HOTEL.
ON LOWE
is sincere thanks to his
ers and travellers gener-
ave been so kind and lib-
afford him the pleasure
He begs leave to inform
bout to remove to the
of Harrison and Wash-
ston, within a few yards of
e will have great satisfac-
s old customers, and has
reception and entertain-
convenience.
an have the most private
best entertainment with
s, and all the luxuries of
shortest possible notice.—
tes on and invites the cus-
ls and strangers.
s will attend the steam-
test punctuality.
-tf

ON HOTEL.
scriber begs leave respect-
nform Travellers and the
nerally, that he has rented
keeps that commodious
and called
STON HOTEL,
kept by Mr. Solomon Lowe,
ll times be prepared to ac-
lers and the Public gener-
te style and comfort—and
g acquaintance with the bu-
xious desire to please, to
a share of the public pa-
e to accommodate Boarders
month or year.
nd Ladies can be accommo-
or Carriages at a moment's
c's Obedient serv't.
THOMAS PEACOCK.
1828. tf

on Hotel.
informs his friends and the
that he has taken the well
Brick House in Denton,
d the last year by Mr. Samu-
, where his customers will
mmodated with the best of
ason, afforded by the mar-
and his own habits of per-
nd those of his family, he can
of the best accommodations
he subscriber has most excel-
e has attentive ostlers, he
ntly on hand the best liquors
in Baltimore, & his table will
pplied with the best of provi-
n and ladies can at all times
h private rooms at the short-
ellers and the public general-
give him a call. The subscri-
with rooms to accommodate
r during the session of our
ABRAHAM GRIFFITH.

Notice.
shop in Denton now in the
Barneville and Stanton is for
1828. There is no other shop
enton and is considered a very
usiness. For terms apply to
WM. POTTER.
w

Wanted
R in a private School, an elder-
good moral character, may hear
by applying to the Editor.
f

NOTICE.
mitted to the Jail of Baltimore
, as a runaway, by Jacob Deems,
an who calls himself HERCU-
he belongs to Andrew Offord,
y county. Said negro is about
years of age about five feet
igh—his clothing when commit-
ab coat and pantaloons, much
shoes and old hat. The owner
lescribed negro is requested to
, prove property, pay charges
away, otherwise he will be dis-
ding to law.
ON STANSBURY, Warden,
Baltimore County Jail.

NOTICE.
mmitted to the Jail of Baltimore
by F. Gourdon, Esq. as a runa-
Boy, who calls himself WILLI-
S alias LEM JOHNSON, about
ge, 5 feet 9 inches high, stout
e belongs to Benjamin Gant, of
ges's county; his clothing a drab
owsers, of stout country Cloth,
and old hat. The owner is re-
rove property, pay charges and
ay, otherwise he will be discharg-
to law.
IXON STANSBURY, Warden.

NOTICE.
mmitted to the Jail of Baltimore
by J. B. Bosley, esq. a justice of
and for the city of Baltimore, on
April, 1828, as a runaway, a negro
s himself John Wm. Wilmor, and
gs to Judge Done of Annapolis.—
four feet four inches high; about 12
. Had on when committed, a dark
d roundabout and pantaloons.
r of the above described negro is
ome forward, prove property, pay
d take him away, otherwise he will
ed according to law.
DIXON STANSBURY, Warden
Baltimore County Jail

NOTICE.
ommitted to the jail of Baltimore
y, by Thomas Bailey, esq. a justice
e, in and for the city of Baltimore,
day of April, 1828, as a runaway, a
v, who calls himself George Gray-
he is a slave to the estate of Edward
came from the city of Washington.
five feet four inches high, about
age, and had on when committed, a
about jacket and pantaloons.
er of the above described negro is
come forward, prove property, pay
d take him away, otherwise he will
ged according to law.
DIXON STANSBURY, Warden
Baltimore County Jail.

