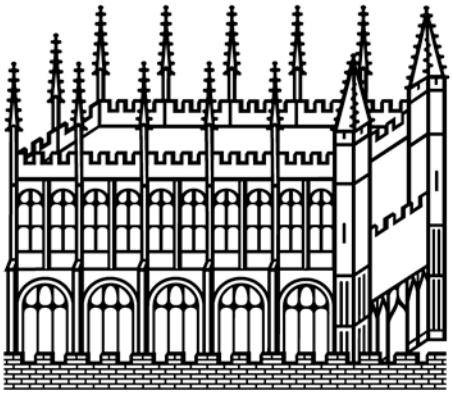

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The Second Edition.

AN

AUTHENTIC NARRATIVE

OF THE

LIFE

OF

JOSEPH WALL, Esq.

LATE

Governor of Goree.

TO WHICH IS ANNEXED

A faithful and comprehenſive Account of his

EXECUTION.

Interſperſed with neceſſary Anecdotes and Remarks,

BY A MILITARY GENTLEMAN.

"*Nothing extenuate; nor ſet down aught in malice.*"

LONDON:

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LIFE

OF

GOVERNOR WALL.

THE almoſt unprecedented intereſt, which perſons of every rank and deſcription have taken in the fate of this unfortunate gentleman—the avidity with which his trial has been perused by all ranks of the community—and the equal impatience and avidity manifeſted, by ſociety at large, for his condign and ſignal puniſhment, muſt neceſſarily render an authentic Biography of this conſpicuous character an offering highly acceptable to the whole Britiſh public; the more ſo, as there is ſtrong ground of apprehenſion, that advantage will be taken of this diſpoſition, by certain mercenary pamphletteers, to impoſe a falſe and garbled account upon the public, from the ſordid view of enriching their own pockets, at the expence of truth, authenticity and candour—In order, therefore, to defeat ſuch baſe and unworthy practices, the following genuine narrative is ſubmitted to the public eye, by a perſon long in habits of intimacy with the family of the late Governor, and who has enjoyed opportunities, poſſeſſed by few, of drawing his information from a pure and uncontaminated ſource.

GOVERNOR JOSEPH WALL is deſcended from an ancient and reſpectable family, in the North of Ireland, and was born in the year 1739. His father, Mr. Gerald, or Mr. Garret Wall, was a reſpectable farmer at Abbeyleix in the Queen's County, on the eſtate of Lord Knapton, now Earl of Deviſy. There were three brothers, Joſeph, the ſubject of our preſent memoir, Auguſtine, and Patrick. All three were men of uncommon ſtature, athletic form, and great perſonal comelineſs. Auguſtine died in Ireland about twenty years ago, and Patrick much about the ſame time, while under the Governor's command, as a ſubaltern officer at Goree.

Mr. Wall's parents, and indeed, moſt of his relatives, were of the Roman Catholic perſuaſion; but of a very liberal way of thinking, and far removed from that narrow bigotry, which limits ſalvation excluſively to thoſe of their own church. Hence Mr. Wall was early imbued with more elevated ideas of religion, and his mind ſufficiently enlightened to make choice, at a competent age, of his own tenets and belief. The advantages, reſulting from ſuch an expanded ſyſtem, manifeſted themſelves in other branches of the family. Auguſtine, in particular, was a very poliſhed gentleman of great literary acquirements. His productions, as well in verſe as in proſe, excited much notice, and are highly ſpoken of for their claſſical elegance and taſte. But the principal circumſtance, which endears his name, and renders his memory precious, is, that he was the firſt writer who had courage to publiſh the Debates in Parliament, with the real names of the ſeveral ſpeakers prefixed to his Reports. By this manly conduct he laid

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the foundation of a practice, the ſalutary effects of which have extended to the whole community, and which, for the public good, we hope to ſee never abandoned, but rather daily more extended and encouraged, and in time totally emancipated from limitation and reſtraint.

But to return to the immediate ſubject of our preſent Memoir—At the age of fifteen, he was entered a ſtudent of Trinity College, Dublin—the proficiency he made in claſſical knowledge at this ſeminary was ſurprizing; he made himſelf thorough maſter of the Greek, and wrote the Latin language with a degree of purity and elegance, which few ſcholars are capable of attaining to. Nevertheleſs, with all his natural and acquired talents, he ſoon diſcovered a predilection for an active, in preference to a literary career. The charms of a military life poſſeſſed in his eyes far greater attractions than academic honours and renown. Hence his friends, finding all remonſtrances ineffectual, and unwilling to thwart his inveterate inclination, were at length induced to give their conſent to his entering into the army.

