoming difficulties, whether they lay in the direction of crossing a river without a bridge, or making a scanty supply of water serve for the provision of a fleet. In this character he strongly reminds one of his own creation, Masterman Ready, who "always liked to make a beginning, were it ever so small," and this proved, indeed, to be but the beginning to a long series of obstacles and circumstances of trial. Here is another account of the same expedition.

"The check sustained by the Burmese on the 1st had not altered their plans, and they continued gathering strength in front of the lines, and occasioning constant annoyance. It again, therefore, became necessary to repel them to a greater distance, and on the 8th a column about twelve hundred strong, under Brigadier-General Macbean, moved out to operate by land, whilst Brigadier-General Sir A. Campbell, with another division of eight hundred, proceeded by
water. The boats, with the *Larne* and several of the company's cruisers, advanced to a place where the Lyne River, or branch of the Irrawaddy, falls into the Rangoon branch, and at the point of their junction, termed Pagoda Point, they found the enemy strongly posted. The main entrenchment was constructed on the projecting tongue of land at the junction of the two rivers, whilst two other stockades, one on either bank of the Rangoon River, about eight hundred yards below the confluence, commanded the approach and afforded mutual support. Notwithstanding these formidable dispositions, the post was soon carried. A breach having been effected by the fire of the vessels, a gun brig and three cruisers, under the command of Captain Marryat, of the Royal Navy, the troops, consisting of the Madras Infantry, supported by part of H.M. 41st and the Madras European regiment, landed and stormed the first stockade; the second was carried by
escalade, and the enemy abandoned the third.”*

* * * *

"The captured stockades now became a scene of continual warfare, and on the 4th of September the Larne found the floating remains of an English sailor whom the Burmese had tortured to death, and then sawed in half. In a letter addressed to Sir A. Campbell, and dated the 8th of September, Captain Marryat says: "In compliance with your request for a detail of the circumstances which occurred in the attack on the Dalla stockade, made by the Burmese on the morning of the 6th instant, I have the honour to inform you that at midnight of the 5th a straggling fire was heard in that direction, and shortly afterwards a rocket was thrown up—the signal previously arranged with the detachment in case of immediate assistance being required. With the advantage of a strong flood tide

* From 'Narrative of the Burmese War.'
the boats of H.M.S. *Larne* proceeded rapidly to the scene of contention, where a heavy fire was exchanged. As our approach could not be perceived from the smoke, we cheered to announce that support was at hand, and had the satisfaction to hear it warmly returned, both by the detachment in the stockade and the crews of the gun-vessels.

"It appeared that the attack of the enemy had been simultaneous; the gun brigs lying in the creek having been assailed by a number of war boats, while the detachment on shore had been opposed to a force estimated at one thousand five hundred to two thousand men. Upon our arrival we found the enemy on shore had not retreated, but still kept up a galling fire. The war boats which had endeavoured to board the *Kitty* gun brig had been beat off by the exertions and gallantry of Mr. Crawfurd, commanding that vessel, and were apparently rallying at a short distance up the creek with a
determination to renew the attack; but on perceiving our boats advancing ahead of the gun-brigs, they made a precipitate retreat.

"Although from their superior speed there was little probability of success, chase was immediately given, and five of the war-boats which had been most severely handled, and could not keep up with the main body, were successively boarded and captured. Many others appeared to be only half-manned, but we could not overtake them, and the pursuit was abandoned about four miles above the stockade. The spears remaining in the sides of the gun-brig, the ladders attached to her rigging, and the boarding netting cut through in many places, proved the severe conflict which had been sustained, and I trust you will be pleased to recommend the very meritorious conduct of Mr. Crawfurd to the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council. Great praise is due to Mr. J. King, of the Narcissa, and Mr.
Francis, of the Tiger, for the well-directed and destructive fire which they poured into the war-boats, and I trust, as an eye-witness, I may be allowed to express my admiration of the intrepid conduct of the officers commanding the detachment on shore. The loss of the enemy in this attack cannot be correctly ascertained, but from the number of dead in the boats captured, and the crippled state of many others, it cannot be estimated at less than two or three hundred men.

"I have the honour to enclose a return of our killed and wounded.

"And am, Sir, yours, &c.,

"F. Marryat, Captain.

"Larne, Rangoon, Sept. 8, 1824."
CHAPTER VII.

Scurvy on board the Larne—Letter to Mr. Samuel Marryat—Expedition to Bassein—Exchanges into H.M.S. Tees—The baboon and the Newfoundland dog—Paid off at Chatham.

On the 13th of August Captain Marryat's private log records the reception of the news of Commodore Grant's death; and on the 15th of September the Larne, with almost the whole of her crew affected by scurvy, proceeded to Penang, previous to which change Captain Marryat had received the following letter from Sir A. Campbell:

"Head-quarters, Rangoon.
"September 10, 1824.

"Sir,

"I have received with much regret your letter of this date, enclosing Mr. Churchill's distressing report of the
scurvy having broken out on H.M.S. 
Larne, and already made rapid progress 
among the ship's company. Under these 
circumstances, I most fully coincide with 
you in opinion that no time should be lost 
in proceeding to Penang, where those com-
forts essentially necessary for the recovery 
of your crew are at present most conve-
niently to be had; assured as I am that the 
most urgent necessity alone induces you to 
suggest the removal of the ship under your 
command. I feel fully convinced that you 
will lose not a moment in returning to par-
take of the further and, I trust, more active 
operations of the approaching campaign.

"In Captain Ryves' zeal and exertions 
with the force under his command I place 
the utmost reliance, and feel satisfied the 
shipping and harbour will be perfectly 
secure under his protection.

"In taking, I trust, a very short leave of 
yourself, officers, and crew of the Larne, I 
shall not dwell, as I otherwise would, on
the valuable and ready aid I have invariably received from you all, since the commencement of the present service, embracing duties of perhaps as severe and harassing a nature as ever were experienced by either sailors or soldiers, and under privations of the most trying nature.

"Any number of Malay sailors you may require are at your service.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your most obed't, humble servant,
"A. Campbell,
"Brigadier-General.

"Captain Marryat,
"H M.S. Larne, Rangoon River."

"We must here remark that the command held by Captain Marryat under such peculiar circumstances, from May 31st to September 11th, 1824, was so important, that had it been in the time of extended war it would in all probability have been delegated to a flag officer; that during a
period so novel and trying to a young commander he never once incurred censure, and that he did not give over the charge to Captain Ryves until the enemy had been so decidedly repulsed that Sir Archibald Campbell officially stated to him his conviction that the *Sophia* and *Satellite* were sufficient protection for the shipping."

Sickness continued on board the *Larne*, and before the return of Captain Marryat to active service at the end of the same year the deaths of five of the ship’s company are registered in the log.

Mr. Samuel Marryat, to whom the following letter was addressed from Penang, was his favourite brother, at that time studying for the bar:

"Pulo Penang, Sept. 29, 1824.

"My dear Sam,

"The *Larne*, with the remnants of a fine ship’s company, is at last removed from the scene of action, where,

* Marshall’s ‘Naval Biography.’
perhaps, in the course of five months they have undergone a severity of service almost unequalled. I should still have been there, but the men had been on salt provisions since February last, and the scurvy broke out and made such ravages that it was impossible to stay longer without sacrificing the remaining men. I gave up the command of the *Sophie*, and as I left the river the *Arachne*, Captain Chads, came in and took my place. I have left Rangoon now about fifteen days, being ten days on my passage. We have had much harder fighting lately, and the Company's cruisers having been despatched against Migui and Pavoy, and the *Sophie* not having arrived from Calcutta, the *Larne* was by herself, and certainly kept up her character. I have gained credit in the business, as the despatches of the commander-in-chief fully prove. I have twice received the thanks of the General in public orders, and twice those of the Governor and Council at Cal-
cutta, and we have since that done still more to be thanked for. But I do not think that I could have lasted much longer. I am not ill, but my head is so shattered with the fever which I have had, that it swims at the least exertion, and I am obliged to lay my pen down every four or five lines. I have also a touch of the liver. I do not know whether the Admiralty will publish my despatches, but being no favourite there, probably not; but I think, after having had the command of a fleet, armed and unarmed, of one hundred and twenty sail; after having succeeded in everything, and with the small number of men allowed to a sloop of war, having done the duty of at least three or four frigates, that they must give me my promotion. This I am sure of, that any one in favour would be not only promoted, but made a C.B. The above I cannot expect, but I shall be content with the promotion.

"We are all in confusion here. The
commodore is dead, poor fellow. He was very kind to me, and sent all the other vessels out of the way to give me the command of the expedition. Captain Coe, of the *Tees*, is the senior officer; he is daily expected at this port from New South Wales, and being a death vacancy, he has the right of promoting the officers. It is very doubtful who will get it. Mitchell, of the *Slaney*, is the senior; but I have hard service. It is, however, just as Captain Coe pleases—he may make anybody; I have a chance, but not one to build upon.

"I am very anxious to get to Point de Galle—Kate is there: I left her for six weeks, and have been away as many months—but cannot venture across the bay, with my weak ship's company and ship in rags, in this next stormy month.

"When the *Tees* arrives I shall know what is to become of me. I know that the commander-in-chief has written very strongly to have me sent back in command
there as soon as possible, but without I get the slip that cannot be, as the *Arachne* is my superior officer. If I do get my promotion by this vacancy, I shall certainly be sent there, and have a few more months' work. It will, however, be better than the past, as we shall have fine weather and more assistance; at the same time, we shall have more hard fighting. * * *

“Your affectionate brother,

“F. Marryat.”

They never met again, for Samuel Marryat died before his brother returned to England; and in connection with this circumstance, and to prove the entire sympathy that existed between them, Captain Marryat used to relate how, when lying in his berth one night, and wide awake, Samuel entered his cabin, and walking up to his side, said, “Fred, I am come to tell you that I am dead.” So vivid was the impression made, that Captain Marryat
leapt out of his berth, and finding that the figure had vanished, wrote down the hour and day of its appearance.

On reaching England after the war, the first letter put into his hand was to announce his brother's death, which had taken place at the very time when he had fancied he was present with him.

The *Larne* returned to Rangoon on the 24th of December, 1824, whence she was despatched to Madras, Trincomalee, and Calcutta, with directions to Captain Marryat to take the *Sophie* sloop under his order, and to follow the instructions of the Governor-General of India as to the best means of employing the *Larne* and consort in a war against Ava.

By the 5th of February, 1825, they were back again in Burmah.

*" 1825. *February 5th.* Boats attacked stockades.

"—— 8th. Discharged eighteen men invalided.

* Private log.
"February 10th. Fitting out and receiving troops for Bassein River.

"— 19th. Sailed with the expedition against Bassein.

"— 25th. Anchored; sent boats to reconnoitre Negrais stockades.

"— 26th. Attacked stockades and took possession.

"— 27th. Working up Bassein River.

"— 28th.

"March 1st. On shore.

"— 3rd. Took possession of Bassein without opposition.

"— 7th. Sent two row boats—Mr. Hodder—with despatches to Rangoon.

"— 9th. Expedition to Lamnia.

"— 13th. Sent reinforcement to party at Lamnia.

"— 14th. A second reinforcement.

"— 18th. Despatches from Captain Alexander.

"— 22nd. Chief of Naputah sent in submission.

VOL. I.
"February 24th. Expedition from Lamnia returned."

On the 26th of March the Larne weighed anchor and dropped down to Naputah, and on the 27th, together with the Mercury, "took up such good positions as by a few rounds completely to drive the enemy from their works, and the troops immediately landed without opposition." Upon proceeding to the next stockade, in the same order, "the effects of the guns from the Larne and Mercury were as decided as before, not any of the enemy waited the landing of the troops." This quotation is from a dispatch of Major Sale's, dated from Bassein, and the following extract from a newspaper of a later date:

"We understand that H. M. S. Larne left Bassein about the beginning of this month, to burn some stockades at Negrais, which was promptly and effectually accomplished. On the way down two enterprises were successfully attempted by
Captain Marryat, which seem to us entitled to no ordinary commendation. In passing Naputah, he took fifty Burmese to assist him in destroying the above-mentioned stockades, the Chief of Naputah being friendly, and having accepted of our protection. In proceeding down the river, he learned from them that one hundred and fifty of the Naputah people were detained at Thingau—a town on the branch of the river leading to Irrawaddy—by a gold chatta chief, belonging to Bundoola, who had eight hundred men with him. The Larne being thirty short of her complement from sickness and men away on service, only forty sailors could be mustered. With these forty tars, two row boats, twelve Sepoys, and fifty Burmese, to whom swords only were entrusted, Captain Marryat boldly attacked the place, compelled them to give up the Naputah people, to lay down their arms, and he brought off prisoner the gold chatta chief.
"Two days before reaching Negrais, Captain Marryat, with his characteristic gallantry, attacked at night the force of another gold chatta chief, which he completely surprised. The Burmese, whom on the former service he had armed with swords only, were on this occasion entrusted with muskets, and behaved uncommonly well, following the chief of the enemy into the jungle, and bringing him in prisoner. The enemy submitted to the same terms which had been imposed on those vanquished at Thingau. Eight heavy iron guns were taken from them, besides jingals and muskets. Captain Marryat did not lose a man on either enterprise. These are the first occasions, we believe, when Burmese have been hostilely employed against Burmese, and it bodes well to the success of our ulterior operations, that the experiment has been attended with signal success. High credit is due to Captain Marryat and his small but intrepid band
for achieving so much without any loss, and with means apparently so inadequate."

