so make the 1th Table

MONROVIA, LIBERIA, VOL. XI.

Manuel and and the second

(WEST-AFRICA)

AUGUST

31, 1842.

NO. 10.

THE LIBERIA HERALD

IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY IN MONROVIA. LEVI. D. JAMES-PRINTER.

TERMS-ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS a year poy-

able in advance. All communications relating to the Herald must b addressed to H. Teage, Monrovia. All communications for insertion must be post paid. Colonial subscribers will pay to II. Tenge, Monrovia, Louis Sheridan, Esq. Basa Cove, Judge Hanson,

Subscribers in America will order the paper through, and pay to the following

AGENTS FOR THE LIBERIA HERALD. Rev. John B. Pinney, Gen. Agt. Philadelphia, Rov. W. MYLNE, W. De LASY Esq. Wm. CRANE, " Rev. J. M. ALLEN, Rev. S. H. CONE,

Dr. A. PROUDFIT,

Richmond, Virginia. Norfolk. Baltimore, Md. Philadelphia, New York.

LIBBRIA BIRRALD.

THRILLING DETAIL OF A FRIGHTFUL TRAGEDY IN RUSSIA.

We have received from Moscow the subjoined details of a horrible event, which shows what the condition of the serfs continue to be in Rus-

M. Mierzaloff, a young lieutenant of the Starodaburo regiment of cuirassiers, twenty-two years of age, inherrited, in the first month of this year, by the demise of his uncles, a large fortune, consisting of lordships and property situnte in the government of Tambof. Eager to enjoy this fortune, the young lieutenant immediately resigned his commission, and took leave of his fellow officers, promising to see them again, and settled in the village of Sokolin-Slaw, the pleasantest and best situated of the many which has just become his property.

From that moment young Mierzaloff, with all the warmth of youth, entered upon the life of a ants, each carrying a large bundle of dry straw, Russian lord, the owner of 2,000 souls, that is spread round the residence, which, like most to say, 2,000 peasants, half of whom usually | those in the district of Tambof, was built of consist of young girls, to whom, it is true, the Imperial ukases deny the possession of a soul, in could give alarm, the peasants set fire in all but who are not the less among the worldy goods of a lord and master of twenty-two, those, up close to the sides of the building, and then perhaps, he sets the highest value on.

led in his chateau of Sokolin-Slaw, the most dis- | illumination roused the Lord of Sokolin-Slaw | on a hurley. Her condition being at once evident solute and licentious life, when in the month of and his guests from their slumbers. July, the fete day of his revered patron, Saint Alexis, approaching, he invited twenty old com- at the sight of the encircling fire, he rushed inrades of his regiment of Sarodabora to come to the court, and attempted to make his way and celebrate it with him. The officers, whose through the gate. A shot which brought him corps was transiently cantoned at a short dis- to the ground, taught him what fate awaited his tance, hastened to comply with the invitation on | guests. These soon made their appearance, the 17th of the month, the hely patron's day; sword in hand, and strove to open themselves the morning commenced with a grand breakfast, a way through the flames, and to close ranks of brilliant cavalcades, pistol and gun shooting, and | the peasants. A tremendous struggle ensued, above all, a copious consumption of champaigne. in which, however, the officers were fortunate At the dinner, which displayed oriental magni- enough to lose only one of their comrades, a ficence, and every course of which was brought | captain named Dranberg. Harassed with fatiby young girls singing in chorus their native | gue, having their hair and clothes burned, they airs, what sense the light brains of the lord of | succeeded in reaching a little wood, where, be-Sokolin-Slaw and of his comrades still yielding | youd the grasp of the peasants, they were enentirely vanished. At dessert the male servants were dismissed, and Mierzaloff, declaring his wish to do the honors of all he had to his former comrades, urged them to choose among the chorus of young singers such as pleased them.

Accustomed from the cradle to blind obedience, and quite certain of obtaining neither protection nor defence among the serfs of Sokolin-Slaw, the poor girls on whom the chance of the officers fell submitted to their fate, save one. named Maryna, perhaps the handsomest of them, who availing herself of a moment when the doors were not as yet closed, took to flight and hastened towards the country.