PRINTING
VERY DESCRIPTION
ECUTED AT THIS OFFICE, ON REASONA
BLE TERMS

EASTON GAZETTE.

WHERE THE PRESS IS FREE—"Literature, well or ill-conducted, is the Great Engine by which all Popular States must ultimately be supported or overthrown."
RELIGION purifies the Heart and teaches us our Duty—Morality refines the Manners—Agriculture makes us Rich—and Politics provides for the enjoyment of all.

VOL. XI. EASTON, MARYLAND, SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 31, 1828. NO. 20.

PRINTED & PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY EVENING
BY ALEXANDER GRAHAM,
At TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS Per Annum, payable half yearly in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS
Not exceeding a square inserted three times for ONE DOLLAR; and TWENTY FIVE CENTS for every subsequent insertion.

New Spring & Summer Goods.

WM. H. GROOME
RECEIVED on 10th instant from Philadelphia and Baltimore a
LARGE & BEAUTIFUL ASSORTMENT OF
GOODS
Adapted to Spring and Summer Sales; consisting of a great variety of
Plain and Fancy Dry Goods
HARDWARE & CUTLERY,
Carpenter's, Joiner's, Shoe Maker's and other TOOLS, China, Glass and Queen's Ware, Groceries, Liquors, &c. &c. &c.
Which being added to those on hand, makes his Assortment Very Complete.
W. H. G. is enabled to sell many of the above Articles lower than usual, in consequence of the late pressure for money in the Cities, having reduced the prices.
Easton, May 24—8w

NOTICE.
THE SUBSCRIBER having taken out Letters Testamentary on the estate of Samuel Groome, deceased; all persons indebted to the said estate on Note or Open Account are hereby requested to make payment without delay to the subscriber who is anxious to settle the estate as soon as possible and therefore cannot give indulgence—and all persons having claims, are also requested to present the same for payment.
THE SUBSCRIBER ALSO WISHES TO DISPOSE OF THE
STOCK OF GOODS
LEFT ON HAND BY THE DECEASED.
ALSO TO RENT,
The Store Room and Cellar
Which contains the goods; to which will be added, if desired,

The Elegant Dwelling establishment, attached to the above. For all which very favourable terms will be given.
The very extensive and profitable business which it is well known the deceased has done in this establishment for the last 12 or 15 years, recommends it to the notice of industrious and enterprising capitalists as the best opportunity of making a fortune that has been presented to them for many years past, or that may perhaps occur for many years to come.
WM. H. GROOME, Ex'r
of Samuel Groome, dec'd,
March 29. tf

NOTICE.
THE subscriber takes this method to inform his friends and the public generally, that he has taken the shop lately occupied by Mr. Stephen Hussey, and next door to Mr. Farlow's Dwelling and Joseph Chain's shop, and nearly opposite Mr. Lowe's Tavern, where he has on hand and will also manufacture at the shortest notice, Gentlemen's and Ladies'
BOOTS & SHOES
Of all descriptions. The public may rest assured that nothing shall be wanting on his part to give general satisfaction to all who may favor him with their custom, and that all work will be made according to promise.
PETER TARR
N. B. He invites the Ladies who want nice fancy work to give him a call, as his attention will more particularly be turned to that branch of the business. P. T.
Feb. 9.

CITY BANK.—ELECTION NOTICE.—The Stockholders are hereby requested to take notice, that Monday the second day of June next is the day fixed by law for the election of nine Directors of the City Bank—And that the same will take place in the Bank of Maryland, between the hours of nine and two o'clock.
JOHN B. MORRIS,
President, C. B.
Baltimore, May 3—4t

MARYLAND:
Talbot County, Orphans' Court.
19th day of May, A. D. 1828.

On application of Dr. Edward Spedden Administrator with the will annexed of General Perry Benson, late of Talbot county, deceased—It is ordered that he give the notice required by law for creditors to exhibit their claims against the said deceased's estate, and that he cause the same to be published once in each week for the space of three successive weeks, in both of the newspapers printed in the town of Easton.