These extracts may appropriately be supplemented by Captain Marryat's own account of the expedition against Bassein, taken from his 'Diary on the Continent':

"It was not until many months after the war had been carried on that Sir Archibald Campbell found himself in a position to penetrate into the heart of the Burmah territory, and attempt the capital. He wanted almost everything, and, among the rest, reinforcements of men; for the rainy season had swept them off by thousands. At last, when determined to make the attempt, he did it with a most inadequate force; so small, that had the Burmese thought of even trenching up and barricading the roads at every half-mile, he must have been compelled, without firing a shot, to have retreated. Fortunately, he had an accession of men-of-war, and his river detachment was stronger than he could have hoped for."
I do not pretend to state the total force which was embarked on the river, or that which proceeded by land (communicating with each other when circumstances permitted) as the major part of the provisions of the army were, I believe, carried up by water. The united river force was commanded by Brigadier Cotton, Captain Alexander, and Captain Chads; the land forces, of course, by Sir A. Campbell, who had excellent officers with him, but whose tactics were of no use in this warfare of morass, mud, and jungle.

"It will be proper to explain why it was considered necessary to detach a part of the forces to Bassein. The Rangoon River joins the Irrawaddy on the left, about one hundred and seventy miles from its flowing into the ocean. On the right of the Irrawaddy is the river of Bassein, the mouth of it about one hundred and fifty miles from that of the Irrawaddy, and running up the country in an angle towards it, until it joins
it about four hundred miles up in the interior. The two rivers thus enclose a large delta of land, which is the most fertile and best peopled of the Burmah provinces, and it was from this delta that Bundoola, the Burmah general, received all his supplies of men. Bundoola was in the strong fortress of Donabue, on the Bassein side of the river, about half way between where the Rangoon River joined it on the left, and the Bassein River communicated with it a long way further up on the right. Sir A. Campbell’s land forces were on the left of the river, so that Bundoola’s communication with the Bassein territory was quite open, and as the river forces had to attack Donabue on their way up, the force sent to Bassein was to take him in the rear and cut off his supplies. This was a most judicious plan of the general’s, as will be proved in the sequel. Major S——, with four or five hundred men, in three transports, the Larne, and the Mercury, Hon. Company’s brig, was ordered
upon this expedition, which sailed at the same time that the army began to march and the boats to ascend the river.

"On the arrival at the mouth of the river we found the entrance most formidable in appearance, there being a dozen or more stockades of great extent; but there were but two manned, the guns of the others, as well as the men, having been forwarded to Donabue, the Burmese not imagining, as we had so long left that part of their territories unmolested, that we should have attempted it. Our passage was therefore easy; after a few broadsides, we landed and spiked the guns, and then, with a fair wind, ran about seventy miles up one of the most picturesque and finest rivers I was ever in.

* * * * *

"I think it was on the third day that we arrived below the town of Naputah, which was defended by a very formidable stockade, commanding the whole reach of the
river. The stockade was manned, and we expected that it would be defended, but as we did not fire neither did they. The next day we arrived at Bassein, one of the principal towns in the Burman Empire. On hearing of the arrival of the expedition at the entrance of the river the people had divided into two parties, one for resistance, the other for submission. This difference of opinion had ended in their setting fire to the town and immense magazines of grain, dismantling the stockades, and the major part of the inhabitants flying into the country. The consequence was, that we took possession of the smoking ruins without opposition.

* * * *

"We must now return to the Irrawaddy expedition sent up at the same time that Sir A. Campbell marched by land, and our expedition went up the Bassein River. This force arrived at Donabue before we had gained Bassein. It found a most formid-
able fortress, or rather three fortresses in one, mounting a great number of guns, and, as I before observed, held by Bundoola, the commander of the Burmah forces, in whom the Burmah troops placed the greatest confidence. I speak from hearsay and memory, but I believe I am correct when I state that there were not less than ten thousand men in Donahue, besides war elephants, &c. Now the river force did not amount, in fighting men, certainly to one thousand, and they were not in sufficient strength to attack a place of this description; upon which every pains had been taken for a long while to render it impregnable. The attack was however made, and the smallest stockade of the three carried; but when they had possession of the smallest stockade, they discovered that they were at the mercy of the second, and in a sort of trap. The consequence was, defeat—the only defeat experienced by the white troops during the whole war. The troops were re-embarked, and
the boats were obliged to drop down the river clear of the fire of the fort. I believe two hundred and fifty English troops were left dead in the stockade, and the next day their bodies, crucified on rafts, were floated down among the English boats by the triumphant Bundoola. In the meantime a despatch had been sent to Sir A. Campbell, who was in advance on the banks of the river, stating that the force afloat was not able to cope with the fortress, the real strength of which no one had been aware of. The consequence was that Sir A. Campbell retraced his steps, crossed the river, and attacked it in conjunction with the flotilla, Sir A. Campbell taking it in the rear. After some hard fighting, in which the elephants played their parts, the troops gained possession, and Bundoola having been killed by a shell, the Burmese fled. Now it was very fortunate that the expedition had been sent to Bassein, for otherwise the Burmese would have fallen back upon that place,
which held all their stores, and would thus have been able to continue in the rear of Sir A. Campbell as he advanced up the river. But they had heard of the destruction and capture of Bassein, and consequently directed their flight up the river towards the capital. We were in possession of all these circumstances shortly after we had taken possession of Bassein; and although the death of Bundoola and taking of Donabue had dispirited the Burmese, yet there were many chiefs who still held out, and who, had they crossed with their troops to the Irrawaddy, would have interrupted the supplies coming up, and the wounded and sick who were sent down. We had, therefore, still the duty of breaking up these resources if possible. Having ascertained who the parties were, we sent a message to one of the weakest, to say that if he did not tender his submission, and come in to us, we should attack him, and burn the town to the ground. The chief thought it advisable
to obey our summons, and sent word that he would come in on the ensuing day. He kept his promise. * * *

"Several more of the minor chiefs afterwards came in, but there were three of the most important who would not make their appearance; one, the chief of Naputah, the town which we had passed, which did not fire at us from the stockades, and two others down at another large arm of the river, who had many men detained for the service of the army if required, and who were still at open defiance. All these three were gold chatta chiefs, that is, permitted to have a gold umbrella carried over their heads when they appeared in public.

"After waiting a certain time for these people to send in their submission, we sent word down to the chief of Naputah that we should visit him the next day, threatening him with the consequences of not complying with our request. Accordingly we weighed in the Larne, and dropped down the river
till we were abreast of the town and stockade, which was about thirty miles distant from Bassein. Our broadside was ready; but as we were about to fire, we perceived that boats were manning, and in about five minutes the chief of Naputah, in his own war-boat, accompanied by about twelve others and a great many canoes, pulled off from the shore and came alongside. He made his submission with the usual accompaniments, and we were soon very good friends."

During the Burmese war Captain Marryat made a series of sketches representing various incidents which took place in its progress, and which on his return to England were published and largely subscribed for on both sides the water. They are not so graphic as the stirring pictures of war and carnage with which we are so familiar nowadays; but those who know the country of swamps and pagodas will recognise them as faithful representations of the scenery
and people, and as such they possess some value.

On the death of Commodore Grant, Captain Marryat was appointed to the command of the Tees, the 15th of April, 1825; and in the middle of the following month finally left the river.

"This appointment was not confirmed until the year after, on what grounds it is impossible to say; but after the unqualified acknowledgment which his services had received at headquarters, the fact is, to say the least of it, surprising; and, by a reference to the official Navy List, it will be seen that no less than four-and-twenty officers, who should have been Captain Marryat's juniors, claim the seniority."*

It was during this voyage home that he made the mental sketch of the ways, manners, and appearance of his second son William, which later he reproduced in the first portion of 'The King's Own.' The

* Marshall's 'Naval Biography.'
following description given there of the hero is the portrait of his own child:—

"Between the contending and divided parties stood a little boy about six years old. He was the perfection of childish beauty; chestnut hair waved in curls on his forehead; health flowed on his rosy cheeks, dimples sported over his face as he altered the expression of his countenance, and his large dark eyes flashed with intelligence and animation. He was dressed in mimic imitation of a man-of-war's man—loose trousers tightened at the hips to preclude the necessity of suspenders, and a white duck frock with long sleeves and blue collar; while a knife attached to a lanyard was suspended round his neck, and a light and narrow-brimmed straw hat on his head completed his attire."

This child was a very favourite one of Captain Marryat's, and when at the age of seven years he lost him by death his grief was excessive, and to the last day of his
life he never spoke of little Willy but with the greatest tenderness.

The succeeding anecdote, which must have been heard from his own lips by all those who were familiar with him, is of a circumstance which took place on board the *Tees* on her homeward voyage:

"I had on board a ship which I commanded a very large Cape baboon, who was a pet of mine, and also a little boy, who was a son of mine. When the baboon sat down on his hams, he was about as tall as the boy when he walked. The boy having a tolerable appetite, received about noon a considerable slice of bread-and-butter, to keep him quiet till dinner-time. I was on one of the carronades, busy with the sun's lower limb, bringing it in contact with the horizon, when the boy's lower limbs brought him in contact with the baboon, who having, as well as the boy, a strong predilection for bread-and-butter, and a stronger arm to take it withal, thought..."
proper to help himself to that to which the boy had been already helped. In short, he snatched the bread-and-butter, and made short work of it, for it was in his pouch in a moment. Upon which the boy set up a yell, which attracted my notice to this violation of the articles of war, to which the baboon was equally amenable as any other person in the ship, for it is expressly stated in the preamble of every separate article, 'all who are in, or belonging to.' Whereupon I jumped off the carronade, and by way of assisting his digestion I served out to the baboon, monkey's allowance, which is more kicks than halfpence. The master reported that the heavens intimated that it was twelve o'clock, and with all the humility of a captain of a man-of-war I ordered him to 'make it so;' whereupon it was made, and so passed that day. I do not remember how many days it was afterwards that I was on the carronade as usual, about the same time, and all parties were
precisely in the same situations—the master by my side, the baboon under the booms, and the boy walking out of the cabin with his bread-and-butter. As before, he again passed the baboon, who again snatched the bread-and-butter from the boy, who again set up a squall, which again attracted my attention. I looked round, and the baboon caught my eye, which told him plainly that he’d soon catch what was not ‘at all my eye;’ and he proved that he actually thought so, for he actually put the bread-and-butter back into the boy’s hands. It was the only instance of which I ever knew or heard of a monkey being capable of self-denial when his stomach was concerned, and I record it accordingly. (Par parenthese:) it is well known that monkeys will take the small-pox, measles, and (I believe) the scarlet fever; but this poor fellow, when the ship’s company were dying of the cholera, took that disease, went through all its gradations, and died apparently in great agony.”
Whilst on the subject of sagacity in animals, it may not be inappropriate to insert here another instance of it that occurred about the same time at home, where Captain Marryat's favourite Newfoundland dog, 'Boatswain,' had been left in the charge of his family at Wimbledon House.

During his absence several articles of winter clothing belonging to the household were hung out in the drying ground to air, and amongst them some belonging to himself. The evening beginning to draw in, the laundry-maid appeared to take the things indoors, when 'Boatswain' was discovered seated on a temporary throne composed of coats and trousers, and growling defiance at her. In vain did the woman seek to regain the abducted broadcloth; 'Boatswain' had instituted a trust for himself, and refused to abdicate in her favour, and she was compelled to put the case into abler hands, when it was found that the faithful beast, with the instinct of his
race, had selected those articles only which had been worn by his master, and which he had been taught to consider his peculiar care.

In the beginning of 1826 Captain Marryat paid off the *Tees* at Chatham. So ended the active part which for two years he had taken in the Burmese war; a period during which he displayed to perfection that courage, energy, and presence of mind which were natural to his lion-hearted character. Unlike the veteran who shouldered his crutch to tell how fields were won, Captain Marryat never voluntarily referred to exploits of which any man might have been proud. He was content to do, and know that he had done, and left to others the pride which he might justly have felt for himself.
CHAPTER VIII.

Is posted and made C.B.—Appointed to the Ariadne—Made Equerry to H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex—Anecdote of William IV.—'Naval Officer'—'King's Own'—Captain Marryat purchases Langham—'Newton Forster' becomes Editor of the 'Metropolitan Magazine'—Correspondence.