With a perſon well built, hale, ſtately and commanding, a bold ſpirit, and a conſtitutional ſtrength of nerve, above the ordinary ſtandard, it cannot be ſuppoſed that Mr. Wall would lead a tame, inactive, paſſive life, on his youthful initiation into the profeſſion of arms. Two ingredients there are, ſo eſſentially blended and interwoven in the generous character of an Iriſhman, that where theſe features are not recognized, we may juſtly doubt the legitimacy of the claim. Gallantry, and an ardent impetuoſity of ſoul, alike tremblingly alive to pleaſure and rebuke, form the

very texture and materials of the Hibernian. Mr. Wall poſſeſſed both theſe diſtinguiſhing characteriſtics in an eminent degree. Hence his intrigues were not leſs numerous than notorious; and the conſequences of his youthful ſallies involved him in frequent diſputes; or, to adopt a more faſhionable phraſe, *affairs of honour*. In one of theſe *rencontres*, Mr. Wall had the misfortune (for ſuch we may juſtly term it) to ſhoot one of his moſt intimate friends through the heart. The quarrel, which led to this fatal and diſaſtrous affair, originated in a miſunderſtanding, relative to a fair *Cyprian*, for whom neither party entertained any real regard; but unhappily meeting as rivals, they puſhed matters to extremities. The affair was conducted upon the ſtricteſt rules and principles of honour, and Mr. Wall certainly had nothing to reproach himſelf with in the tranſaction, beyond the uſual *routine* of ſuch contingences; nevertheleſs the cataſtrophe made a deep impreſſion upon his mind, and engendered ſuch a morbid affection, that to this event, the ſubſequent unhappy change in his diſpoſition—that ſpirit of reſerve and occaſional gloom, are generally by thoſe who had an opportunity of knowing him in his more youthful days.

About the beginning of the year 1760, towards the cloſe of the then exiſting war, Joſeph and Auguſtine entered as cadets in the army, and volunteered for foreign ſervice. Both diſtinguiſhed themſelves by great perſonal bravery at the taking of the Havannah, and many other eminent expeditions; when, on the concluſion of the peace, Joſeph returned home with the rank of Captain. His brother, Auguſtine, had not the good fortune to obtain preferment, but

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returned to Ireland, and continued till his death to live on the property of his father. Joſeph, however, being of a more adventurous turn, obtained a command in the ſervice of the Eaſt India Company, and went out in that capacity to Bombay; from which place, in a few years, he returned to Ireland.

We have already commented on the gallantry of our hero's diſpoſition. With a comely and rather elegant perſon, the advantage of travel, and that poliſh which the manners of young men were wont to derive from the old military ſchool, Capt. Wall turned his projects toward the acquiſition of a rich heireſs; and having occaſionally ſeen a wealthy ſpinſter, of the name of Miſs Gregory, at an inn in the village where the principal part of his father's property lay, on her way to and from the metropolis, he took occaſion to introduce himſelf to the lady *ſans ceremonie*, in ſo gallant a way, and to preſs his ſuit in a ſtyle ſo coercive, as if determined to poſſeſs the lady's hand and fortune, *nolens aut volens*—that the lady, to vindicate her character, and mark her indignation at the freedoms of ſo determined a ſuitor, inſtituted a proſecution againſt him for aſſault and defamation at the county aſſizes, and ſucceeded in his conviction and penal chaſtiſement.

Captain Wall, ſeeing no likelihood of obtaining his objects in Ireland, then transferred his ſpeculations in the uſurious way to England, where he for ſome years divided his time between the metropolis and the moſt eminent watering places—alternately a zealous votary to Hymen, Venus, and the fickle Goddeſs—in a word, fortune-hunting intrigue, and the gaming-tables. Unſucceſsful in his main purſuit

purſuit of a wealthy wife, and much embarraſſed in his circumſtances, he found at laſt intereſt in 1779 to procure an appointment to the Lieutenant-Governorſhip of Senegambia—the ſeat of which is at the iſle of Goree, with the rank of Colonel to a Regiment on that ſtation. But, though only inveſted with the office of ſecond in command, he, in fact, acted as chief, the firſt appointment being vacant. The poſt he held was a ſituation of great truſt and profit, as beſides his military appointment, he was ſuper-intendant of trade to the Colony.

The appointment of Governor of Goree was never eſtimated by military men as a mark of very diſtinguished favour from a War Miniſter, but rather as a kind of make-peace, to ſilence the importunity of ſome long neglected veteran, or to get rid of the clamours of ſome urgent claimant. As the troops deſtined to garriſon that fortreſs were generally regiments in diſgrace for mutiny, deſerting their colours, riot, or ſome ſuch cauſe, and their ranks uſually recruited by desperadoes, picked from the convicts in our goals, or incorrigibles in our military priſons—it is hardly preſumable that an officer would be ſelected for the Government of a fortreſs thus garriſoned, who was very pre-eminently diſtinguiſhed by the benevolence of his heart, or the gentleneſs of his manners. Amiable weakneſſes of this kind formed none of the blemiſhes in Governor Wall's adminiſtration. The inſtance for which, at a diſtance of more than twenty years, he has paid the forfeiture of his life, gives to his character a feature of ſuch "vigour beyond the law," as marks a diſpoſition more than amply fit

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to deal with the kind of persons he had to govern. Such a ſpecimen of auſterity, though it is an illuſtration of what men once armed with arbitrary power may do—yet it marks in its ultimate conſequences, that although arbitrary vigour may ſtep beyond the wholeſome limits of Britiſh laws, yet the crimes of that vigour ſhall not elude their juſtice; and the Britiſh ſoldiers and ſeamen may view in this, and in other recent inſtances, that while an exemplary rigour is maintained to render them amenable to diſcipline and ſubordination—thoſe to whom the application of that rigour is committed, will not be permitted wantonly to abuſe their authority, and to commit acts of outrage and cruelty with impunity.