As soon as he heard of her escape, Mierzaloff roared out, "Kej'ivan, Alexis!---hasten in pursuit of Maryna——let her be brought back forthwith !"

one was Naryna's brother, and the other was | longed to the lord of Sokolin-Slaw. The house betrothed to her! And yet they obeyed with was burnt down, along with the stables, barns, the blind ardour of the hound in the pursuit of | and breweries, and lest anything that Mierzaloff the flying game, and before many minutes had | liked should survive, they distroyed his horses elapsed they brought back the trembling and and hounds. weeping Maryna to a. master, whom, in their superstitious credulity, they deemed at liberty | prawnick captain (the police chief of the disto dispose, not only their lives and mortal re- trict) arrived on the spot, commissioned to inmains, but also of their souls.

persed in the village; among others, Kej'ivan they thus hoped to obliterate. and Alexis, Maryna's brother and lover, had retired to a public house, and indulged in copious draughts of grain brandy, both to disp-1 the painful thoughts that oppressed them, and to recruit their strength after the day's fatigue

Meanwhile, in the most retired part of the Sokolin-Slaw residence, and whilst the lights were successively vanishing and making w for repose, a woman was on the watch, a fire to jealousy and fury. It was a young and intillsome girl, named Marfa, who had been for year past Mierzaloff's favorite, and whom he had taken good care not to introduce to his guests, life in the mines of Siberia. The Judges, neverand above all, to keep away from the scenes by theless, after passing this sentence, dictated by which he celebrated their visit. A slave, at- the inflexibility of the law, addressed a petitached to the young woman, had, by her commands, watched all that had passed; she had thereby heard of Maryna's flight and return; and also that Mierzaloff, fascinated by the young girl's beauty and resistance, had appropriated her to himself.

Resolved on revenge, the jealous María sallied forth unperceived, sought in the village for | lin-Slaw was to be sent to the colonies of the Maryna's brother and lover and found them, | Caucasus, wherein the men were to be incorporat about midnight, in the aforesaid public house. She reproached them with their infamy and cowardice, kindled in their breasts the feelings of with satisfaction and gratitude by all the enlightrevenge which her's could not restrain, and suc- | ened men of Moscow, has, on the contrary, exceeded in rousing them from their apathy, and | cited great discontent among the whole nobility, inflaming them to such a degree, that they dash- | who cling to their privileges so much so that ed their glasses to the ground, and putting their | the governor of Moscow, General Nej Hart has forefingers together in the shape of a cross, kis- ordered the decrees to be carried into execution, sed it, and swore to be avenged. After this | without the usual publicity .-- Gazette des Trioath, the most solemna Muscovite boar can bunaux, 9th Feb., 1842. make, Kej'ivan and Alexis left María, and went to every house in the village, exciting their countrymen and telling their design.

About three hours after this scene, just at dawn when the inmates of the chateau were slumbering, a band of near four hundred peaswood. At a given signal, and before any witldirections to the straw which they had heaped retiring to some distance, they waited, armed

Mierzaloff was the first disturbed. Terrified abled to give some assistance to four of them who had been dangerously wounded.

The moment the peasants had seen their lord, all were aware that they would pursue the officers in vain, they had rushed into the chateau to save the poor girls, the innocent victims of their master; as for the latter, after raising him, bathing in his blood, they gratified their longrestraining hatred, and infficted on him atrocious torture, an immense wood pile was set fire to and Mierzaloff was cast into the furnace. vain did Marfa, repenting too late the revenge she had kindled, implore in behalf of her unfortunate master, whom she believed still alive; she was herself seized and thrown into the fire, with reproaches of her having loved her oppro-

This terrible execution being over, the pea-Of the two men whom he gave this order to, sants fury raged against every thing that had be-

Three days after this tragic occurrence, an isquire into the affair. He was accompanied by The moment Maryna was brought up, she | two companies of infantry and cavalry, to enawas, as well as her companions, magnificently | ble him to quiet the rebellion. His surprise dressed, and covered with flowers and trinkets; may be imagined when, instead of having to and when evening came on, one of those brutal | deal with rebels, he heard on his arrival that the orgies commenced, which the Russian lords, in | whole population of Sokolin-Slaw were congretheir semi-savage manners, call "Eden Sup- gated in the church, wherein twelve marriages were being solemnized between the twelve

At midnight the music, sougs, and drinking | young victims of the lord's last orgies and the had subsided in the mansion; the serfs, whom young men betrothed to them previous to the their duty did not keep to their post, had dis- dreadful occurrence, the opprobrium of which

> The evidence of the murder and fire was palpable, and all the peasants confessed their guilt. Two hundred and eighty-three of them, including Kej'ivan and Alexis, were arrested and thrown into the Tomb of Prisons, where the criminal tribunal continued the investigation.