In January, 1827, Captain Marryat's promotion was confirmed, and he was awarded the Order of Companion of the Bath, to which distinction his services fully entitled him. His family crest is a ram's head issuing from a ducal coronet, with the motto "Fortuna—Superando—Ferendo;" but after the Burmese war he was permitted to bear a second crest and motto by the side of the first.*

*"Know ye, therefore, that we the Garter and Clarenceux, in pursuance of His Grace's warrant and by virtue of the letters patent of our several offices to each of us respectively granted under the great seal of the United
In November, 1828, Captain Marryat was appointed to the *Ariadne*, in which vessel he was employed at Madeira and the Western Isles on diplomatic service, and subsequently in searching for supposed

Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, have devised and do by these presents grant and assign unto the said Frederick Marryat the arms following, that is to say: Barry of six or and sable on a chief *wavy* azure, the representative of a Burmese gilt war boat, and over it in letters of gold, the word Ava; on a canton argent, a fleur de lis gules. And for the crest, on a wreath of the colours on a mount vert in front of a ram's head argent, the sun rising or, as the same are in the margin hereof more plainly depicted, to be borne and used for ever hereafter, by him the said Frederick Marryat, and his descendants and the said arms without the said war boat, and without the word Ava on the chief, together with the said crest, to be also borne by the other descendants of his aforesaid late father Joseph Marryat, deceased, with due and proper differences according to the laws of arms.

"And we further grant and assign unto the said Frederick Marryat, the additional crest following, that is to say: On a wreath of the colours a naval crown or, thereon a flag-staff with a Burmese naval pennon flowing therefrom proper, and an anchor in Saltire sable, united in the centre by a riband azure, and pendant therefrom a representation of the gold medal presented by the Royal Humane Society of London to the said Captain Marryat, as the same is here depicted, to be also borne and used by him the said Frederick Marryat and his descendants according to the laws of arms."
dangers in the Atlantic Ocean. Two years later "private affairs" induced him to resign the command of this ship, which was owing probably to the fact of his being appointed equerry to his Royal Highness the late Duke of Sussex, which appointment compelled him to remain near the person of the King's brother. He now went to reside at Sussex House, Hammersmith, which was a purchase made from the Duke in question, and of which George Sala, in one of his "Journeys in the County of Middlesex," says: "Mrs. Billington, the cantatrice, lived long at a villa opposite Brandenburg House. She was succeeded in its tenantry by Sir James Sibbald, a contemporary of Clive, Hastings, and Impey. The next tenant was Admiral Ross Donelly; then Captain Marryat, the nautical novelist; then Mr. Copland, who let it to a person who said he was the Earl of Annandale, but could not get any one else to agree to the proposition."
It was at Sussex House that the Royal Duke would frequently confer the honour of dining at his table upon Captain Marryat, but as it is an acknowledged fact that the smiles of princes are by nature evanescent, it will be no matter of surprise to the reader to hear that the intimacy did not continue long. That it existed is proved by the following letter to Captain Marryat from his Royal Highness:

"Newstead Abbey, Nottingham, December 4, 1828.

Dear Marryat,

I only received last night a letter to say that Tom Keppel was to be paid off, and consequently I lose no time in soliciting the appointment of midshipman for him. He is a very fine lad, but for two years I have lost sight of him, since which he has been both at the Cape and at New South Wales. Should you be in town, this letter will find you at Sussex House; otherwise, it must be forwarded to Plymouth."
My auditor, Mr. Stephenson, who lives in Arlington Street, has charge of him: so a line to him will be sure to be right.

"Sincerely yours,

"Augustus Frederick."

It may be remembered that when the Duke of Sussex died a list of his possessions was published in the Illustrated News, amongst which was mentioned the portrait of a black boy in uniform. This boy had been brought to England by Captain Marryat, and presented to his royal patron, who had the lad educated and taught a trade.

It was at this period that William IV. so constantly held his court at Brighton, and Captain and Mrs. Marryat were generally included amongst the guests at the Pavilion, that wonderfully and fearfully erected Pavilion, of which Lord Alvanly, when referring to the big dome surrounded by all the little domes, said that it looked
just as if St. Paul's had come down to Brighton and *pupped*.

The King and Queen usually retired about midnight, and it was not considered etiquette for any of the company to quit the rooms before they set them the example.

One evening, when Captain Marryat and his wife were engaged after the reception to a private ball which they were anxious to attend, and the small hours began to advance, the lady grew impatient, and His Majesty observing that she glanced frequently at the time, asked her the reason. She told him.

"Why don't you go, then?" demanded the monarch, who appears to have deserved the title of "Bluff" as much as any of his predecessors.

"Your Majesty must be aware that we cannot move until Her Majesty and yourself have taken your departure."

"Oh! d—n it, I'll smuggle you out," was the reply.
It was the custom at the Pavilion balls for their Majesties to receive their guests in an ante-chamber, where the ladies, having kissed the Queen's hand, and been saluted in their turn upon the cheek by the King, were generally engaged in a few gracious words of conversation before they passed through to the ball-room. These entertainments were usually graced by the presence of some of the F——; and W—— F——'s favourite and elegant expression, when waiting to escort the ladies of his acquaintance to the ball-room, of "Has dad bussed you yet?" was as good an evidence of his royal paternity as he could wish to carry about the world with him.

Captain Marryat ended his naval career when he resigned the command of the Ariadne, and commenced his literary labours about the same time; but before entering on the relation of his life after he became an author, one word must be said as to the manner in which his services, fully acknow-
ledged as they had been, were rewarded by the country for which he had fought and bled, and the poor return that England made her hero for the gallantry, intrepidity, and courage he had displayed in her cause. The reason for this unwarrantable neglect may be gathered from the succeeding anecdote, taken from a preface to Mr. Bohn's new edition of the 'Pirate and Three Cutters':

"In connection with this royal distinction (the Legion of Honour), we have a story to relate, which we are sorry to feel ourselves constrained to tell, because it presents our late King in a light in which it is not pleasant, and has not been customary, to regard him. William IV. had read and been delighted with 'Peter Simple.' It was likely that so true and striking a picture of naval life and manners would have captivated a sailor. He expressed a wish to see the author. The Captain was standing in the ante-room, when the King came forth, and observing him, asked a gentleman-in-
waiting who he was. The Captain overheard the question, and said addressing the gentleman, "Tell his Majesty I am Peter Simple." Upon this the King came forward and received him graciously. Some time after this his Majesty was waited upon by a distinguished member of the Government, to request permission for the Captain to wear the order conferred upon him by the King of the French, and to obtain, if not further promotion, some higher distinction for one who had so long and ably served his country. The former request was granted as a matter of course; and as to the latter, the King said, "You best know his services; give him what you please." The Minister was about to retire, when his Majesty called him back. "Marryat! Marryat! By-the-by, is not that the man who wrote a book against the impressment of seamen?" "The same, your Majesty." "Then he shan't wear the order, and he shall have nothing," said his Majesty.
This story needs no comment; it is sufficient to say that his Majesty's wishes were religiously attended to, although some time afterwards it was hinted through influential quarters to Captain Marryat that, if he would present himself at a certain levee, the King was ready to retract his word. This concession, however, he altogether refused to make, and the consequence was that he continued to be in disfavour at Court.

Captain Marryat was a Freemason, and belonged to the Lodge of Antiquity, of which His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex was chief. Although he did not formally adopt a literary career until he had relinquished his naval one, his first novel, 'Frank Mildmay; or, The Naval Officer,' was commenced whilst cruising in the Western Isles, and published in 1829, one year before he gave up the command of the Ariadne. For this early work he received from Mr. Colburn the sum of four
hundred pounds. His next, 'The King's Own,' came out in 1830. The following letter from Washington Irving was written about this date:

"8, Argyle Street, London,
"August 25, 1830.

"MY DEAR SIR,

"On returning last evening from an excursion to Paris, I found your kind letter of the 17th, inviting me to Langham. It will give me the greatest pleasure to pay you a visit as soon as I can find time. At present I have had my holiday, and must remain at my post, and let the minister have his turn to ramble. He is now absent on a little tour in the country. I hope you are busy with your pen, and that you intend to show up some of the old wreckers and rovers of the ocean. You have a glorious field before you, and one in which you cannot have many competitors, as so very few unite the author to the sailor. I think the chivalry of the ocean quite a new region
of fiction and romance, and to my taste one of the most captivating that could be explored.

"I again repeat I shall be delighted to pay you a visit at your new place, not only from the description you give me of it, which has something wild and engaging, but also from the strong inclination I feel to be on sociable and intimate terms with you. If I do not put my wishes into execution speedily, it will be because I am not my own master, and that whatever leisure I can command is already committed for one or two visits to the country.

"I am, dear Sir,

"Yours ever most truly,

"WASHINGTON IRVING."

Captain Marryat had just purchased from Mr. Alexander Copland an estate called Langham, in the county of Norfolk, which consisted of about a thousand acres of land.
The place had two farms upon it, which he let to tenants, reserving the manor, gardens, shrubberies, and ornamental portion of the property for his own occupation. But the dullness of a country life and the torpidity of intellect usually to be found in country minds did not suit his energetic spirit, then in the very zenith of its power, and before two years had elapsed, he was back again in London and the world, and did not return to Langham Manor to reside until fifteen years later, when he retired there for the remainder of his life.

A few months later Mr. Washington Irving wrote thus to Mrs. Marryat, of Wimbledon House:

"Argyll Street, Dec. 10, 1830.

"My dear Madam,

"I have to apologise to you for the long time that I have detained the 'Memoirs of a Naval Officer,' which I now return to you with many acknowledgments for your kindness. I have wished and in-
tended paying a visit to you at Wimbledon for some time past, but in truth am so perplexed with business and by the various distractions of this great metropolis, that I seem never master of myself and my time. This has been particularly the case for some time past in consequence of our having a great deal of business with the public offices. As soon as I can command leisure I shall not wait for invitation to come to Wimbledon. Our mutual friend Mr. J—— has been calling on me several times of late without our being able to see one another. I think it probable, however, that I shall see him this morning. I am anxious to receive the tender confidings of this cruelly-treated youth.

"With kind regards to your hard-hearted daughter,

"I am, my dear Madam,

"Very truly yours,

"Washington Irving."
In 1832 ‘Newton Forster’ appeared in the ‘Metropolitan Magazine,’ a periodical which for four years owned Captain Marryat as editor, and in the pages of which several of his works were first produced. In the critiques called forth by ‘Newton Forster’ the author is several times compared to Smollett, and in one of them the writer observes: “Smollett’s description of an act of impressment is neither more lively nor yet more indignant than similar scenes described by our author, a post-captain in the navy.” And again: “This is a charming novel, and in every respect worthy of its author. Captain Marryat has taken up a subject unhackneyed and in some measure new; but it is one adapted to his genius, and he has handled it in a masterly manner.” And again: “We are certain that, in the essential quality of a novel—novelty, both as to story and style—Captain Marryat here bears off the prize. There is no sickly sentiment, no affectation of superiority in
knowledge, no mawkish attempts to catch attention by ill-drawn semblances of living characters. 'All is lively, amusing, and original. The work, too, is sustained with unflagging interest from beginning to end. It is a true sign of talent, and that of the right sort, when an author increases in excellence in every new work. Captain Marryat is a writer of unquestionable power, and we very much doubt if he has yet written his best work.'

* * *

The private opinion of Mr. Jeffrey, editor of the 'Edinburgh Review,' appears not to have been behind that of the public.

"13, Clarges Street, Jan. 18, 1832.

"My dear Mrs. Marryat,

"I, being the idlest person of the family, have been the first to read through 'Newton Forster,' and consequently the first in a condition to express an opinion of it.
"That I have read it all through in the week I have to finish the preparation of our Scotch Reform Bill (if you will forgive me for mentioning such a thing) is proof enough, I think, that my opinion is very favourable. It is certainly very entertaining, which I take to be the first virtue of a work of this description; but it is interesting as well as entertaining, and not only shows great power of invention, but a very amiable nature and a kind heart.

"We are all much obliged to you for your attention in sending us the volumes, and for the pleasure they have afforded us; and with many thanks for this and for your kindness,

"Believe me always,

"Your obliged and faithful

"F. Jeffrey."

At this time there appears to have been some correspondence between Captain Marryat and Mr. Bentley relative to the
establishment of a new nautical magazine, a project, however, which never came to perfection.

"United Service Club, Nov. 3, 1832.

"Dear Sir,

"Our conversation relative to the setting up of a new naval chronicle has been well considered, and the result is as follows: If done, it must be advertised at once for the 1st of January next year, to prepare the public and to prevent another starting, which I find will in all probability be the case from a conversation with Captain Napier and General Armstrong, who have both left the 'United Service Journal' in disgust.