As the notoriety attached to Governor Wall's conduct, during his official reſidence in Goree, muſt neceſſarily render the majority of our readers anxious to learn the leading particulars, relative to the ſituation, manners, cuſtoms, the produce, trade &c. of the ſaid iſland, we herewith ſubjoin a ſuccinct account of the Geographical and Natural Hiſtory of the ISLAND OF GOREE.

The Iſland of *Goree* is contiguous to the coaſt of Africa, in 14 deg. 30 min. Weſt Longitude. Its importance conſiſts, not in its ſize, nor yet in its produce, but in this, that it is the only European ſettlement between the rivers Gambia and Senegal. With reſpect to ſize, it is ſcarcely worth occupying, being little more than three quarters of a mile in length; and as to its produce, it has neither wood,

nor even water, but what the inhabitants catch in ciſterns, reſervoirs, &c. But as the commanding ſettlement and emporium of the African trade, it aſſumes a proud and prominent ſtation, and deſervedly ranks with the moſt enviable of our poſſeſſions.

Being but a ſmall diſtance from the ſhore, it forms an excellent road for ſhipping, and is encompaſſed by rocks, inacceſſible at every point, with the exception of a little creek, 120 fathoms broad, and 60 fathoms long, incloſed between two ridges of ſand, one of which rears itſelf high above the water, and is denominated the *Point of the burying ground*; the other is conſiderably lower, and oppoſite to it lies a third ſand-bank, over which the ſea beats with tremendous fierceneſs. There is excellent anchoring all round the iſland, particularly in the creek abovementioned, between which and the land ſhips may ride in perfect ſafety, and defy the moſt dangerous ſurges. *Goree* was yielded to the Dutch, by the King of Cape Verd, in the year 1617, and a ſtrong fort erected upon the North Weſt part of it. But that fort not being adequate to prevent the landing of an enemy in the creek, another was ſuperadded to ſecure the warehouſes. In 1663 it was captured by the Engliſh; but retaken by the Dutch ſoon after. The latter, however, did not long retain poſſeſſion of the iſland, the French making themſelves maſters of it in 1677. The forts and warehouſes were rebuilt, and the place now began to aſſume an air of conſequence, and political as well as commercial importance.

Thus circumſtanced, it attracted the notice of the Britiſh Government, which, at the ſuggeſtion of a Mr. Cumming,

Cumming, a merchant of high reſpectability, and belonging to the Society generally known by the name of Quakers, reſolved upon its reduction. The circumſtances which paved the way to this undertaking, are ſo ſingularly remarkable, that they well merit inſertion.

In the courſe of his commercial peregrinations, Mr. Cumming had occaſion to make a voyage to Portenderrick, an adjoining part of the coaſt. Here he contracted a perſonal acquaintance with Amir, the Mooriſh King of Legibelli, whom he found extremely partial to the ſubjects of His Britannic Majeſty, inſomuch that he preferred them to any other European nations. At this evident predilection the French took umbrage, and teſtified their diſpleaſure by certain acts, which ſo highly exaſperated him, that he declared he would never reſt, till the French were totally extirpated. At the time that Mr. Cumming became acquainted with him, he had juſt declared war againſt the French, and uſed often to expreſs his wiſh, that the King of Great Britain would co-operate with him, by equipping an armament to reduce Fort Louis, and Goree, which the French had erected for the purpoſe of defending their factories on that coaſt; promiſing, in ſuch caſe, to join his own forces to thoſe of His Britannic Majeſty, and to indulge the ſubjects of Great Britain with an excluſive commerce. On his return to England, Mr. Cumming apprized the Government of the diſpoſition of the Mooriſh King, and the great advantages which would accrue to the nation from ſuch an attempt. His communications, however, were little attended to at the time; but at length, after his plan had been more maturely weighed

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and digeſted, a ſmall ſquadron was fitted out, for the purpoſe of carrying it into effect, under the command of Captain Marſh, having on board a body of marines, with a detachment of artillery, ten pieces of cannon, eight mortars, and a conſiderable quantity of warlike ſtores and ammunition. Captain Walker was appointed Engineer, and Mr. Cumming acted as principal director and promoter of the expedition. The armament ſailed in the beginning of March 1758, touched in its paſſage at the iſland of Teneriffe, and while the ſhips were taking in their wine and water, Mr. Cumming proceeded in the Swan ſloop to Portenderrick, charged with a letter of credence to his old friend, the king of that country. On his arrival he had he mortification to find this Prince engaged in a new war with a neighbouring nation, and at that time heading his army at a very conſiderable diſtance from the capital. One of the chiefs, however, diſpatched a meſſenger to the King, with advice of Mr. Cumming's arrival and deſign, promiſing at the ſame time to uſe the utmoſt expedition in aſſembling three hundred warriors to join the Engliſh troops, and adding, that he was perſuaded the King would ſend an adequate reinforcement from his army.