On the 12th of September sentence was passed on the prisoners of Sokolin-Slaw. The two hundred and eighty-three, whether old or young, were indiscriminately condemned to receive each a hundred stripes of the knout, and such as might survive the punishment were to labor for tion to the Czar, wherein, after impartially submitting the whole affair, they implored of his wisdom and mercy a commutation of the penalty, or, at least, a mitigation of the rigors they were doomed to. The Emperor, after consult ing the Council of State, issued a ukase, in pursuance of which the whole population of Sokoated with the regiments of Cossacks of the line.

The Imperial Ukase, which has been hailed

From he Ba bados Mercury.

MARIA GRACIAS.

From the "Reminiscences of a Medical Student." "She was found;" continued my fellow-student, as we merged from the gate way of the hospital, the was found sitting on a doorstep in a narrow alley, somewhere about the Seven Dials. It was considerably past midnight, and the sound of her moaning attracted the notice of the watchman, who had just returned to his boat, having been drawn away for some time by an alarm of fire in a neighbouring lane. When addressed, she continued her groans, in the intervals uttering some words unintelligible to the man, who, in the belief that she was Meirzoloff, like most of his birth and fortune, with guns, axes, pitchforks and scythes, till the drunk, had her conveyed to one of the police officers there, she was forthwith conducted to the hospital, and the matron sent to me to let me know it was my turn to have the case.

On entering the ward I perceived she was asleep, and turning on the gas, I stood looking at her for everal minutes, fixed to the spot. She was a most beautiful woman. Not even the wan and anxious look, nor the other peculiarrities to be expected from her situation, could for one moment conceal even a trait of her extraordinary loveliness. And i was a style of beauty, too, I had not seen for many

She lay in a tranquil slumber, with her face turned toward me, and one arm laid over the bedclothes. The clean cap which the nurse had hastily placed on her head, was too large and had come off; it now hung round her neck by the string, partly confined her beautiful black hair, which however bursting forth above and below, wantoned in rich curled and wavy masses all over the pillow. Her eyes were closed, the large black pupils appearing in a soft shade through the thin, delicate lids, beneath which their glances of passion or feeling were now sleeping, while the long dark lashes mingled together like fringes of silken filaments. Her skin was soft and velvet-like, beautifully pale a shade of brownish red on each round cheek, altering in richness of tint with every breath she drew. Her lips were of the finest cherry red, and were slightly parted, disclosing an even row of teeth. Methough while I looked, a faint smile played over them, -yes, | do-Ad-i-!" it was so. Alas, poor girl, her mind had travelled many a league, and was far away in her own sunny

My eyes now wandered to the arm that lay on the counterpane. It was beautifully shaped; the hand was so particularly; it was small and plump, with long tapering fingers, and a tiny dimple over the knuckle at the root of each. The appearance of the hand and elbow at once made it plain to me that they had never been employed at any menial labour. Anon as I looked, a twitch passed over her face as if from internal pain; it was off; and the same placid expression returned; it had disturbed her, however, and slowly and indolently she opened her eyes, and gazed around her. There was in them at first an expression of surprise, then wonder and fear, as travelling round the still, quiet ward, they length rested upon me, as I stood leaning over the | wake (or tuneral feast.) At the door of the cot he found low iron bed-steed, and hanging on with my arms to the cordo ver it.* By and bye, recollection seem- tonished, in such a night, so far from any frequented ed to dawn slowly and gradually upon her; a feel-

* In most hospitals there is a strong cord that hangs from a hook in the ceiling over each bed; it has a cross stick at the end of it, by grasping which the patient, if weak, is enabled more readily to change his position in bed, or even materially to alleviate the feeling of pain.

ing of where she was, and why she was there, seemed to come full upon her: she turned to the wall covered her face with her hand, and groaned aloud in very bitterness. Oh the deep, low, prolonged "aah" that seemed as if drawn piecemeal from the inmost recesses of a crushed heart!