"The price ought to be two shillings, which will not be objected to.

"My terms would be as follows: The sole control of the work, for when I do my best I must be despotic or I shall not succeed; to be paid for all my own writings at the price I received in the 'Metropolitan,' six-
teen guineas per sheet. The editorship I would then take at £400 per annum until the end of the first year, when, if the work succeeded, I should expect an addition of £100, and if it continued profitable another £100, so as to raise the final pay of the editor to £600 per annum. These stipulations may be talked over afterwards. To choose my own sub-editor is indispensable. He must be a nautical man.

"As to interference with Colburn, I do not consider that such is the case. The 'United Service Journal' is no favourite with naval men or they would not call out for a work of this kind.

"It might just as well be said to be got up in opposition to the New Monthly or other magazines. This is most certain, there is not one day to be lost. The first number must be most carefully got up, to insure success, and the papers ought now to be in preparation. You must therefore take but few days to decide, as I tell you
honestly I have reason to expect the offer from another quarter who are now talking the matter over, and I must be allowed to consider myself as unpledged to you after a short time.

"I am, very truly yours,

"F. Marryat."

The following letters from Samuel Warren (author of 'Ten Thousand a Year'), the Hon. Mrs. Norton, Lady Morgan, Thomas Moore, Captain Trelawney (author of 'Adventures of a Younger Son'), Sir Egerton Brydges, Tom Hood, and Horace Smith, one of the authors of 'Rejected Addresses,' were evidently addressed to Captain Marryat whilst he was editor of the 'Metropolitan Magazine'—a responsibility which he assumed during 1832. Besides the novels 'Peter Simple,' 'Pasha of Many Tales,' 'Japhet in Search of a Father,' and 'Jacob Faithful,' the 'Diary of a Blasé,' and the fugitive pieces afterwards published under
the name of 'Olla Podrida,' made their first appearance in the 'Metropolitan,' with a comedy in three acts entitled 'The Gipsy,' a tragedy called 'The Cavalier of Seville,' and a refutation of the statement of Messrs. Cochrane, Neale, and Co., December, 1834. "It was about this period also," says the biographical notice appended to the poems of N. P. Willis (that is, between 1830-37), "that he fought his celebrated but bloodless duel with Captain Marryat."

"52, Great Coram Street, Russell Square, "Monday evening.

"Dear Sir,

"I hope you will accept my apologies for not answering your note earlier, on the ground of Mrs. Warren's indisposition and removal into the country, from which I am but just returned.

"I should be most happy to send you a paper for the July number, as you so kindly request, but owing to my wife's ill health,
my many professional engagements, and my spirits being harassed with a tedious and expensive Chancery suit, I have neither time nor inclination to enter the golden fields of literature. I have broken my engagements with Blackwood on these grounds for many months.

"I regret that these circumstances prevent my entering the distinguished ranks of your contributors. I have sat down a hundred times to write to Mr. Campbell, and have been as many times called off. I think your June number in every way admirable and superior to any of its predecessors. I have not yet had the honour of calling on you for the reasons above stated, as I am backwards and forwards to and from the country incessantly.

"I beg you will believe me,

"Dear Sir,

"Ever yours faithfully,

"Samuel Warren."
"DEAR CAPTAIN MARRYAT,

"I am grieved you should have any real vexation to annoy you, and sorry that it prevents you coming here. You should not speak disrespectfully of your own tragedy;* I read it out one night at Seymour's, and we were all much interested in that naughty man, your hero. My own tragedy is at a stand. I have written a little melodrama to try my hand, and want them to act it at the Adelphi. Perhaps I shall see you and Mrs. F. Marryat when I call in Richmond Terrace,† which I hope to do tomorrow or next day. Meanwhile,

"Yours very truly,

"CAROLINE NORTON."

The Hon. Mrs. Norton was a contributor to the 'Metropolitan Magazine.' Theodore Hook had declined to write for it on account of his politics.

* 'The Cavalier of Seville.'
† The town residence of Joseph Marryat, Esq.
"DEAR SIR,

"Your preference in my favour argues infinite tact and discrimination, and I accept it as a good augury of the future spirit and chivalry with which the 'Metropolitan' will be conducted; nor do I hesitate to march under the banner of such a chief; and beg your will forthwith enrol me in your band of literary preux and preuxesses; we must take the field under an entire new system of tactics—dismount our heavy horse, and make the "En avant" of the age, the epigraph of our standard. On a hint thrown out by Mr. Redding in his letter of yesterday, I wrote to my old friend Mr. Moore, and requested him to address his answer to you. I believe, however, it would be well, and in due form, if you would, without losing a moment, write to him, and make your proposition out of hand; there is now no time for anything; and facts, not forms, must be the line for the future."
"With respect to ourselves and our pecuniary expectations, Mr. Redding can inform you the terms on which we both wrote (Sir Charles and myself) for the 'N. Monthly' and the 'Metropolitan.' Mean- time, what events * are passing! It seems almost sacrilege to talk or think of anything but the awful and eventful movement of this most perilous and momentous epoch! Nothing can be worse than the state of Ireland—physical, moral, and political, and you on your side don't seem much better off.

"I am, dear Sir, with best wishes for your spirited undertaking,

"Very truly yours,

"Sydney Morgan.

"It is scarcely necessary to add that I have, and always shall, retain the copyright of such articles as I contribute to any periodical.

"Capt. Marryat,

"38, St. James' Place, London."

* The Reform Bill.
"June 24th, 1832.

"My dear Sir,

"I feel anxious, and in some degree of alarm about my packets and the proofs: the latter I expect to-day, and even thought yourself might have been the bearer of them. What alarms me about the packets is lest they should have fallen into the hands of some one, during your absence, who, not knowing the necessity of my seeing proofs, may have them printed off beyond all hope of revisal, which would drive me crazy. I should move, not only the Chancellor, but heaven and earth, for an injunction to stop the inexpurgated sheets. Seriously, I depend upon your, at all times, giving me the power of seeing, at least, the proofs. Frederick trusted Voltaire with his dirty sheets, but I must have the washing and mending of my own. It is of still more importance in the present thing as I despatched it (for me) in such a hurry.

"We trust you soon mean to pay us your
promised visit, and hope it will be before Wednesday, as we think of going then, or on Thursday, to Erlestoke, Watson Taylor's late place. You would, perhaps, accompany us.

"Yours, very truly,

"THOMAS MOORE.

"As I am now fairly listed (that is, if I get my proofs), you would, perhaps, have no objection to make me the advance I refused before. A quarter's pay in advance, if not inconvenient to you, would be very welcome to me.

"Your play is very clever, but I should like to have some talk with you about it before you published.

"Capt. Marryat, C.B.,

"38, St. James' Place."
"Dear Marryat,

"You will oblige me by telling me to whom I am to apply for the payment of the article in question. As I am under sailing orders I wish to conclude the affair.

"Yours truly,

"E. Trelawney.

"Nov. 18, 1832."

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"To Capt. Marryat, R.N., C.B. Geneva,

"Dec. 10, 1832.

"My dear Sir,

"I most sincerely wish you success in your election on public grounds, for talents, principles, conduct, and quality. If you are tired of Clavering, say so, and I will find some other topic. I like variety. Cantalupe wants only four or five sheets, which are all ready, except transcribing. I suppose you had not room for the memoir of my dear departed friend Lord Tenterden, in last number. His Latin poetry does him
great honour. Every word I have said of him is sacredly true.

"Instead of writing Lives of the Poets, which the publishers do not seem inclined to, would Saunders and Otley undertake a new edition of Johnson's Lives, with my notes and commentaries, which might supersede the old editions?

"I was seventy years old last Friday sennight, 30th of November; but my faculties are yet active, and I write with great rapidity.

"My rascally law agents have cheated me of upwards of £100,000!

"Yours, very truly,

"S. E. Brydges,

"Per legem terrae, Chandos of Sudeley."

"Brighton, April 14, 1833.

"My dear Sir,

"I should sooner have answered your letter, but that I concluded you would
remain some days longer in Norfolk, and I have been annoyed with a rheumatic, or some other ailment, in my right arm —rather a bore for a scribbler—which has made writing somewhat difficult to me.

"Were I disposed to embark in any literary undertaking, I should gladly accept your flattering offer of joining you in the 'Metropolitan'; but I have always refrained with a pious horror from anything that would bind me down to stated contributions or interfere with the command of my time. Moreover, I feel myself getting almost too old, or, at all events, too indolent, for regular magazine work, which I know by experience to be rather oppressive. Nor am I very desirous of the publicity attending an avowed sub-editorship, and the personalities to which it exposes one. This I am aware is a weakness; but still I cannot help feeling it: and, finally, I don't much like the notion of working on an un-
certainty, and exposing myself to the anxieties of a failure, which would be doubly painful to me as you would be a sufferer as well as myself.

"Such being my feelings, I must beg to decline your offer, though I cannot but feel gratified by the preference you have shown me, and wishing you all success in these times of competition and literary devildom,

"I am, my dear Sir,

"Yours, very truly,

"Horatio Smith.

"P.S. If you want a Continental contributor on politics, German affairs, or general literature, Mr. Colly Grattan, author of 'Highways and Byeways,' who resides at Heidelberg, has requested me to offer his services. He leaves England to-morrow, I believe, but may be addressed at his solicitors, Messrs. Hodgeson & Burton, Salisbury Street, Strand."
“Miss Landon presents her compliments to Captain Marryat, and will thank him not to make her a subject of ridicule in his magazine, for he certainly must be laughing at her.

“New Road, Dec. 9.”

G.P.O.

“Whereas, the following letters having been put into Box No. 4, Section 6, Department 8, of this office, without any address or superscription whatever—instead of returning the same to the authors of ‘Rejected Addresses,’ or of ‘Odes and Addresses to Great People,’ His Grace the Director-General has ordered it to be directed generally to the people of Great Britain, in the hope that some individual of the three kingdoms may lay claims to the epistle, according to the letter of the law—or rather the law of the letter.
(Copy.)

"My dear Sir,

"You are perfectly and nautically right. The Comic Annual ought certainly to clear out in time for the trade-winds to carry it through the Strait of Paternoster. It is far better in that latitude to have a sale than to be rowing.

"You may safely advertise that the 'Comic' will leave your dock outward-bound, on the 1st of November, and if you should call it A. 1, it will sound no worse to the 'Subscribers at Lloyd's.'

"My literary rigging, except a few lines, is all standing, and the blockmakers have done their part. This announcement sounds rather Dibdinish, but it will come appropriately from a street that is named after the Fleet. With regard to my novel, the shell of 'Tylney Hall' is completed, and
the whole building in one story is expected to be printed and papered very early in December. You can treat in the meanwhile with parties who may be disposed to occupy themselves with the premises; and a reading lease for a term of ninety-nine years will not be at all objected to by,

"My dear Sir,

"Yours, very truly,

"THOMAS HOOD.

"Lake House, Wanstead,
"Oct. 1, 1833."
CHAPTER IX.

The effects of sensational literature—'Peter Simple'—
Captain Marryat stands for Tower Hamlets—Receives
the Cross of the Legion of Honour—'Jacob Faithful'—
'Midshipman Easy'—'Japhet in search of a Father'—
Correspondence.

The following paper, written by Captain Marryat himself on the bad effects of sensa-
tional literature, touches so nearly the
crying evil of the present day that it will
be found interesting to those who regard
the question as one of importance:

"We have, within these last three months,
received many letters requesting us to notice
the wide dissemination which has taken
place of the unstamped publications, full of
ribaldry, libel, and obscenity. We have
kept the matter in our mind, intending to
have directed the attention of the public to the injurious effects produced upon the morals of the country at some time about the period of the meeting of the Legislature, but we have now received a letter from such a respectable quarter, stating facts, that we consider we ought no longer to delay our duty. We do not intend, as many other journalists do, to ascribe this extreme licentiousness of the press to the present party in power. We believe that these publications were commenced long before they were in office. That they have become much more daring and unblushing within the last few years is true; but that ever will be the case when they find that they may sin with impunity. The subject has not, to our knowledge, been commented upon, or any proofs of the mischief which has been produced been brought forward; and the liberty of the press is so sacred that, rather than any interference should restrict it, it has been considered better that
a little licentiousness should be passed over. This is certainly the general opinion, and one in which we heartily coincide; but as it is an easy task to put down obscenity and immorality without infringing upon liberty, it is the duty of whatever party may be in power, when the evil has been pointed out and satisfactorily established, to take such measures as shall uphold the morality and religious feeling of the country. Mr. Southey, in his remarks upon Lord Byron's 'Vision of Judgment,' says, when discussing the above question:

"'The evil is political as well as moral, for indeed moral and political evils are in-separably connected. Truly it has been affirmed by one of our ablest and clearest reasoners that "the destruction of governments may be proved and deduced from the general corruption of the subjects' manners as a direct and natural cause thereof, by a demonstration as certain as any in mathematics."'
"There is no maxim more frequently enforced by Machiavelli than that, when the manners of a people are generally corrupt, the government cannot long subsist—a truth which all history exemplifies—and there is no means by which that corruption can be so surely and rapidly diffused as by poisoning the waters of literature."