By this time Captain Marſh, with the reſt of the armament, had arrived at Portenderrick. Without waiting for the Indian forces, which were not yet ready, they ſet ſail again on the twenty-ſecond of April, and the next day, at four P. M. diſcovered the French flag flying upon Fort Louis. Captain Marſh having captured a large Dutch ſhip, richly laden with gums, which was ſtationed without the bar, came to an anchor in Senegal road, at the mouth

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of the river, where he perceived the enemy had poſted ſeveral armed ſloops to defend the paſſage of the bar, which is accounted extremely dangerous. Nothing intimidated by theſe precautions, Captain Marſh immediately prepared for landing. All the boats were employed to carry the ſtores into the ſmall craft, notwithſtanding the enemy kept up a very hot and harraſſing fire. As ſoon as every thing was in complete readineſs, and the channel diſcovered, the ſhips weighed anchor; and at that inſtant the wind which generally blows down the river, veering about, Captain Miller, in the London brig, availed himſelf of the favourable opportunity, and paſſing the bar, with a full ſail, caſt anchor on the inside, where he lay to all night, exposed to the whole fire of the enemy. Next morning he was joined by the reſt of the ſmall veſſels, upon which a regular engagement enſued, and was warmly ſupported on both ſides. At laſt the buſſes, and one of the ſmall veſſels running aground, immediately bilged, and were filled with water. This misfortune obliged the troops to take to their boats, and it was with great difficulty they reached the ſhore, where they formed in a body, and were ſoon after joined by their comrades from the other ſhips; ſo that the whole force now amounted to three hundred and ninety marines, beſides the detachment of artillery. Hourly expecting to be attacked by the natives, who lined the ſhore at ſome diſtance, they threw up intrenchments, and began to diſembark the ſtores, of which a great proportion lay under water. While they were thus occupied, the Negroes came down in great numbers, and ſubmitted to the

English, and on the following day they were still farther reinforced by three hundred and fifty seamen, who passed the bar in sloops, with their ensigns and colours flying.

The intention of the English commander was to make an immediate attack on Fort Louis; but this design was prevented by the arrival of two French deputies at the entrenchment, with proposals of capitulation from the governor. After a short time passed in deliberation, it was agreed, that all the white people belonging to the French company at Senegal, should be safely conducted to France, in an English vessel, with the privilege of retaining all their private effects—but that all the merchandize and uncoined treasure should be delivered up to the victors—that all the forts, store-houses, vessels, arms, provisions, and every article belonging to the company in that river, should be put into the hands of the English immediately after the capitulation should be signed—that the free natives, living at Fort Louis, should remain in quiet possession of their effects, and in the free and undisturbed exercise of their religion; and that all Negroes, Mulattoes and others, who could prove themselves free, should be at their option either to remain in the place, or to remove to any other part of the country.

These conditions being agreed to, Captains Campbell and Walker were immediately sent up the river, with a flag of truce, to witness the signing and execution of the articles. Having rowed towards a battery on the point of the island, they lay upon their oars nearly a whole hour, beating the chamade; but not the least notice was taken of their approach. Being at a loss to account for this strange

conduct,

conduct, they returned to their intrenchment, where they learned that the negroes on the iſland were in arms, and had blocked up the French in Fort Louis, reſolving to defend the place to the laſt extremity, unleſs they were included in the capitulation. The Governor ſignified this circumſtance in a letter to the Engliſh Commander, telling him at the ſame time, that unleſs the French Director-General ſhould be allowed to remain with the natives, as a hoſtage for the due performance of the articles of the treaty, which immediately involved themſelves, they would ſuffer themſelves to be cut to pieces ſooner than ſubmit.

This demand being readily granted, the Engliſh forces began their march for Fort Louis, accompanied by a number of long-boats, in which the artillery and ſtores had been embarked. On ſeeing them advance, the French immediately ſtruck their flag, and the Engliſh took poſſeſſion of the caſtle, where they found ninety-two pieces of cannon, with a very conſiderable quantity of treaſure and merchandize. The corporation and burghers of the town of Senegal readily ſubmitted, and ſwore allegiance to the King of Great Britain—the neighbouring princes, attended by numerous retinues, viſited the Commander, and concluded treaties with the Engliſh nation;—and the King of Portenderrick, or Legibelli, ſent an ambaſſador from his camp with compliments of congratulation, and aſſurances of friendſhip.