In testimony that the foregoing is truly copied from the minutes of proceedings of Talbot county Orphans' Court, I have hereunto set my hand, and the seal of my office affixed, this 19th day of May, in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and twenty eight.

JAS. PRICE, Reg'r.
of Wills for Talbot county.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ABOVE ORDER,
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,
That the subscriber of Talbot county hath obtained from the Orphans' Court of said county, in Maryland, letters of administration on the personal estate of Gen'l. Perry Benson, late of Talbot county, deceased. All persons having claims against the said deceased's estate are hereby requested to exhibit the same with the proper vouchers thereof to the subscriber, on or before the 20th day of May next, (1829.) they may otherwise by law, be excluded from all benefit of the said estate. Given under my hand this 19th day of May, A. D. eighteen hundred and twenty-eight.
EDWARD SPEDDEN, Adm'r.
with the Will annexed, of Gen. Perry Benson, deceased.
May 24—3w (S)

TO THE VOTERS

In the Upper District of Dorchester County, Caroline and Talbot Counties, composing the eighth Electoral District in Maryland.

FELLOW-CITIZENS—

The period is hastening on when you will be called to elect one of your Fellow-Citizens as an Elector of President and Vice President of the United States—It is time that the Friends of the Administration of the Government of our Country had selected their Candidate. The People are anxious and wish this should be done—Talbot has waited for Caroline or the Upper District of Dorchester to express their wishes first upon this subject, entirely disposed to aid and to harmonize in their views—We are led to believe that ALL desire the same thing.

It is therefore proposed that a General Meeting of the Friends of the Administration, who are in favor of the re-election of JOHN QUINCY ADAMS as President of the United States, should be held at Easton, at 12 o'clock, M. on Tuesday the 10th day of June next for the purpose of selecting the most fit and acceptable candidate as Elector to be recommended to the people of the District.

Our Fellow-Citizens of Caroline and the Upper District of Dorchester are earnestly invited to attend on that day, that a fixed and public opportunity may be had of conferring together and consulting the opinions of all, that meetings may be held in their respective counties where the Freemen in each may, in like manner express their sentiments and wishes. In so good and so just a cause as supporting a good Administration of our Government, let us mutually aid and animate each other and act with becoming unanimity and exertion.

VOTERS IN TALBOT.
May 24. 3 (S)

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
A GOOD SEAMSTRESS, who may get a good home and liberal wages by the month or year.—Enquire speedily at this office.
May 24

TALBOT COUNTY, to wit:

ON application to me the subscriber, one of the Justices of the Orphans' Court of the county aforesaid, by petition in writing of Thos: D. Singleton, stating that he is in actual confinement and praying for the benefit of the act of Assembly, passed at November session, eighteen hundred and five, for the relief of Insolvent Debtors, and the several supplements thereto, on the terms mentioned in the said acts and the said Thomas D. Singleton having complied with the several requisites required by the said acts of assembly—I do hereby order and adjudge that the said Thomas D. Singleton be discharged from his imprisonment, and that he be and appear before the Judges of Talbot county court on the 1st Saturday of November Term next, and at such other days, and times as the court shall direct; the same time is appointed for the creditors of the said Thomas D Singleton to attend, and show cause if any they have, why the said Thomas D. Singleton, should not have the benefit of the said acts of Assembly Given under my hand the 22d day of March 1828.

WILLIAM JENKINS,
one of the Justices of the Orphan's Court
April 26 w for Talbot county.

Chronicles of the Canongate.—The new series is nearly ready for publication at Philadelphia. The scene of this work is Scotland, in the time of Robert III. Among the characters are the Duke of Albany, the unfortunate Duke of Rothsay, the renowned Black Douglas, and many other remarkable personages of that day. A very interesting love-tale, is interwoven throughout the narrative. Henry Wynd, the fighting man, in the tales of a Grandfater, is the hero; and the author it is said has never excelled himself in what he has here done.