It may be said that the unstamped publications we refer to are unworthy of notice—that they only circulate among the lower classes. It is because they circulate, and so largely, among the lower classes that we call the attention of our readers to the greatness of the evil. The 'Vision of Judgment,' by Byron, has done little harm; it has been printed and read, but chiefly amongst those whose principles were fortified, and not likely to yield to a solitary attack; but these cheap and obscene periodicals which we refer to are twice or thrice a week circulated among those who have not strength of mind or principle to oppose
to them, who take in the hebdomadal doses of impurity until they become gradually and wholly demoralised. The mischief is not within the ken of our legislators, for the fruit of the tree will not probably ripen in their time; but it is gradually and quietly at work unhinging and vitiating the mass, and the time will come when the evil fruits shall be abundant. Indeed, if the evil be allowed to continue, it would be better at once to stop all national education, for every child that is taught to read is but prepared to receive the poison which is now so rapidly circulating. The letter to which we refer—and to mention the writer of which would be at once to stamp it as coming from a party of birth, fortune, and education—states as follows: that his daughter, coming home at the vacation from one of the most respectable establishments for the education of young ladies in the metropolis, mentioned a piece of scandal which surprised him, and he inquired whence she had ob-
tained the information. The young lady, being about fourteen years old, immediately replied that it was in the 'Paul Pry;' and to the inquiry how she happened to see the paper, she said that one of the servantmaids at the school took it in regularly, and that all the elder girls read it.

"We mention no names. The ladies who kept the establishment cannot be supposed to have been aware that such a publication was taken; indeed it is very probable that they did not know that such a publication existed. The fault lies with those who permit such poison to be circulated; and be it observed that it is in secret that the virus is spread, so that no one knows the real extent of it. There is another remark at the conclusion of this letter that is very important:

"I do not doubt but that any proposal to put down these publications would be treated either with indifference or sneers by the larger portion of our present legis-
lators; but, Mr. Editor, on making inquiry as to the companions of my daughter in the above establishment—from which I have since removed her—I find that, among the elder girls, there are no less than five who are daughters of some of the present members of the House of Commons.'

"May not the time come when the apathy and indifference of these very legislators may be severely punished by the falling off from virtue, and consequent degradation, of their own children, entirely brought about by the contamination received from the very publications which, as long as the morals and welfare of the lower classes only are at stake, they have thought proper to despise?

"The scandalous and obscene remarks made upon individuals at B—n by this very publication so outraged all decency, that the magistrates determined, if possible, to put it down. With the able assistance of a legal gentleman residing in the town,
they proceeded upon summary conviction, and as the vendors had no support from the proprietors, they were immediately committed for the offence; and the consequence has been that not one copy of this publication is now to be seen in the town of B——n. By the present law, any person going before a magistrate and making affidavit that any publication is obscene and libellous, may obtain a warrant, not only against the vendors, but even the givers away of such publication; and the parties apprehended upon such warrant may be immediately committed, provided they cannot find bail. Such was the case in the B——n affair. But the error in the law is, that the person who takes up the warrant must bind himself over, in case bail can be procured, to indict the party at the sessions—a proceeding attended with great expense and trouble, and rendered entirely valueless and nugatory by the evasion of the law by the preparations already made by the worthless
and unprincipled proprietors. To take out a warrant against the vendors of the papers in the metropolis would be almost useless. Bail would be procured, and the party who took out the warrant would incur a great expense without effecting any good results, because, from the present wording of the Act, the law can be evaded. What is required is simply to make the affair one of summary conviction. Let this be done, and in a few weeks not one paper of the kind would be in existence, for no one would venture to circulate them. Such an amendment would not interfere with the liberty of the press; it would only restrain its licentiousness. We would not have it extend, for that very reason, to sedition or treason. Demagogues may splutter both as fast as they please; it demoralises nobody, although it may draw them and make them discontented. Let it only be framed against obscenity and immorality, and it will be sufficient. It is possible that, out of so
many members of our Legislature in both Houses, there cannot be found one who would take the trouble or onus to bring forward a Bill to amend this Act. We have Acts for the better observance of the Sabbath—Acts to compel people to outward forms—and yet the contamination of the whole rising generation disregarded. We have societies for the diffusion of the Gospel, for the amelioration of the negro race—yes, for everything almost except for the welfare of our own community, to which all our philanthropists are blind or indifferent. Let them not, however, forget that five of their daughters have been reading 'Paul Pry,' and may every one tremble lest it be his own; or if she be not one of the five, let him reflect whether it is not possible that the virus has been communicated to his own family by some other channel. As Southey says, 'Let our rulers of the State look to this in time.' But, to use the words of Dr. South, 'If our physicians
think that the best way to cure a disease is to pamper it, the Lord in His mercy prepare the kingdom to suffer what he by miracle only can prevent.'"

The next novel on the list is 'Peter Simple'—by general consent the favourite of all Captain Marryat's works—and of this was said:

"We must, however, observe that 'Peter Simple' has other excellencies beyond being a delightfully readable book, and presenting a true and vivid sketch of scenery and nautical life and adventures; it is unrivalled as a work of art."

*

"We perceive that 'Peter Simple' has been compared to the productions of Smollett. On a closer inspection it will be found that there is no likeness, except that each writer is the facile princeps of novel writers of the class to which he belongs. Smollett is dashing, broad, and vigorous, not always over decent, and generally very coarse.
'Peter Simple' confines himself to the modest truth of nature, and (it is not the least of his merit on such ticklish ground) never uses a word or conveys an idea to which the most scrupulous could object. The humour of Smollett, though side-splitting, is frequently derived from incident, features, or even costume. Change the cut of a garment or a crook in the shoulders, and the humour would evaporate. That of 'Simple,' on the contrary, is for the most part founded on character, and is indestructible except by the destruction of the work."

"'Peter Simple' is unrivalled in dry humour, in the conception and embodying of individual character."

The publication of 'Peter Simple' was seized by Captain Marryat as an opportunity to address the public on his own account. It is not often that an author even pretends to review his own production, and the following notice which appeared in the Metro-
политан is curious only from the fact that it emanated from himself:

"We do not intend to review our own work; if we did it justice we might be accused of partiality, and we are not such fools as to abuse it. We leave that to our literary friends who may have so little taste as not to appreciate its merits. Not that there would be anything novel in reviewing our own performances—that we have discovered since we have assumed the office of editor; but still it is always done sub rosa, whereas in our case we could not deny our situation as editor or author. Of 'Peter Simple,' therefore, we say nothing, but we take this opportunity of saying a few words to the public. We are willing to submit to all the castigation we may deserve, for we may have intruded upon it; but we cannot quietly sit down and hear ourselves unpleasantly commented upon for the sins of others. It has been the fashion for many publishers of anonymous naval works to
whisper that they were ascribed to us, and it was but the other day that we were told to our great mortification, by an officer of rank in the navy, that a work entitled the 'Port Admiral' was generally supposed to have been concocted with our pen; and we take the opportunity now afforded us of expressing our indignation at the report circulated, not on account of the want of talent in the work, but because it contains an infamous libel upon one of our most distinguished officers deceased, and upon the service in general. It is in consequence of the above observations that we take the liberty to state what works have proceeded from our pen; and when it is considered that it is not five years since we commenced authorship, surely there are enough of them without adding spurious ones to the list. The 'Naval Officer' was our first attempt, and its having been our first attempt, must be offered in extenuation of its many imperfections; it was written hastily, and before
it was complete we were appointed to a ship. We cared much about our ship and little about our book. The first was diligently taken charge of by ourselves, the second was left in the hands of others, to get on how it could. Like most bantlings put out to nurse, it did not get on very well. As we happen to be in the communicative vein, it may be as well to remark that being written in the autobiographical style, it was asserted by good-natured friends, and believed in general, that it was a history of the author's own life. Now, without pretending to have been better than we should have been in our earlier days, we do most solemnly assure the public that had we run the career of vice of the hero of the 'Naval Officer,' at all events, we should have had sufficient sense of shame not to have avowed it. Except the hero and heroine, and those parts of the work which supply the slight plot of it, as a novel, the work in itself is materially true, especially in the
narrative of sea adventure, most of which did (to the best of our recollection) occur to the author. We say 'to the best of our recollection,' as it behoves us to be careful. We have not forgotten the snare in which Chamier found himself by asserting in his preface that his narrative was fact. In the 'Naval Officer' much good material was thrown away; but we intend to write it over again some of these days, and the 'Naval Officer,' when 'corrected,' will be so improved that he may be permitted to stand on the same shelf with 'Pride and Prejudice,' or 'Sense and Sensibility.'

"The 'confounded licking' we received for our first attempt in the 'critical notices' is probably well known to the reader—at all events we have not forgotten it. Now, with some, this severe castigation of their first offence would have had the effect of their never offending again; but we felt that our punishment was rather too severe; it produced indignation instead of contri-
tion, and we determined to write again in spite of all the critics in the universe; and in the due course of nine months we produced the 'King's Own.' In the 'Naval Officer' we had sowed all our wild oats; we had paid off those who had ill-treated us, and we had no further personality to indulge in. The 'King's Own,' therefore, was wholly fictitious in characters, in plot, and in events, as have been its successors. The 'King's Own' was followed by 'Newton Foster;' 'Newton Foster' by 'Peter Simple.' These are all our productions. Reader, we have told our tale."

But that the adventures of Mr. Peter Simple did not entirely engross the mind of his biographer is evident from the fact that in this year, Captain Marryat, in company with Colonel Leicester Stanhope (since Lord Harrington), Mr. Clay, and Dr. Lushington, stood as candidate for the Tower Hamlets election. Which of these four won the day need not be recorded: it is suffi-
cient for this history that Captain Marryat did not. Whilst the election was pending he convened meetings at the Court of Requests, Whitechapel; and the Mermaid and Britannia taverns—names more suggestive of the "Ships, Colonies, and Commerce" interest he advocated, than of a refined and aristocratic branch of diplomacy. In a speech delivered at one of these meetings he said that he "believed they would all acknowledge that there was nothing in which reform was more required than in the degrading, unjust, oppressive system of the impressment of seamen. When he was a junior officer in the service, when he knew that to meddle with a subject the Ministers wished to keep quiet was to risk his promotion, and perhaps to blight his prospects in the service in which he had embarked, even then he wrote the work he held in his hand, pointing out the unjust and oppressive character of the practice, and suggesting measures for its remedy.
And he did this openly. He thought the interests of his country and the rights of his fellow-subjects demanded it, and he affixed his name to the title-page of his work without one moment's regard as to the injury such an act might do his fortunes. That was one step which he had taken as a reformer."

Again, speaking of some former election: "It was true he was defeated, but was he therefore less a reformer? In that day there was much more violence than at the present moment in party politics. He had not only suffered in his purse but in his person; he was nearly cut to pieces; and he might truly say he had shed his blood in the cause of Reform. Since that period he had had the misfortune to become an author. He had written much, and he appealed to his friends and he challenged his enemies to say if they could point out one page in which he advocated anti-Liberal notions."

On another occasion, being asked if he
was opposed to flogging in the navy, he made a speech in reply, too long to transcribe here, and the elector who had put the question complained that the answer was not direct. He was a father (so he affirmed), and he or his sons might go to sea and come under the command of Captain Marryat. He desired therefore to know if “the gallant Captain” was opposed to flogging or not. The reply was as follows:

"Sir, you say the answer I gave you is not direct; I will answer you again. If ever you, or one of your sons, should come under my command and deserve punishment, if there be no other effectual mode of conferring it I shall flog you."

After which Captain Marryat and the chairman left the room together amidst a tumult of united applause and disapprobation. Part of another of his speeches made at a later meeting is quoted here to show how greatly he had the subject of impressment at heart:
"And, speaking of the colonies, he must remark that the old adage was perfectly true, 'Real charity begins at home.' He detested slavery as heartily as any man could, but he could never consent to give his sole attention to the negro across the Atlantic, while he knew that his own countryman was dragged into slavery, and the wife and children of his bosom were left to pine in wretchedness and want. He would redress that grievance and protect the British seaman before he thrust his philanthropy on the African negro. Again, when he looked to our manufacturing districts—when he looked to the factory and found infants working in penury and misery for seventeen hours a day—how could he, as a man with a heart in his breast, pass by such a scene and think only of the black slave? Further, when he went to Spitalfields, and saw the industrious artisan unable to obtain even a wretched pittance, but compelled to have recourse to charity,
how could he consent to follow the example of those who took no note in the miseries which were about them, but sought for objects of compassion in a distant region? There was an inconsistency in such conduct that he could not understand, and that made him doubt its virtue. And while he was upon this subject he could not help calling the attention of the electors to the conduct of the self-styled philanthropists, who talked much about negro emancipation, upon a particular point. It was well known this country had spent millions of money to procure the suppression of the slave trade; it was also well known that that detestable traffic was still carried on to a frightful extent by several foreign nations. Well, what did the philanthropists do? Why, at the very moment they were demanding the emancipation of the slaves in the British Colonies, they voted for the importation of foreign sugar, to the direct injury of our own colonies, although that foreign sugar
was the produce of the labour of new-made slaves. He did not like to impute motives to other people, but really, when he saw men thus conducting themselves, he could hardly help saying he was convinced they did not in their hearts wish for emancipation. His reason for saying so was this: The wrong of the slaves was the capital of the philanthropists, and if the one were declared free, the other would be bankrupts."