Having left an Engliſh garriſon at Fort Louis, and placed a ſufficient number of armed boats to ſecure the paſſage of the bar, the large ſhips ſailed to make an attempt on the iſland of Goree, which lies at the diſtance of thirty

leagues from Senegal. This expedition, however, for want of a ſufficient force, miſcarried. But Government being ſenſible, that the Engliſh ſettlements on the Coaſt of Africa could never be ſecure, while the French remained in poſſeſſion of Goree, a ſquadron was fitted out, under the command of Commodore Keppel, conſiſting of four ſhips of the line, ſeveral frigates, two bomb ketches, and ſome tranſports, having on board ſeven hundred regular troops, command by Colonel Worge. On the eleventh of November of the ſame year (1758), this armament ſailed from Cork, in Ireland, and after a very perilous paſſage, arrived at Goree the latter end of December, when the Commodore immediately made a diſpoſition for attacking the Iſland. The flat-bottomed boats for landing the troops being hoiſted out, and ranged alongſide of different tranſports, the Commodore ſtationed his ſhips on the Weſt ſide of the Iſland. A ſhell being fired from one of the bomb ketches, which was the ſignal for the commencement of the engagement, the great ſhips poured in their broadſides, without intermiſſion, and therefore was returned with equal vivacity from all the batteries of the Iſland. At length the cannonading from the ſhips became ſo terrific and ſevere, that the French ſoldiers fled from their quarters, in ſpite of all the efforts of the Governor, who in vain endeavoured to recall them to their duty. Thus circumſtanced, he ſaw himſelf obliged to ſtrike his colours and ſurrender at diſcretion. The Commodore therefore ſent a detachment of marines on ſhore, who diſarmed the garriſon, and hoiſted the Britiſh flag. Two trading veſſels, which happened to be at anchor in the road, fell likewiſe

into

into the hands of the Engliſh, with ſtores, money and merchandize to the value of twenty thouſand pounds. This important conqueſt coſt the Engliſh only one hundred men, killed and wounded.

On the concluſion of the Peace 1763, Goree was ceded back to the French; but it came again into our poſſeſſion, in the year 1779, being captured by Sir Edward Hughes. Since that period it has continued a Britiſh ſettlement. Its chief importance reſults, as already obſerved, from its being the emporium of the African trade. Gums are brought hither in great quantities by the Moors and Arabs, and from hence imported to Europe, and other parts of the world. They bring it on camels, bullocks, horſes, &c. The gum is meaſured in a kind of cubical veſſel, termed by the Moors *Quantor*, and every quintal pays a certain duty. Proper Commiſſioners attend, who depoſit it into ſacks, and then allow it to be carried to the Company's ſettlements.

The great majority of the natives of Goree, as well as of Senegal, are Mahomedans. They practice circumciſion, on which they lay great ſtress, with uncommon rigour. On this account, the operation is not performed till the youth is fifteen years of age, in order that he may have ſufficient ſtrength to undergo the operation. Nor is the ceremony ſuffered to take place during the hot months—the time ſelected for this rite is always the laſt quarter of the moon, through a nature, that the operation is then less painful, and the wound more ſuſceptible of air. The ceremony is publickly ſolemnized in a beautiful mea-

dow, surrounded by gardens, upon boards, elevated a moderate height from the ground. The enetrates are ushered in by their parents, each taking precedence according to his rank. The priest himself performs the operation, in the presence of an immense concourse of spectators, of both sexes, and of all ages. On these occasions, it is customary for the Governor and his suite, as well as the major part of the English settlement, to attend. The late Governor Wall, during his residence at Goree, always made it a point to witness the solemnity. Though the operation is attended with considerable pain, the youth who undergoes it, not only refrains from all indications of anguish, but considers it a necessary proof of heroism to maintain a continued smile upon his countenance. Whether this be actual contempt of pain, or the mere affection of it, we presume not to determine.

Return we now, from our account of the iſland, to the Governor himſelf. And here it may not be inexpedient or ſuperfluous to remark, that prior to his arrival at Goree, Governor Wall experienced two remarkable preſervations of his life—being twice precipitated into the water—the firſt time, as he was ſtepping on board the veſſel, which carried him out—the ſecond time, on the ſhip's arrival in the harbour of Goree. Fortune, however, on both theſe occaſions, ſtood his friend, and the Governor twice eſcaped a "*watery grave*" at the cheap expence of a complete ducking. This ſingular coincidence, ſuperſtitious minds will not fail to attribute to the immediate interpoſition of an overruling deſtiny; and the race of goſſips of both ſexes

will

will doubtleſs, when reading this circumſtance, make the application of a well-known adage: "*He that is born to be hanged, will never be drowned.*"

During his paſſage to Goree, the following atrocious occurrence took place, which ſufficiently marks the brutality of the Governor's diſpoſition, and ſhews, that even in the infancy of his appointment, he had formed a ſyſtem of terror and coercion competent to the ſuppreſſion of mutiny and revolt, even among men of more deſperate and abandoned characters than formed the garriſon of Goree.

Amongſt the recruits conſigned to his command on his paſſage outwards, was an unfortunate man, named Paterſon, who formerly kept a hatter's ſhop in Catherine-ſtreet, Strand, and who, under a conviction for ſome crime, was ſentenced to tranſportation for fourteen years. His wife, an amiable, but heart-broken woman, was permitted to accompany him on the voyage; and ſhortly after the veſſel had ſailed from the Downs, ſymptoms of mutiny were diſcovered amongſt the convicts: ſeveral had ſawed off their irons; and Paterſon was charged, not with any act of mutiny, but with furniſhing the convicts with money to procure the implements for taking off their irons. The unfortunate man ſtated in his vindication that he had only lent ſome of the wretches a few ſhillings to take ſome ſheets and other neceſſaries out of pawn. But his defence would not do. He was brought to the gangway by order of the Governor, without drum-head, or any other Court-martial, and flogged with a Boatſwains cat, until his bones were denuded of fleſh. Still the unfortunate man never uttered a groan. The Governor, who ſuperintended the puniſhment, ſwore