From the N. Y Daily Advertiser.

I send you the following account of the state of the weather from the 1st of November 1827, to 1st May, 1828.

	Clear, Days,	Cloudy, Days,	rain, &c. NtoW	StoE	Winds NtoE	StoW
November	10	20	29	2	—	2
December	3	28	16	6	—	6
January	10	21	23	6	2	—
February	10	19	11	11	2	4
March	9	22	15	9	6	1
April	7	23	15	3	8	4
	49	133	109	37	18	17

November—Every Sunday cloudy or rain.
December—One clear Sunday, 2d of the month.
January—One clear Sunday, 17th of the month.
March—One clear Sunday, 16th of the month.
April—No Sunday clear in this month.

By the above it will be seen that in 6 months there have been only 49 clear days—133 days cloudy, rain, &c.—and but four clear Sundays.
R, C.

THE TURKISH SABRE.—The use of the sabre is founded partly on the quality of the weapon itself, and partly on their what may be termed national dexterity in handing it. The Turkish sabre, which is wrought out of fine iron-wire, in the hand of one of our powerful labourers, would perhaps break to pieces like glass at the first blow. The Turk, on the contrary, who gives rather a cut than a blow, makes it penetrate through helmet, cuirass, &c. and separates in a moment the head or the limbs from the body. Hence we seldom hear of slight wounds in an action of cavalry with Turks. It is a well known fact in the Russian army, that a colonel, who was in front of his regiment, seeing the Spanish make an unexpected attack upon him, drew his sabre, and was going to command his men to do the same, when, at the first word draw, his head was severed from his body. The highly tempered Turkish sabres will fetch a price of from ten to a hundred ducats, even when they are not of fine metal.—

But as Scanderberg said, such a sabre only produces its effect when in the hand of him who knows how to use it. It is related, that at the storming of Ismael, a brave foreigner, who served as a volunteer in the Russian army, and who was most actively engaged in the melee, broke in piecesseveral Turkish sabres, and constantly armed himself with a firm one, taken from the Turks who were slain. The substance from which these valuable sabres are wrought is called taban, and they admit of being written upon with a ducat or any other piece of fine gold.

PRINTING
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
NEATLY EXECUTED AT THIS OFFICE, ON REASONA
BLE TERMS

From the Journal of Captain Andrew Smith.

THE FEVER SHIP.—I sailed from Liverpool for Jamaica; and after a pleasant voyage arrived at my place of destination and discharged my cargo. My vessel was called the Lively Charlotte, a tight brig, well found for trading, and navigated by thirteen hands. I reloaded with sugar and rum for Halifax, intending to freight from that place for England before the setting in of winter. This object I could only achieve by using double diligence, allowing a reasonable time for accidental obstacles. My brig was built sharp, for sailing fast, and I did not trouble myself about convoy, (it was during war,) as I could run a fair race with a common privateer; and we trusted to manœuvring four heavy carronades, and a formidable show of painted ports and quakers,* for escaping capture by any enemy not possessing such an overwhelming superiority of force as would give him confidence to run boldly alongside, & find out what were really our means of defence. I speedily shipped what provisions and necessaries I wanted, and set sail. A breeze scarcely sufficient to fill the canvass carried us out of Port Royal harbor.—The weather was insufferably hot; the air seemed full of fire; and the redness of the atmosphere, not long before sunset, glared as intensely as the flame of a burning city. Jamaica was very sickly: the yellow fever had destroyed numbers of the inhabitants, and three-fourths of all new comers speedily became its victims. I had been fortunate enough to lose only two men during my stay of three or four weeks, (Jack Wilson and Tom Waring,) but they were the two most sturdy and healthy men in the brig: the first died in thirty-nine hours after he was attacked, and the second on the fourth day. Two hands, besides were ill when we left, which reduced to nine the number capable of performing duty. I imagined that putting to sea was the best plan I could adopt, to afford the sick a chance of recovery, and to retard the spreading of the disorder among such as remained in health. But I was deceived. I carried the contagion with me, and on the evening of the day on which we lost sight of land another hand died and three more were taken ill. Still I congratulated myself I was no worse off, since other vessels had lost half their crews while in Port Royal, and some in much less time than we had remained there—We sailed prosperously through the windward passage, so close to Cuba that we could plainly distinguish the trees and shrubs growing upon it, and then shaped our course northeasterly, to clear the Bahamas and gain the great ocean.