One of the members of the meeting was proceeding, "in very set phrase," to make an answer to this speech, when his eloquence was suddenly brought to an untimely end by the table, on which the chairman’s seat was placed, giving way and precipitating that gentleman on the floor. Captain Marryat, who had been also standing on the table, sprang into the centre of the room and conjured the audience "to go to the walls," by which means he saved their lives and prevented their engulfment, for in
another minute the floor of the room had fallen in, and "the chairman being upside down, the meeting, which appeared highly favourable to Captain Marryat, was broken up." Favourable or not, he lost his election, and with it any aspirations he may have entertained of distinguishing himself in Parliament.

In June, 1833, Captain Marryat received from His Majesty Louis Philippe, King of the French, the cross of the Legion of Honour, accompanied by the following letter:

"Paris, le 19 juin, 1833.

"Le roi, monsieur, sur le compte que je lui ai rendu des services que vous avez rendu à la science et à la navigation, a voulu vous accorder une marque de son estime, en vous conférant la Croix d'Officier de l'Ordre Royal de la Légion d'Honneur. J'ai mis de l'intérêt à vous procurer cette honorable distinction, dont je ne doute pas..."
que vous ne sentiez tout le prix. Vous recevrez directement de la Grande Chancelerie de la Légion d'Honneur la décoration qui vous est destinée.

"Recevez, monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

"Le Ministre Secrétaire d'Etat de la Marine et des Colonies.

"DTE. N. DE MIGNY.

"M. Marryat, Frederic,
Capitaine de Va" de la Marine Royale d'Angleterre,
"Rue de la Paix, No. 24, à Paris."

In the January previous he had been in correspondence with Sir James Graham, First Lord of the Admiralty, on the subject of introduction of brevet rank without pay into the navy:

Admiralty, January 7, 1833.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your plan for the introduction of brevet rank without pay into the navy.
"I cannot promise the hasty adoption of any measure vitally affecting the construction of a service which, with all its apparent anomalies and imperfections, has in the hour of trial never failed to surpass the hopes and expectations of the country. I trust it is not now in a state of decay; and I believe it contains officers as able, as brave, and as willing to serve us as at any former period of our brightest glory.

"I am disposed, however, very seriously and carefully to consider your suggestions, and at all events I hasten to thank you for communicating to me your thoughts on a subject of such national importance.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your faithful servant,

"Jas. G. Graham."

After losing his election, Captain Marryat went to Brighton, where for some time he lived in a house called Montpelier Villa, situated in the Western Road; and it was there.
that, during the year 1834, he wrote three novels, entitled 'Jacob Faithful,' 'Mr. Midshipman Easy,' and 'Japhet in Search of a Father.' Of the first-named work the reviewer remarks:

"Many have lamented that the Fielding and Smollett style should have become nearly obsolete in this refined age; but so long as Captain Marryat wields the pen in lieu of the sword, that complaint will have no foundation.

"In one of his most pleasing passages Milton has marked the delight which the freshness of the country affords to a person who has been 'long in populous city pent.' The critic is excited by a somewhat kindred feeling when he turns from the 'weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable' tomes which every month press before him to a production of Marryat's; for of one thing he is pretty confident, that however it may differ from his other works in the degree of merit, it may at least be read from the
first leaf to the last with pleasure, or profit, or both.

"In the power of presenting life as it is, cooking nothing, exaggerating nothing, blackening nothing, Captain Marryat seems to stand alone amongst the writers of his century."

And of this novel the late Mr. Thackeray, in his 'Roundabout Papers,' writes:

"So is the author who excites and interests you, worthy of your thanks and benedictions. I am troubled with fever and ague, that seizes me at odd intervals and prostrates me for a day. There is a cold fit, for which I am thankful to say hot brandy-and-water is prescribed, and this induces a hot fit, and so on. In one or two of these fits I have read novels with the most perfect contentment of mind; once, on the Mississippi, it was my dearly-beloved 'Jacob Faithful;' once, at Frankfort-on-Maine, the delightful 'Vingt ans après' of Mons. Dumas; once, at Tunbridge Wells,
the thrilling 'Woman in White;' and those books gave me amusement from morning till sunset. I remember these ague fits with a great deal of pleasure and gratitude."

With regard to the next work no reviews are forthcoming, but that the history of 'Mr. Midshipman Easy' is a faithfully-written chronicle, and its author a true delineator of character, is immortalised in the subjoined extract from Mr. Henry Kingsley's story of 'Ravenshoe':

"A flood of historical recollections comes over Charles, and he recognises the place as one long known and very dear to him. On those very stairs Mr. Midshipman Easy stood, and resolved that he would take a boat and sail to Gazo. What followed on his resolution is a matter of history. Other events have taken place at Malta, about which Charles was as well informed as the majority, but Charles did not think of them; not even of St. Paul and the viper,
or the old wordy dispute in Greek Testament lecture at Oxford between this Melita and the other one of the land of Illyricum. He thought of Midshipman Easy, and felt as if he had seen the place before."

For this novel Captain Marryat received £1200 from Messrs. Saunders & Otley.

Of 'Japhet in Search of a Father' it was remarked:—

"The execution of 'Japhet in Search of a Father' is as excellent as any of Marryat's productions; the point, the humour, the wit, the neatness, and the terseness of style are as good as ever. The great merit of the narrative is, that the adventures of the hero of it, are detailed with a vividness of description so near akin to reality, that the improbability of many of the incidents is forgotten, and the reader is actually lulled into the imagination that he is perusing the events of actual life."

The general interest excited by this tale whilst it was running in the pages of the
magazine was so great that an American vessel meeting an English one in the broad Atlantic, instead of a demand for water or supplies, ran up the question to her masthead, "Has Japhet found his father yet?"

In the commencement of 1834 Captain Marryat received another letter from Sir James Graham:

(Private.)

"Admiralty, April 22, 1834.

"Dear Sir,

"I am very much obliged by your observations on the Merchant Seamen's Bill; it is a measure which I am most anxious to make perfect, and you, who know all the difficulties, are most competent to assist me in removing them. Could you call here on Thursday, at twelve o'clock, when I should like to go through the bill with you clause by clause, and to discuss it fully and freely.

"Let me thank you again for giving
your attention to a subject in which the future power and greatness of your profession is involved to a degree not as yet sufficiently understood, and which, if neglected, may prove fatal to our country at the moment when danger presses and hopes are most excited.

"I am, dear Sir,

"Very faithfully yours,

"Jas. G. Graham.

"Captain Marryat, R.N."

The following was addressed by him to his brother-in-law, Bury Palliser:

"Montpelier Villa, Brighton,

"May 10, 1834.

"My dear Palliser,

"I have just come back from Norfolk, where I had the pleasure of getting no rent, because why—the tenant hadn't got none. I intended to bring up a puppy for you, daughter of my lurcher bitch, the best
retriever and rabbit-dog I ever knew—greyhound built, very fast, and retrieving in or out of water—but the distemper came on, and I left it under charge of Nash until it is recovered, as dogs don’t travel well with distemper.

“Who is that friend of yours who requires Langham? as I am very anxious to let it. You will oblige me by writing to him and saying that for £200 per annum he may take the cottage and shooting. I am so very, very busy, that I have no time to say more, except love to Fan and the little baby. I wished very much to have seen you both this time I was up, and I could not manage it; it must be for another time. If I let Langham, I have an excellent setter bitch here (small, rather) very much at your service; she broke in herself, without trouble, and is now about a year old. George is here, having taken a house very convenient to mine; his horses are in my stables, his feet are generally under my
table, and his man is always in my kitchen; really quite a catch! for a man with a large family.

"My little ones are thriving, and learning all sorts of things under a governess. God bless you both. Kate sends her love; and I am,

"Ever yours truly,

"F. Marryat."

"Brighton, April 1, 1834.

"My dearest Mother,

"I am neither sick nor sorry, but putting my house in order, as I told you, in various ways. There is always so much to do in a house when the master has been any time absent, that the day is not half long enough, and I have been giving all manner of orders to workmen, and seeing those orders executed. Moreover, I am
making acquaintance with several Brighton residents, which will be useful by-and-by. At present I am finishing off several arrangements in the outhouses, which were postponed until the second year, reading MSS. and books till I am tired, to make up for time lost, and trying to bring myself in writing harness again, which, after having been turned out so long to grass at Paris, is not so very easy. I intend to come up next week and stay a day or two with you previous to my going to Norfolk. G— is much with us. He says you have accused him of being in love with a Miss R—. In the first place, Miss R— is not at Brighton; and, in the second, I feel sure that he will fall in love with nobody but himself for these next ten years. He is in very pleasant society here, chiefly evening parties, and says he shall not leave until May.

"Kate and the children are all well again and desire their love. As for the chancel-
lor's judgment, I cannot say that I thought anything about it; on the contrary, it appears to me that he might have been much more severe if he had thought proper. It is easy to impute motives, and difficult to disprove them. I thought, considering his enmity, that he let us off cheap; as there is no *punishing a chancellor*, and he might say what he pleased with impunity. I did not, therefore, *roar*, I only *smiled*. The effect will be nugatory. Not one in a thousand will read it; those who do, know it refers to a person not in this world, and of those, those who knew my father will not believe it; those who did not will care little about it, and forget the name in a week. Had he given the decision in our favour, I should have been better pleased, but *it's no use crying*; *what's done can't be helped*. My baby will not even say 'Papa,' still she is a forward child, and if Fanny's beats her in *talking*, she cannot match her in *philosophy*.

"The wet-nurse was very ill and obliged
to go home, and baby submitted to circumstances with great fortitude; eats biscuits and sleeps the whole night through, perfectly satisfied when she wakes if you give her a little milk and water out of a cup. She did so the very first night, and has continued to do so ever since. She has only three teeth, but does not refuse to be carnivorous, if required. I intend to write to Fan, but have been too busy; tell her so in your next.

"I have no more to say at present, except that I long to see you, and shall come as soon as I can.

"Love to Nelly, and believe me,

"Yours very attached,

"F. MARRYAT."
CHAPTER X.

On the Continent—'Pirate and Three Cutters'—Life of Lord Napier—Brussels—Lausanne—'Snarley Yow'—'Pacha of Many Tales'—Correspondence—Farewells party—'Diary on the Continent'—Letters to Mrs. Bury Palliser.

In 1835, Captain Marryat, accompanied by his wife and children, left England, and proceeded to the capital of Belgium. In his own words, "Not one day was our departure postponed; with post-horses and postillions, we posted, post-haste, to Brussels."

During the month of his sojourn there, he visited Malines and Antwerp, and was invited to the receptions given at the Court of Leopold I.

His political and general ideas of this
country and Switzerland are to be found in his 'Diary on the Continent,' a journal that now forms part of a collection of fugitive pieces in a book called 'Olla Podrida,' and which was published in 1840.

On the 26th of May of the same year, Captain Marryat left Brussels, and on the 10th of June arrived at Spa, having stayed a week at Liege en route. Although amongst his various talents, he possessed a decided one for packing up clothes and putting babies to sleep, the fact of his carrying plenty of both incumbrances about with him, rather retarded the accomplishment of his journey. Like most sailors, he was very kind and tender-hearted with children, and especially so with his own little ones; and when at the close of the day's travelling they were tired and fractious, and refused to shut their eyes, he would wrest the servants' duty from their hands and enact the part of head nurse himself. He could not sing, but he could (as the world needs not to be told)
tell stories; and it was by means of telling stories (not a very complimentary one to him as an author), that he used to lull his children to sleep.

The following letter was written to his mother shortly after his arrival in Spa:

"Spa, June 9, 1835.