ſwore he would conquer the raſcals ſtubbornneſs, and make him cry out, or whip his guts out. The Surgeon remonſtrated on the danger of the man's death, but in vain. Enſign Wall, the Governor's brother, a humane young man, on his knees intreated that the flogging ſhould ceaſe; but in vain; and his importunity only ſerved to provoke a threat of putting him under arreſt. He then intreated the unfortunate man to cry out, and ſave himſelf. But the unhappy man ſaid it was now too late, as he felt himſelf dying, and unable to cry out; that he had not avoided it from ſtubbornneſs, but concealed his pangs, leſt his wretched wife, who was down below, and knew nothing of his ſituation, ſhould hear his cries, and die with anguiſh. The flogging was continued until the convulſions of his bowels appeared through the wounds of his lacerated loins, when he fainted under the laſh, and was conſigned to the Surgeon's care; but died in a few days.

This event ſtamped a melancholy horror on the mind of the Governor's brother, that was not abated during the voyage; and on his arrival at Goree, he was ſeized with a raging fever, of which he died; expreſſing horror and execration at the cruelty of his brother, whom he would not permit to come within his ſight.

This circumſtance, with the arbitrary impriſonment of his officers, and their frequent ſuſpenſion from command; the wanton impriſonment, and ſometimes flagellation, for extortionary purpoſes, of native chiefs and traders from the neighbouring continent, who came occaſionally to the iſland; the embezzlement of proviſions and naval and military

military ſtores for private emolument, were amongſt the charges that remained to be proved againſt him.

As the cruelty exerciſed by Governor Wall towards the unfortunate Serjeant Armſtrong, has been already ſufficiently detailed in the former part of this work, which comprizes the whole of the charge and evidence adduced on the trial of Mr. Wall, we ſhall not occupy our pages with an unneceſſary recapitulation of facts, already known and familiar to our readers. Suffice it, therefore, to obſerve, that Governor Wall, without due form of trial, ordered the infliction of a ſevere and cruel puniſhment on Serjeant Armſtrong, which terminated in the death of the unhappy ſufferer. For this atrocious ſtretch of power and authority, the Governor, after the lapſe of nearly twenty years, was within theſe few days brought to trial, found guilty, and after being twice reſpited, condemned: But we now return to the former part of his hiſtory, previous to his apprehenſion.

On his firſt arrival in England, after his abandonment of the Goree Government, a ſeries of charges, highly criminal and atrocious in their nature, were exhibited againſt him by a Captain Roberts, who had been under his command at Goree. Upon ſome of thoſe charges he was called before the Privy Council; and (if the writer miſtakes not) brought to trial before a Court-martial at the Horſe Guards; but the principal witneſſes not being then arrived, and ſtrong apprehenſions being entertained, that the veſſel, on board of which they were, was loſt on her paſſage homewards, he was ſuffered to go at large, and went to Bath, where he formed

formed the firſt acquaintance with the lady who now ſurvives to lament his fate. But on the arrival of the principal witneſſes in London, two meſſengers were dispatched to Bath for his apprehenſion; from whoſe cuſtody he contrived by ſtratagem to eſcape on his way to town. At that time he ſought ſafety by flight to France; and as appeared from the evidence on his trial, lived in various parts of the Continent until his return to England; when the well-known death of Capt. Roberts, about ten years ſince in Ireland, and the ſuppoſed diſſolution or diſperſion of the other principal witneſſes, taught him to rely with perfect ſecurity in his ſurrendering himſelf for trial.

In conſequence of Mr. Wall's eſcape from the Meſſengers at Reading, a Proclamation was iſſued, deſcribing his perſon, and offering a reward of £200, for his apprehenſion. But for the long ſpace of 18 years, the greater part of which he paſſed abroad, in France and Italy, but chiefly in the former country, Mr. Wall eluded the vigilance of Government. In France he lived in much repute, and was admitted in the firſt circles. He particularly aſſociated with the officers of his own country, ſerving in the French army, and was well known in the Scotch and Iriſh Colleges at Paris. He was univerſally allowed to be an accompliſhed ſcholar, and a man of great ſcience.

At length, after ſuch a long lapſe of years, Governor Wall, on the 28th of October laſt, wrote a letter to the Secretary of State, acquainting Government with his abode, and declaring himſelf ready to ſtand the event of a trial. In conſequence of this information, he was appre-

hended,

tended, and after being examined by the Privy Council, fully committed for trial. With the ſequel of his trial our Readers are already adequately acquainted. We proceed, therefore, to give an account of

HIS EXECUTION.

This event took place on Thurſday, January 29th. All the intereſt made to ſave him was ineffectual. The ſcaffold began to be erected a little after four o'clock, by torch-light, and was completed ſoon after ſeven, except the black hanging, which is not permitted to be displayed nor the priſon bell to toll for the departure of any one convicted of Murder. The priſoner had an affecting interview with his wife, the Hon. Mrs. Wall, the night before, from whom he was painfully ſeparated about eleven o'clock.