We had seen and lost sight of Crooked Island three days, when it became all at once a dead calm; even the undulation of the sea, commonly called the ground swell, subsided; the sails hung slackened from the yard; the vessel slept like a turtle on the ocean, which became as smooth as a summer mill pond The atmosphere could not have sustained a feather; cloudless and clear, the blue serene above and the water below were alike spotless, and stagnant. Disappointment and impatience were exhibited by us all, while the sun flaming from the burning sky, melted the pitch in the rigging till it ran down on the decks, and a beefsteak might have been broiled on the anchor fluke. We could not pace the planks without blistering our feet, until I ordered an awning over the deck for our protection: but still the languor we experienced was overpowering.

A dead calm is always viewed with an uneasy sensation by seamen, but in the present case it was more than usually unwelcome; to the sick it denied the freshness of the breeze that would have mitigated in some degree their agonies; and it gave a predisposition to the healthy to imbibe the contagion, lassitude and despondency being its powerful auxiliaries. Assisted by the great heat, the fever appeared to decompose the very substance of the blood; and its progress was so rapid, that no medicine could operate before death closed the scene of suffering. I had no surgeon on board, but from a medicine chest I in vain administered the common remedies; but what remedies could be expected to act with efficacy, where the disease destroyed life almost as quickly as the current of life circulated! I had now but five men able to do duty, and never can I forget my feelings when three of these were taken ill on the fourth day of our unhappy inactivity. One of the sick expired, as I stood by his cot, in horrible convulsions. His skin was of a saffron hue; watery blood oozed from every pore, and from the corners of his eyes—he seemed dissolving into blood, liquefying into death. Another man rushed upon deck in a fit of delirium, & sprang over the ships side into the very jaws of the numerous sharks that hovered ravenous around us, and seemed to be aware of the havoc death was making.

I had now the dreadful prospect of seeing all that remained perish, and prayed to God I might not be the last; for I should then become an ocean solitary, dragging on a life of hours in every second. A day's space must then be an age of misery. There was still no appearance of a breeze springing up: the horrible calm appeared as if it would endure forever. A storm would have been welcome. The irritating indolence, the frightful loneliness and tranquility that reigned around, united with the frequent presence of human dissolution, thinning our scanty number, was more than the firmest nerves could sustain without yielding to despair. Sleep fled from me; I paced the deck at night, gazing on the remnant of my crew in silence, and they upon me, hopeless and speechless. I looked at the brilliant stars that shone in tropical glory, with feverish and impatient feelings, wishing I were among them, or bereft of consciousness, or were any thing but a man. A heavy presentment of increasing evil bore down my spirits. The scene so beautiful at any other time, was terrible under my circumstances. I was overwhelmed with present and anticipated misery.—Thirty years I had been accustomed to a sea life, but I had never contemplated that so horrible a situation as mine was possible: I had never imagined any state half so frightful could exist, though storms had often placed my life in jeopardy, & I had been twice shipwrecked. In the last misfortune mind and body were actively employed, and I had no leisure to brood over the future. To be passive, as I now was, with destruction creeping towards me inch by inch, to perceive the most horrible fate advancing slowly upon me, and be obliged to await its approach, pinioned, fixed to the spot, powerless, unable to keep the hope of deliverance alive by exertion—such a situation was the extreme of mortal suffering, a pain of mind, language is inadequate to describe, and I endured in silence the full weight of its infliction