"My dearest Mother,

"It is dreadfully hot, and we are all gasping for breath. Kate is very unwell. She cannot walk now, and is obliged to go out in the carriage. Children thrive. As for me, I am teaching myself German, and writing a little now and then, 'The Diary of a Blasé,' * one part has appeared in the 'Metropolitan,' very good magazine stuff. I have a fractional part of the gout in my middle right finger. Is it possible to make V—a member of the Horticultural? He is very anxious, and he deserves it; the

* Afterwards published as 'Diary on the Continent.'
personal knowledge is the only difficulty; but I know him, and I am part of you, and therefore you know him. Will that syllogism do? We are as quiet here as if we were out of the world, and I like it. I wanted quiet to recover me. Since I have been here I have discovered what I fancy will be new in England, a variety of carnation, with short stalks; the stalks are so short that the flowers do not rise above the leaves of the plant, and you have no idea how pretty they are; they are all in a bush. There are two varieties here belonging to a man, but he will not part with them. He says they are very scarce and only to be had at Vervier, a town eight miles off. They are celebrated for flowers at Liege, but a flower-woman from Liege, to whom I showed them, said that she had never seen them there; so I presume the man is correct. Have you heard of them? By-the-by, you should ask V—to send for some Ghent roses—they are extremely
beautiful. I did give most positive orders that Fred* should not go out unless with Mr. B——, or one of the masters. He remained three days in Paris, having escaped from the gentleman who had charge of him, and cannot or will not, account for where he was or what he did. He did not go to his school until his money was gone. He is at a dangerous age now, and must be kept close. Write me, or Kate, a long letter, telling us all the news. I intend to come home in October or thereabouts; but I must arrange according to Kate's manoeuvres. If she goes her time, of course I must be with her, and then she will winter here, I have no doubt, as we cannot travel in winter with babies, nor indeed do I wish to, as travelling costs a great deal of money, and I have none to spare.

"God bless you, mamma. This is a famous place for your complaint, if it comes on again. The cures are miraculous. Love

* His eldest son.
to Ellen. She shan't come German over me when we meet. I don't think I ever should have learnt it, only G—— gave himself such airs about it.

"Yours,

"F. Marryat."

During this year, his literary fame was increased by the production of the 'Pirate and Three Cutters.' Of this book, which was illustrated by Clarkson Stanfield, it is said,

"To our naval friends in particular, this bright gem of the season will be most acceptable. Captain Marryat's work will be found powerfully dramatic; it is sparkling and characteristic; and, if possible, will add to his already established reputation of being the most graphic naval writer of the day."

"That the author of 'Peter Simple' ever has written or ever can write anything which will not repay the perusal, we hold to be impossible."
For this work £750 was received by the author from Mr. Hurst.

Leaving his family at Spa, Captain Marryat now returned to England for a few months in order to transact business with his publishers, and entered into an agreement with Messrs. Saunders & Otley, to sell them his interest in the 'Metropolitan Magazine' for £1050. Whilst editing this periodical his sub-editor was Mr. Edward Howard; and it is to this gentleman that the authorship of 'Rattlin the Reefer' is due, and not, as often supposed, to Captain Marryat, who only stood literary sponsor to his friend's production. At this period he had agreed to write a memoir of the late Lord Napier, with whom he had been well acquainted, for Mr. Richard Bentley; and Lady Napier had accorded him permission to do so, and placed all her husband's papers in his hands. When the work, however, was half completed, her ladyship, for private reasons, withdrew the leave
which she had granted, and consequently it was never given to the public. From some of the first proofs, however, which are still in existence, the following passages have been extracted, to show the high estimation in which Captain Marryat held the subject of his intended memoir.

* * * *

"It was when I first entered upon my naval career, where, as a child, I found myself transplanted from a sheltering home and the care of fostering parents, to encounter the rude blasts of an adventurous and stormy life, that I met with William Napier, then a master's mate, having joined the Impérieuse a few days before my arrival. I well remember that I, as well as other youngsters, looked upon him with awe, for he was a giant among us pigmies. But it was without cause, for although it might be excellent to have a giant's strength, he felt that it was tyrannous to use it as a giant. At the period at which
I entered the service, there was no species of tyranny, injustice, and persecution, to which we youngsters were not compelled to submit from those who were our superiors in bodily strength; but from Napier we received none. He made use of no other than his moral superiority, and, in that, he was so powerful, that one word, or a finger raised, was more effectual, and more feared, than all the unlimited blows received from others. Superior to all in physical force, in knowledge, and in station, he never used his superiority but to enforce what was right. One of the best navigators in the service, he devoted his time and talents to those who wished to learn. At the same time that he laughed and played with us as children, he insured respect; and although much feared, he was loved much more.

"These remarks may appear trifling to some, but they are remarks indicative of character. In those times the ordeal of a
midshipman's berth was severe, and too often the effect of its tyranny was demoralizing; for those who suffered when weak, waited with impatience for the development of that physical power which would enable them to tyrannise in their turns, and retaliate upon others the injustice to which they had been forced to submit. Might was right in the most extended sense of the phrase; and it was indeed rare to find one like Napier, who, with power to insure despotism, was so magnanimous as to refrain from exercising that power except in the cause of justice. I was for years a messmate of Napier's, and, although not easy to be controlled, and usually returning blow for blow, I can positively assert that I never received a blow from him; and, at the same time, he was the only one to whom I paid implicit obedience.

"Although an example so deserving of imitation did not, perhaps, produce all the effect that it would have done upon the older
midshipmen in the berth, I feel convinced that it was productive of much good to the younger; for often when by years I had gained that experience and strength which elevated me among the seniors of the mess, at times when about to give way to my impetuosity, and take advantage of my superior strength, I have recalled Napier's forbearance to me, and have restrained my hand.

"In fact Napier was, for many years, the only *naval reformer* I fell in with in His Majesty's service. In the midst of tyranny he set the example of mercy; in the midst of ignorance, he was learned and scientific; in the midst of idleness, he was studious himself and ready to instruct others; and as a nobleman he considered that his superior rank required that he should be, what he really was, one of the best seamen and best officers in his majesty's service.

* * * * *

"Another circumstance occurred con-
nected with Napier, which is fresh in my memory, as it happened the very day after we had been released from our dangerous situation. The gale still continued, the sea was running high, cresting in savage foam, when one of the marines fell overboard. The cry of 'A man overboard!' was passed through the ship; many of the officers and men hastened to the quarter-boats, the lashings were cut off, the falls in hand ready for lowering. The youngsters were at the taffrail watching with anxiety the poor fellow, who swam well and bore up against the seas, rising after they had broken over him, his eyes turned towards the ship, knowing that from thence, and thence alone, he could expect assistance. Lord Cochrane, who was standing abaft, surveyed the raging seas, and compressing his lips, as if he had made up his mind, in a grave tone said, 'Hold fast.' The boats were not lowered, and the poor man still struggled with the waves, gradually in-
creasing his distance. At last he held up his hand, as if to show where he was, and shortly afterwards he disappeared, and we thought, 'Why, how is this? The officers and men were willing to save him. We would have ourselves done what we could, and yet the poor man is allowed to drown without succour!' Lord Cochrane had walked forward after the marine had disappeared, saying only, 'Poor fellow.' We still continued watching the wave where he was last seen, full of melancholy and rather indignant thought. Napier stood by us, and he appeared to have read our reflections; he had hardly spoken to any of us during the few days we had been together, but he thought it his duty to put us right. He pointed out to us that it was hardly possible for any boat to live in such a sea; that although there were hundreds who would have been eager to save the man's life, the attempt would only have been attended with the sacrifice of their own; that a cap-
tain of a ship was responsible for the lives of his men, and that it was the duty of the captain to forbid a boat to be lowered down. We felt the truth of what he said, but we often talked over the fate of the poor marine.

* * * * *

"I must not, however, proceed till I have laid before the reader an extract of a letter written by Captain Pringle, under whose command Napier served in H.M.S. Sparrowhawk:

"I cannot convey to you the warm and sincere regard I had for my friend as a man and an officer, and can only say, that he was such as I can hardly expect to meet again. His superiors could with him have the pleasure of entering into and enjoying all the familiarities and intercourse of private life without its ever interfering in the least with the duties of the officer, a qualification which produces more good on board of a man-of-war than may be sup-
posed. The country and the service have sustained a great loss. I am confident that had he been spared to rise to the higher commands in the service, he would have equalled any of the great names with which our admirals' list is graced."

"And here I must again bring forward testimony of Napier's worth in corroboration of my own. Lieutenant Rodgers, in a letter detailing the loss of the Goshawk, speaks in these terms:

"'My information can only relate to this short period, which I shall ever look back to, as far the happiest which I have spent in his Majesty's service, for with such a commander it could not be otherwise. As a tribute of respect to the memory of my late captain, I may safely say, that his chief happiness seemed to consist in that of those around him; and in justice to all those who had the good fortune to sail with him, I may also affirm that there was not an officer or seaman on
board who would not use his utmost exertions to entitle him to the captain's approbation. Not so much, be it observed, as a point of duty, but from a feeling, I would almost say, of love and affection. I do not mean to say that we would have been permitted to neglect our duty, had we felt so disposed. No, that was certainly out of the question, for Napier was a strict disciplinarian in the proper sense of the term, that is, requiring orders to be executed with alacrity and promptitude; but then his orders were communicated with so much kindness, that it became no less our pleasure than our duty to obey his commands, and if possible to anticipate his wishes."

And, again, in speaking of the actions in which he and Lord Napier served together, Captain Marryat says:

"Well do I recollect the powerful frame of Napier, with his claymore, bounding in advance of his men and cheering them on
to victory. Truly did we all love and admire him; and of this love and admiration he was most worthy, for a more brave or a more collected officer never, before or since, trod the quarter-deck.”

And he appears to have been no less an admirer of the younger brother than of the elder.

* * * * *

“I was very intimate with Frank Napier; we had been messmates, and had afterwards repeatedly met in our naval career. A more promising young man I never knew. He was wild and thoughtless, but full of energy and talent. Eccentric to the highest degree, and in all his actions as well as his language there was humour as peculiar as it was original. He was one of those who never did or spoke like anybody else. Few young men had cultivated their minds as had Frank Napier; I never heard a topic started upon which he was not more or less informed, generally speak-
ing better informed than the rest of the company.

"One of his peculiarities was very amusing. Whenever he was on shore he never would be encumbered with luggage of any description, further than a small case which he could carry in his hand, and which contained his few articles for the toilette, and half a dozen pocket-handkerchiefs. He was always well dressed, and had the appearance of a perfect gentleman, but he never had any wardrobe except the clothes that he had on. As soon as they were half worn he ordered another suit, leaving the former one to the waiter as a legacy, for he always lived at hotels. This was but fair, as the waiter had to supply him with linen; and where he was known they were so used to him, that they always prepared and had everything at his service, for he was liberal to excess.

"I have gone up to his room and found him in bed. He would ring the bell: 'Waiter,
a clean shirt.' 'Yes, sir.' 'And, James, I dine out to-day—one of your best frilled.' 'Yes, sir.' When he paid his bill, the washing, and a handsome allowance for wear and tear, were accounted for; and Frank put on his one shirt, and walked off as light as a feather, and not at all anxious about the safety of his luggage. But I am not writing the life of poor Frank, or I could narrate many amusing incidents which occurred in our cruises together. Peace be with him!''

* * *

But to return to Captain Marryat's doings on the Continent. In the February of 1836 he returned to Spa, and the following August we find him again at Brussels, where to this hour many anecdotes are related of him by the older residents. It appears that at one period whilst he was staying there several other men of celebrity, friends of his own, were passing through, and a gentleman of their acquaintance, curious to hear
the wits sharpening each other, gave a large dinner and invited them all to meet at his table.

The evening arrived, the *menu* was perfect, the *bon mots* passed freely, and everybody talked and laughed—except one, and that one was Captain Marryat, who swallowed his dinner gravely and almost in silence.

The host was very much disappointed, and meeting him next morning told him so. "I am afraid you did not enjoy yourself at my house last night."

"My dear fellow, what makes you think so? The dinner, the company, and the wine were all excellent. I never enjoyed myself better in my life!"

"But why, then, didn't you talk?" remonstrated his friend. "You didn't make a single joke during the whole evening."

"Oh!" replied Captain Marryat, with a prolonged utterance of the syllable, "if that's what you wanted you should have asked me
when you were alone. Why, did you imagine I was going to let out any of my jokes for those fellows to put in their next books? No; that is not my plan. When I find myself in such company as that I open my ears and hold my tongue, glean all I can, and give them nothing in return.”

It was of one of these same authors, a little later, that Captain Marryat made a joke that has never been forgotten against the subject of it. He had a very curious nose, bent in the middle from a fracture, and some one in speaking of him observed, "C—— G—— is a capital fellow, a first-rate fellow, there's no denying that; but I can't get over his nose.”

"I'm not surprised to hear you say so," was the cool reply, "considering there is no bridge to it.”

During one winter that he spent in Brussels he gave a party, at which there was a Christmas tree that formed a nine days' wonder. These trees were not so common
then, at all events among the English, as they are now; and Captain Marryat, entering heart and soul into the spirit of the thing, went to a species of fancy repository in the town, and, with his lavish and thoughtless generosity, bought the entire contents upon the spot.