This diſconſolate and affectionate lady, unremitting in her ſolicitudes, caused the colonel to write a note to Mr. Kirby (the goaler), about nine o'clock requeſting that ſhe might be permitted to remain in the cell untill eleven; thus cordially manifeſting her fond but deluſive hopes to the very latest moment. Mr. Kirby, with a feeling of humanity highly creditable to his character, readily complied with this requeſt. But greatly unfortunate lady! ſhe had not any acquiſition of reaſonable hope at the hour fixed for her departure. Eleven o'clock came and ſhe ſaw the end of all her earthly joys—numberleſs tender embraces now took place. The loving wife reluctantly departed, overwhelmed with grief, and bathed in tears, while the unfortunate huſband declared that he could now with chriſtian fortitude ſubmit to his unhappy fate.——During the greater part of the night the colonel ſlept but little. About four

o'clock

o'clock in the morning his sleep was however observed to have become sound, and according to the best recollection of his attendants, he continued in this sleep rather more than an hour; so that he could not have heard the fatal machine in its passage to the debtors door.—His voice preserved its usual strength and tone to the end; and though very particular in his questions respecting the machinery in every part, yet he spoke of his approaching execution and death with perfect calmness.

At half after six in the morning, his prison attendant going to his cell, was asked "whether the noise he heard was not that of erecting the scaffold?" he was humanely replied to in the negative.——The Ordinary Dr. Ford, soon after entered, when the prisoner devoutly joined him for some time in prayer:—they then passed on to an anti-room when the Governor asked "whether it was a fine morning" On being answered in the affirmative, he said, "the time hangs heavily—I am anxious for the close of this scene."—One of the officers then proceeded to bind his arms with a cord, for which he extended them out firmly: but recollecting himself, he said, "I beg your pardon, a moment;" and putting his hand in his pocket, he drew out two white handkerchiefs, one of which he bound round his temples, so as nearly to conceal his eyes, over which he placed a white cap; and then put on a round hat; the other handkerchief he kept between his hands —he then observed, "the cord cuts me:—but its no matter;" on which Dr. Ford desired it to be loosened, for which the prisoner bow'd, and thank'd him. As the clock

struck

ſtruck eight, the door was thrown open, at which Sheriff Cox and his officers appeared: the Governor approaching him, ſaid, "I attend you, ſir," and the proceſſion to the ſcaffold over the Debtors door, immediately ſucceeded. He had no ſooner aſcended it accompanied by the Ordinary, than three ſucceſſive ſhouts, from an innumerable populace, the brutal effuſion of one common ſentiment, evidently, deprived him of the ſmall portion of fortitude which he ſummoned up.—He bowed his head under this extreme preſſure of ignominy, when the hangman put the halter over it, but took it off again to replace it; this done, the Governor ſtooped forward, and ſpoke to the Ordinary, who, no doubt at his requeſt, pulled the cap over the lower part of his face, when in an inſtant, without waiting for any ſignal, the platform dropped, and he was launched into eternity! From the knot of the rope turning round to the back of the neck, and his legs not being pulled at his particular requeſt, he was ſuſpended in convulſive agony for more than a quarter of an hour. After hanging a full hour, his body was cut down, put into a cart and immediately conveyed to a building in Cow-Croſs ſtreet, to be diſſected.—He was dreſſed in a mixed coloured looſe coat, with a black collar, ſwan-down waiſtcoat, blue pantaloons, and white ſilk ſtockings—he appeared a miſerable and emaciated object, never having quitted the bed of his cell, from the day of condemnation till the morning of his execution.

Thus within the period of a few days has the triumph of Britiſh Juſtice been diſplayed by a ſtriking contraſt of two

memorable events: an exemplary puniſhment of mutineers, for diſobedience under command; and no leſs exemplary execution of a commander, for violating the delegated authority of his SOVEREIGN in ordering a puniſhment which devoted one of his ſoldiers to death: Even thus may the Laws of England, which are founded in wiſdom, be adminiſtered with purity and with firmneſs!

The following explicit account is communicated by an intelligent correſpondent.

THE Governor was yesterday morning publicly executed at Newgate, pursuant to his sentence, for the murder of Serjeant ARMSTRONG, by punishing him at Goree, in Africa, with 800 lashes, of which he some days after died. Newgate and the Old Bailey have for several days been at intervals a scene of tumult and confusion, by the resort of people of all descriptions, anxious to learn the final result of the Privy Council, who had held several deliberations on the conduct and case of the late unhappy Prisoner. One of the Sheriffs on Wednesday afternoon waited upon Lord PELHAM, Secretary of State for the Home Department, to know whether or not a farther respite or pardon was in contemplation, when his Lordship stated that there was little or no hope; and therefore desired, that, should the Sheriffs not receive official orders from him to the contrary, the sentence was to be carried into execution in the usual manner in the morning. This was at once determining the fate of the Governor, and every preparation was made accordingly.