My mate and cabin boy were now taken with the disease; and on the evening of the fifth day Will Stokes, the oldest seaman on board, breathed his last, just at the going down of the sun. At midnight another died. By the light of the stars we committed them to the ocean, though while wrapping the hammock round the body of the last, the effluvia from the rapid putrefaction was so overpowering and nauseous that it was with difficulty got upon deck and flung into its unfathomable grave. The dull plash of the carcass, as it plunged, I shall never forget, raising lucid circles on the dark unruffled water, and breaking the obstinate silence of the time; it struck my heart with a thrilling chillness; a rush of indescribable feeling came over me. Even now this sepulchral sound strikes at times on my ear during sleep, in its loneliness of horror, and I fancy I am again in the ship. These mournful entombments were viewed by us at last with that unconcern which is shown by men rendered desperate from circumstances. Disease and dissolution, were become every day matters to us, and the fear of death had lost its power; nay, we rather trembled at the thought of surviving; thus does habitude fit us for the most terrible situations.—The last precaution I took was to remove the sick to the deck, under the shelter of a wet sail, to afford them coolness. The next that died was my old townsman Job Watson. Just after I had seen him expire, about ten o'clock in the evening, when all around was like the stillness in a dead world, I was hanging over the taffrill and looking upon the ocean's face, that from its placidity and attraction to the eye was, to me and mine, like an angel of destruction clothed in beauty, when, on a sudden, I became from anxiety, obdurate, reckless of every thing. I imagined I had taken leave of hope forever, and an apathy came upon me little removed from despair. I was ready for my destiny, come when it might. I got rid of a load of anxiety that I could not have carried much longer, so that when even the rising of the moon showed me the body of the mate, which we had thrown into the water, floating on its back, half disenveloped from its hammock—when I distinctly saw its livid features covered only by an inch of transparent sea, and a huge shark preparing its hungry jaws to prey upon it, I drew not back, but kept my eye coldly upon it, as if it had been the most indifferent object upon earth; for I was as insensible to emotion as a statue would have been. This insensibility enabled me to undertake an office for the sick, and to drag the bodies of the dead to the ship's side and fling them overboard; for at last no one else was left to do it. All save myself were attacked with the same disorder, and one by one died before the ninth day was completed, save James Robson, the least athletic man I had, and who judging from constitution, was but little likely to have survived. The disorder left him weak as a child; I gave him the most nourishing things I could find; I carried him a mere skeleton into my cabin, and placed him on a fresh bed, flinging his own and all the other's overboard, *I* valued him as the only living thing with me in the vessel, though had he died, *I* should at the time have felt little additional pain. *I* regarded him as one brute animal would have looked at another in such a situation.