I was with her at intervals throughout the day and the following night, and next morning placed a beautiful infant in her bosom.

The short time she was in the hospital, she had won her way into the hearts of the matron and nurse. At first they thought her stubborn, from her not answering their questions, but when they found that she understood no English, the sympathies of their womanly hearts were excited in a tenfold de: gree, in favour of this poor lone daughter of the south, alone and unprotected in a land of strangers, and that too at a period of her being when friends and protection were most in need; and again and again to their oft repeated little kindness would the dulcet 'gracias, -muchas grocias' of the beautiful Spanish woman float around in the full golden tones of her own magnificient language.

I was convinced of her country from the first, and began hammering up as much Spanish as three months in a counting house at Seville had given me. with a view to find out something of her history. All my attempts, however, were fruitless. I seemed by my inquiries but to augment the mental agony she was evidently suffering, while the sweetness of temper with which she bore it so excited my compassion, that at length I ceased to importune her. The day I was called to her I managed to ask her if

she was not from Spain! "Es verdad, senor."

"And what made you leave your home, my good She buried her face in the clothes, and sobbed as

if her heart would break; alas, poor thing, it was already broken! When her child was laid beside her, she became more calm, and smiled upon the little creature with

a look of such forlorn affection, that I saw the tears rising in the eyes of the worthy Mrs. Bland, and when she lavished upon it words of endearment in her own tongue, and pressed it fondly to her, upon. my life I thought I had caught the infection. During the two days she had been with us, she had taken no food, refusing everything the kindhearted nurse offered her, save some wine and water,

with which she moistened her lips occasionally. was a little troubled at this. I asked her why she did not eat,-she made no reply, but covered her tace and cried. I pressed some food upon her, announcing to her the simple fact, that if she did not eat she would die.

"Bueno, senor,-nada desco sino morir,-I only

"Why, my poor thing, may I ask?"

"O gran Dios!-Francisco ha me bandonado-Francisco has abandoned me!" "And who is Francisco?" but my question was lost in the paroxysm of grief to which she gave

I waited for a while, and then told her that if she did not take food, she could have no nourishment for her little daughter. As soon as I could make her understand me, she

appeared struck with some thought, and quietly took the food I offered her. She was now getting on tolerably well, and I was flattering myself upon working out, a speedy elucidation of the mysteries with which I had been bothering my brains, when the second night after, I was called to the hospital, and found my interesting patient about to go from me for ever. Symptoms had occurred which I need not explain; and on my

arrival I found she was sinking rapidly. Dr. A ----had been sent for, and was already there, doing all that mortal man could for her, but without avail. I told him her brief story. He was much

I bent over her, she was murmuring something. listened,-she was praying. "O Maria Santissima!--ma hija--O Dios mio!-no la abandones jamas-Heavenly Father, be thou a father to my poor infant!' A few minutes passed, -what was that? I shud-

dered as I heard it-it was that fearful sound that tells us hope is gone. She spoke again : "Adios feliz Espana !" I listened attentively; "Adios Francisco-mi a-ma-

Oh woman, woman, is his name the last sound on your living lips !-his, who has been your utter ruin in this world, and who, we pray Heaven, may not be your eternal condemnation in the next! Such is woman's love!"

A SCOTTISH LEGEND.

A married couple of the Scottish Highlanders had thrice lost their only child, each dying at an early age. Upon the death of the last, the father became boisterous, and uttered his plaints in the loudest tones. The death of the child happened late in the spring. when, in the more inhabited straths, sheep were abroad; but, from the blast in that high and stormy regions, they were still confined in the cot. In a dismal, stormy evening, the man, unable to stiffe his anguish, went out lamenting aloud, for a lamb to treat his friends at the a stranger standing before the entrance. He was as. place!! The stranger was plainly attired, but he had a countenance expressives of singular mildness and benevolence; and addressing the father in a sweet impressive voice, asked what he did there, amidst tempest. He was filled with awe which he could not account

for, and said he came for a lamb. "What kind of a lamb do you mean to take?" said

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XII. Newspapers B. Liberia Herald

February 1842(XI,4)--February 18,1857(n.s. VII,4)