In consequence, not only the tree but the room (amongst the articles were seven rocking horses) was completely filled with presents; and as they ranged from playthings for the children to bijouterie for the ladies, each guest was perfectly satisfied. From Brussels he proceeded with his family to Switzerland, and made his next halt at the little village of Ouchy, on the shores of Lake Leman. Hence, after paying a visit to Geneva, he went to Lausanne, and for some months took up his residence at Elysée, the property of Le Comte de Sarget, from whom he rented it. The winters in Switzerland are intensely dull, and vineyards, stripped of both fruit and leaves and reduced
to a collection of dry sticks, lose much of the romantic interest which clings about them in the season; taking which facts into consideration, Captain Marryat may have had private as well as political and professional reasons for seizing this opportunity to leave his family safely at Lausanne whilst he paid a long-desired visit to America.

But previously to this decision both 'Snarley Yow, or the Dog Fiend,' and the 'Pacha of Many Tales,' had come before the public and been most favourably received. Of the latter a reviewer says: "The author displays great knowledge of mankind, and vast powers of invention. As a work of invention and mirth this is one of the richest things we have seen for many a day, and we heartily commend the 'Pacha of Many Tales' to all lovers of light reading and good-humoured satire." The sale of this work up to this date was 1196; that of 'Japhet in Search of a Father,' 1468; and of 'Mr. Midshipman Easy,' 1548.
Whilst still at Lausanne Captain Marryat wrote to Mr. Osmond de Beauvoir Priaulx, then at Paris, as follows:

"November 27, 1836.

"My dear Priaulx,

"There positively is not a sheet of letter paper in the house, and I am obliged to resort to ruled paper to answer your long communication. First, as to R——. I consider that if I have no better chance of heaven than of R——'s 1250 fr. I am in a bad way. Both he and T—— are evidently a couple of rogues. The only chance of obtaining the money from R—— is by telling him that I am coming to Paris as soon as I can, and that I shall expose him by publishing the whole affair, his letters, &c.; and, moreover, that you strongly suspect that it is my intention, independent of exposure, to break every bone in his body on my arrival. He holds himself as a gentleman, being the son of some post-captain,
and will not like that message, and may perhaps pay the money rather than incur the risk. You may give the message or not, as you please; at all events, do not trouble yourself any more about him. I am very much obliged to you for the trouble which you have taken already, but pray do not take any more.

"Mrs. M—— says that she is very much obliged to you for your letter but requests, next time you write, that you will give her a sheet of paper to herself and not mix her up with such common people as me. She requests that you will tell the Ainsworths if you see them that she wrote a very long letter to Mrs. Ainsworth, which was confided to my care on Thursday last, that I arrived with it at Geneva at two o'clock and found that they had quitted at eleven o'clock, whereupon I brought it back again. I had also a packet of rubbish for you from the girls, which Mrs. Ainsworth was to have delivered, but, as she was off, I confided it
to the care of Mr. B——. The gentleman promised that in four or five days he would find means to send it to you, free of expense, directed to Mallet Frères.

"The books I will thank you to send, and I will bring back with me when I leave this. Let them come by diligence. I have no alliance either with Mdlle. —— or others, and do not wish to put myself under any obligation to such people.

"I have already altered the date to the latter end of the seventeenth century, so that it is very probable that something will turn up which I may work upon; but why I do not know, but I certainly cannot write with the facility that I did. I wrote too much last year, and, I presume, require repose. I do take it very easy, that is certain, as I am behindhand in my work.

"Now for Lausanne news. L—— is just about where he was. I agree with you that he is an amiable person, and highly honourable, but I also agree with Mrs. M.
who says very truly that there is no advance in intimacy with him. All you gain by one day's meeting is lost in the night, for the next morning he is as retiring and reserved as before. I believe it only to be manner, but ladies will not submit to such manners, and there is an end to the business. L——'s motto appears to be, "Respect yourself, and others will respect you." Very true; but they will not love you, and, finding him always on his guard, will be the same themselves. Intimacy is produced by showing your foibles to each other, and proving your good opinion of a person by trusting him so far.

"I went to Geneva with De S——, in his carriage. He went to purchase articles for a grand dinner, which took place yesterday, and, as the saying is, went off very well—a bachelor's party, composed of the élite of Lausanne. Old W—— would not go, because, as he told me when I met him, he could not return the compliment. I asked
him whether he did not think that leaving a warm house, dressing, &c., in such weather, was not rather a bore, and if he did not think that in dining with a person he was conferring the obligation, and not receiving it? This he admitted. 'Then why not go, since you confer an obligation?' 'Because I cannot invite in return.' 'If you invite in return, and he dines with you, then he obliges you in return, and you are quits; whereas by not inviting him you allow him still to remain the obliged party.' 'Ah, ah, that is very good logic,' replied he, and walked off. It certainly is very good logic for me, for I have dined everywhere, and have as yet given no dinner in return; but how can I with six table-spoons?

"I do not think we have had any other parties, except one by C—— and another by L——, both very good. Mr. G—— has sent out invitation cards, and they have, I believe, all been refused. H——, L——,
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and C—— I know refused. The old fellow will be in a devil of a rage.

"I dine to-day at H——'s, a bachelors' party. I like him very much; he is clever and sensible and hospitable; moreover, has taken a great fancy to Mrs. M——. The Count has been trying to cut you out with Blanche. He brought her a very fine gold brooch from Geneva, and about ten pounds of bonbons. Madame de S—— has been brought to bed of a little boy, and is doing well. Another ten-batzen ball is on the tapis for the 5th of December.

"Mrs. M. has entered my room, I perceive, and put two lines of very valuable matter. By-the-by, two of the waiters of the Bergers Hotel (two buttons and three buttons) have blown their brains out. Miss A—— gives a dinner next Thursday; we expect some fun. She has included Miss O——, from the pension, and Mrs. G—— is outrageous, declaring that she is the meanest old woman that ever existed, and
that it is very cruel, as Miss O— will perish with cold in that miserable cold house. There may be some truth in the latter part of her observation. Madame C— is pronounced to be about to present her husband with another child, but there is no report of Miss — being in the same way. Miss — has been twice tipsy, once at Miss A—’s, when G— asserts that Miss A— was the first tipsy, and went to bed, leaving her party, consisting entirely of old maids, to get on how they could. All this may be scandal, but it looks very like truth, if you are to judge by Miss A—’s nose.

"Mrs. M. has again come in to desire me to say that she is very glad that you begin to like music, as there are now some hopes of you. I met S— at Geneva, and he came up to me and said, 'Did you hear that Miss C— has £35,000 of her own?' I replied that I did not, and he said that he was very sorry that he had
not known it sooner, that she was a very nice girl.

"When you write again, which I trust you will, let me know the on dits as to politics in England. Mr. G—— O—— told me that there would most certainly be a dissolution in the Spring, and if by chance you should meet G——, expostulate with him, and point out to him the propriety of buying my works from me, and not stealing them. Tell him that there is such a thing as right and wrong, and that character is of value, even in a bookseller. If he repents, which I'm afraid he will not, advise him to write to me, and I will point out to him the path of virtue. Adieu!

"Ever sincerely yours,

"F. Marryat."

Although Captain Marryat and his publishers mutually benefited by their transactions with each other, one would have imagined, from the letters exchanged
between them, that they had been natural enemies. One of these, in an epistle to his author, says he has known him "to be somewhat eccentric," and has always held him to be "an odd creature," concluding with the remark, "I am somewhat warm-tempered myself, and therefore make allowance for yours, which certainly is warm enough."

To which Captain Marryat replies:

"There was no occasion for you to make the admission that you are somewhat warm-tempered: your letter establishes that fact. Considering your age, you are a little volcano, and if the insurance were aware of your frequent visits at the Royal Exchange, they would demand double premium for the building. Indeed, I have my surmises now as to the last conflagration.

"Your remark as to the money I have received may sound well, mentioned as an
isolated fact; but how does it sound when it is put in juxtaposition with the sums you have received? I, who have found everything, receiving a pittance, while you, who have found nothing but the shop to sell in, receiving such a lion's share. I assert again that it is slavery. I am Sinbad the Sailor, and you are the Old Man of the Mountain, clinging on my back, and you must not be surprised at my wishing to throw you off the first convenient opportunity.

"The fact is, you have the vice of old age very strong upon you, and you are blinded by it; but put the question to your sons, and ask them if they consider the present agreement fair. Let them arrange with me, and do you go and read your Bible. We all have our own ideas of Paradise, and if other authors think like me, the most pleasurable portion of anticipated bliss is that there will be no publishers there. That idea often supports
me after an interview with one of your fraternity."

But before leaving Lausanne for his tour in the United States, notwithstanding the disadvantages attendant on the limited possession of "six table spoons," Captain Marryat gave a large and brilliant entertainment, consisting of private theatricals and a ball, to which guests crowded from Lausanne and its environs, and some even crossed over from Geneva to attend. There was a large landing on the upper story at Elysée, upon which the bedrooms opened, and this landing was filled up with a stage at one end and seats for the audience at the other; whilst the apartments by which it was surrounded served as dressing-rooms for the actors.

The performance was a charade called 'Ill Will,' written by himself, and published in the 'New Monthly Magazine.' He took the character of the hero, and several English ladies and gentlemen as-
sisted him in the other parts. After the play there was a dance followed by a supper, at which Captain Marryat made a farewell speech to his friends and received in return their best wishes that, in the new country, he might find the solution of the problem that puzzled him in Switzerland. To explain which the reader must be referred to the concluding words of his 'Diary on the Continent,' where, speaking of the Swiss, he says:

"Do the faults of this people arise from the peculiarity of their constitutions, or from the nature of their government? To ascertain this, one must compare them with those who live under similar institutions. I must go to America—that's decided."

But, before he went, he again visited England, and wrote the two following letters from Duke Street to his sister, Mrs. Bury Palliser.
"8 Duke Street, St. James',
"Thursday, February 21, 1837.

"My dear Fan,

"I went out this morning for the first time for ten days, and was met with a strong easterly wind which soon blew me back again, when I found your letter. I do not write for sixteen guineas a sheet now. I let them off for twenty guineas, as I do not wish to run them hard, and I now have commenced with the New Monthly at that rate for one year certain, and the copyright secured to me. Times are hard, and I do not wish to break the backs of the publishers, although I ride over them roughshod. I have also made very much better terms for my books. 'Snarley Yow' comes out on the 1st of June. I have parted very amicably with Saunders and Otley, who would not stand an advance. I will make hay when the sun shines; for every dog has his day, and I presume my time will come
as well as that of others. Your book* is very much liked; but as M— told me the other day, until they can introduce it as a school book they do not expect to do much, and that will require a little time and a little manœuvrering. All that they can or do say against you is that you are too clever—not a bad compliment. I do not remain in England till April; I expect to be off about the 20th of March (never mind the equinoxes). I am, as you may suppose, not a little busy, with one thing and the other. Kate is located at Lausanne, where she proposes to remain till I come back—when that will be, I really do not know. I hope I shall be able to run down to you before I sail, and I certainly will if I can. I have a letter from Fred; he is very well and doing well. Frank is a very smart sort of fellow, very quick, and has grown a gentlemanly boy. My daughters thrive, particularly Blanche, who promises to be

* 'Nature and Art.'
very good-looking, which she did not formerly. Land is a plague; I shall sell mine if I can. My tenant, after all I have done for him, has been behaving very ill by all accounts, cutting down my timber and allowing people to shoot my game. I shall have him out in a very few days, as soon as I ascertain the truth; but he will not answer the letters I wrote to him.

"The society at Lausanne is very pleasant and sociable—half English and half Swiss; but it is by no means a cheap place. Kate likes it, and that is a great point, and says she could live all her life there. I am very sorry to hear that Palliser has been so unwell. God bless you, my dear Fanny; I hope to see you before I go to Ameriky. Remember me to Palliser, and believe me,

"Ever yours sincerely,

"F. Marryat."
“Friday, Good, March 24, 1837.

“My dear Fan,

“I have signed the receipt in your husband’s name, for it appears that all a wife does or produces out of her brain is the property of her husband, and that she has no claim to it. All she can do is to put her head in Chancery, i.e., do nothing.

“Now, send me up instructions and I shall obey. As for your compunctions to receive the £150 (which, by-the-by, I perceive are very much reduced in the postscript), I can only say, that if you had had as much to do with publishers as I have, you would be aware of the propriety of taking all you can get without remorse. I have just let the larger part of Langham—four hundred acres—to a good, responsible man, for twelve years. He intends bringing a decoy man to work the lake, and he is not only giving me a high rent for the land, but £90 a year for the right of fishing and
taking ducks, &c. The other part I can let with ease, as it is just what the farm people like, and I have raised my rent from £540 a year to £900 and more, as near as I can estimate. Not bad, in such times as these.

"God bless you, old girl,

"Yours, very truly,

"F. Marryat."

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