How the ship was to be navigated by one man and what means I possessed of keeping her afloat in case blowing weather should come on, gave me no apprehension; I was too much proof against the fear of the future, or any danger that it might bring. Robson could give me no assistance; I had therefore to rely on my own exertion for every thing. If the vessel ever moved again I must hand and steer—though, from the continuation of the calm, it did not seem likely I should soon be called upon deck, and could sleep, either by day or night, only by short snatches, extended at full length near the helm. On the tenth night, while the sea was yet in the repose of the grave around me, I fell into a doze, and was assailed with horrible dreams that precluded my receiving refreshment from rest. I aroused myself, and the silence of every side seemed more terrible than ever. Clouds were rising over the distant sea line and obscuring the stars; and the ocean put on a gloomy aspect. Millions of living things which had ascended from the caverns of the deep or been engendered from the stagnation and heat, played in snaky antics on its surface. No sailor was now pacing the deck on his accustomed watch. The want of motion in the ship, and her powerless sails hanging in festoons amid the diminishing starlight, added to the solitary feeling which in spite of my apathy, I experienced. I thought myself cut off from mankind forever, and that my ship, beyond where winds ever blew, would be another rot upon the corrupting sea. I forgot the melancholy fate of my crew at this moment, and thought, with comparative unconcern, that the time must soon come when the last draught of water being finished, "I too must die." Then, half slumbering a thousand strange images would come before my sight; the countenance of my late mate, or some one of the crew was frequently among them, distorted, & fitted upon uncouth bodies. I felt feverish and unwell on awaking. One moment I fancied I saw a vessel pass the ship under full sail and with a stiff breeze, and then a second, while no ruffle appeared on the ocean near mine, and I hailed them in vain. Now I heard the tramp of feet upon the deck, and the whisper of voices, as of persons walking near me, whom I uselessly challenged; this was followed by the usual obdurate silence. I felt no fear; for nature had no visitation for mortal man more appalling than I had encountered; and to the ultimate of evils with social men, as I have before observed, I was insensible—for what weight could social ideas of good or evil have with me at such a moment!

The morning of the eleventh day of my suffering I went down into the cabin, to take some refreshment to Robson. Though at intervals in the full possession of his senses, the shortest rational conversation exhausted him; while talking in his incoherent fits did not produce the same debilitating effect. 'Where is the mate?' he wildly asked me; "Why am I in your cabin captain?—Have they flung Waring overboard yet?" I contented myself with giving general answers, which appeared to satisfy him. I feared to tell him we were the only survivors; for the truth, had he chanced to comprehend it in its full force might have been fatal. On returning upon the deck, I observed that clouds were slowly forming while the air became doubly oppressive and sultry. The intensity of the sun's rays was exchanged for a closer and even more suffocating heat, that indicated an alteration of some kind in the atmosphere. Hope suddenly arose in my bosom again; a breeze might spring up, and I might get free from my horrible captivity. I took an observation and found that I was clear of the rocks and shoals of the Bahamas towards which I feared a current might have insensibly borne me; all I could do, therefore, in the case the wind blew, was to hang out a signal of distress, and try to keep the sea until I fell in with some friendly vessel.

I immediately took measures for navigating the ship by myself. I fastened a rope to secure the helm in any position I might find needful, so that I might venture to leave it a few moments when occasion required. I went aloft, and cut away the topsails which I could not reef, and reduced the canvass all over the ship as much as possible, leaving only one or two of the lower sails set: for if it blew fresh, I could not have taken them in, and the ship might perish, while by doing this, I had some chance of keeping her alive.

I now anxiously watched the clouds which seemed in motion, and the sight was a cordial one to me. At last the sea began to heave with gentle undulations; a slight ripple succeeded, and bore new life with it. I wept for joy, and then laughed, as I saw it shake the sails and gradually fill them; and when at length the brig moved, just at noon on the eleventh day after our becalmment commenced, I became almost mad with delight. It was like a resurrection from the dead; it was the beginning of a new existence with me. Fearful as my state then was in reality, it appeared a heaven to that which I had been in. The hope of deliverance aroused me to new energies. I felt hungry, and ate voraciously; for till that moment I had scarcely eaten enough to sustain life. The chance of once more mingling with my fellow men filled my imagination, and braced every fibre of my frame almost to breaking. The ship's motion perceptibly increased; the ripple under her bow became audible; she felt additional impulse, moved yet faster, and at length cut through the water at the rate of four or five knots an hour. This was fast enough for her safety, though not for my impatience. I steered her large before the wind for some time, and then kept her as near as possible in the track of vessels bound for Europe, certain that, carrying so little sail, I must be speedily overtaken by some ship that could render me assistance. Nor was I disappointed in my expectation. After steering two days with a moderate breeze, during which time I never left the helm, a large West Indiaman came up with me, and gave me every necessary aid. By this means I was enabled to reach Halifax, and finally the river Mersey, about five weeks later than the time I had formerly calculated for my voyage.

Narrative of a Sailor's Escape from a Frigate

We were not more than three quarters of a mile from a barren & rocky Island & I determined to risk every thing to gain it, and get on board one of the merchant ships in the morning. The first thing was to get my money from my bag of clothes, which was snugly tied up over my hammock on the lower deck. I stole quietly down, and was in the act of searching the bag, when the serjeant of marines and master-at-arms, who were going their half-hourly rounds, nearly caught me; but springing unobserved into my hammock, I lay covered till they passed, and was not a little alarmed to find that I was the subject of their conversation. 'Do you know the number of the pressed man's birth," said the serjeant; "I heard the officers say he was worth keeping, and it would be well to keep an eye upon him. "I don't know his number," replied the master-at-arms, "but I saw him on the forecastle just after the watch was mustered" So soon as they were on the ladder I untied my bag and pocketed my purse. You know, Harold, how soundly men sleep after having been well trounced in a gale, and I got both in and out of my hammock without a question from my snoring neighbours. I then mounted the forecastle again, and made a point of being seen by the serjeant: after which I skulked through the port-holes under the main channels, as the island lay astern. Having buttoned my jacket tight round me, and tied the bottom of my trowsers, I fastened a rope's end, which was hanging overboard from the channels, (a thing almost unknown in the frigate,) to the Irons below, and slid without splash into the water; but when my head was just above the surface, I found my legs pressed as it were, against the bottom of the ship, and it was not till I let go the rope, and struck off a little from the side, that I was disentangled from this effect.

I scarcely breathed on the water, and moved my arms and limbs as little as possible; but my heart beat within me as I found myself floating with the tide past the quarter of the ship. I was beginning to feel fresh vigor at observing myself distancing the frigate, when I heard the hoarse voice of an old owl of a quartermaster say to the officer of the watch, "There is something in the water astern, Sir!" The voice acted upon me like electricity, and I do believe I bounded two-thirds out of the water. "'Tis a man by all that's holy, Sir!" said the old fellow. "Ahoi! come back you rascal," cried the officer; "fire sentinel, fire." And as it seemed to me, the very moment I saw the gleam on the water, I felt a sharp cut on my left heel. Another and another ball followed but with less success.—"Away there black cutters of the watch, away!" hallowed the boatswain's mate: but luckily for me, the boats had been secured for sea, in consequence of which they took more time in being cleared away, and I was half-away to the shore before I heard the running crackling of the tackles and the boat go splash into the water. The noise seemed so near to me that I looked round, but saw nothing: soon, however, I heard the rolling of the oars in the hullocks, and my hopes began to fail me, when sight of the fretting surf on the rocks cheered and saved me from sinking with despair. I plied every nerve and in a few minutes more was close to the breakers. None but swimmers can conceive the narrow limits of the view when the head is only above the surface; every wave is a boundary; and to a person pursued as I was, and in search of a landing place, mountains could not have been a more agonizing barrier. I at last perceived a black shelving point of a rock, on which the surf was rolling heavily on one side while on the other the water appeared smoother. For this point I immediately swam as a forlorn hope.

On approaching I found myself between two white ridges of foaming water, and occasionally sunk in the hollow abyss of the waves, and sometimes dashed about amidst the foam on their tops. When about to pass the shelving rock, I was thrown head foremost into its margin by one of those sovereign waves which lord it over all the rest, and left in a kind of niche, which prevented its recoil sweeping me back. On recovering from the stun I received, I found that my head was cut and bleeding, but that the wound on my heel was of no consequence.—Soon the noise of oars and voices assailed my ears, and I distinctly heard the midshipman of the boat say, "The fellow never could land here: he must have been dashed to pieces on the rocks, or drowned in the surf; and we shall find his body in the morning." This convinced me I was not discovered.

*Wooden guns: so called by seamen because they will not fight.

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