Mrs. WALL, the wife of the Prisoner, accompanied by her ſiſter, Mrs. HOWARD, a near relative of the Duke of NORFOLK, went to the Priſon on Wednesday evening.

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The former only saw him; and, about eleven o'clock, she took an affectionate adieu of her husband. The scene was such as pourtrayed in some of the deepest tragedies on the stage, both demonstrating all the tender sensibility which they possessed in favour of each other. They at last parted, never to meet more; and, in this trying and critical interview, when the mind is engaged in testimonies of the greatest endearments, they acquitted themselves with that interesting pathos and affection which defy the powers of language to represent.—In an agony of despair, his last words to his beloved partner were—"God bless you, my dear! take care of my children; and endeavour to represent me to them in as favourable a way as possible!" The Ladies then abruptly retired; and Mrs. WALL, when passing Mr. KIRBY, said, in a disconsolate and frantic tone of voice—"Mr. KIRBY, there are still hopes, and I am informed that the Council have not yet broke up!" Mr. KIRBY observed—"Madam, I wish your hopes may be fulfilled; but it is now a late hour, and I have not received any orders!" The two sisters then, in a state too shocking to describe, drove off in Mrs. HOWARD's carriage.

The Governor passed the remainder of his existence in much anxiety. About two o'clock in the morning, he said to the two men who had constantly attended him in the condemned cell ever since his sentence—"'Tis a very long night——I wish much for the particular period when I am doomed to settle my last accounts."

In a few minutes after, he observed—"I most earnestly requeſt that I may not be pulled by the legs when I am suffering, but that the fatal cord may be placed properly,

and that I may be allowed to depart as fairly and easily as is consistent with my sentence!"

The crowd began to collect at the early hour of five o'clock; about six there appeared at least seven or eight thousand; at seven more than three times the number; and, in three quarters of an hour after, the whole streets adjoining, viz. Snow-hill, St. Sepulchre's, Newgate, the Old-Bailey, and even Ludgate-hill, were filled with spectators from all parts of the town, to the number of at least fifty or sixty thousand—some say a hundred thousand. Mr. CANAR, the City Marshall, was at this time uncommonly active in arranging the Constables, and giving the necessary orders.

The Prisoner then prepared himself for his fatal exit. He returned thanks to his two attendants for the care which they had testified since his conviction; and expressed his warmest obligations to the Sheriffs for their great politeness and unremitting assiduities during his unhappy confinement. He bowed gently around to all within his view; and, raising his head and eyes towards Heaven, while he extended his arms in the same direction, he fervently exclaimed—"Your humane attentions, my good friend, demand my very best acknowledgements!" The Prisoner then uttered—"I am now ready!"

About four minutes before eight o'clock, Governor WALL, attended by Mr. KIRBY and the proper Officers, came out of the Prison by the Debtor's Door, and was advancing, with steadiness and composure, on the Platform, in the front of Newgate, when his fortitude was shocked by the loud and indignant shouts of the multitude, who,

as if in contemptuous triumph, gave three distinct huzzas. They all, as if animated by one sentiment, pulled off their hats at the same time, accompanying their shouts and exclamations by groans and hisses; and, from St. Sepulchre's to Ludgate-hill, for two or three seconds the crowd exposed their bare heads, holding up their hats as if in testimony of reprobation of the Prisoner's conduct.

After repeating the first sentence of the Creed with the Rev. Dr FORD (the Ordinary), Governor WALL was launched forth into eternity. As he was scarcely allowed to finish the sentence, it is believed that his abrupt exit was occasioned by some mistake or accident. He hung two or three minutes without any other sign than the mere vibration of the body from one side to another, when the strongest convulsions were observable, and which, continuing for more than 20 minutes, an order was given to pull his legs, and thus relieve him at once from this dreadful state. This arose from the improper tying of the rope behind his head, instead of placing it under his right ear. After hanging the usual time, the body was delivered to the surgeons for dissection. When cut down, the multitude gave another shout of approbation.

We cannot dismiss this article without censuring the indecent conduct of the spectators, whose behaviour, on this occasion, was disgraceful to any civilized country, expressing their triumph over an unhappy man, who was expiating his guilt with his life, according to the sentence of the law. However much they might have detested the criminal, and however strongly they might have approved of his condemnation and punishment, they ought not to have outrag-

ed the rules of decency and decorum by a conduct of which even savages in the most barbarous ages would have been ashamed.

Governor WALL was in the 65th year of his age; of a strong and robust appearance; and was between six feet three and four inches high. He was, with some trifling variation, executed in the same cloathes in which he was tried. The dress consisted of a light-coloured coat, a sort of mixture; striped woollen waistcoat, with an under flannel one of the same; and dark gray pantaloons, with shoes. He had a white handkerchief on his head, and a striped one in his hand. From the dirty appearance of his garments, it was evident that they had suffered much by common usage in the condemned cell, as we recollect that his cloathing was then attractively neat, if not elegant.

Governor WALL died in rather indigent circumstances; and his family are now dependents upon the bounty and munificence of the Duke of NORFOLK, who made every exertion in vain for the pardon of the criminal.

YESTERDAY morning, as early as six o'clock, the populace began to assemble opposite Newgate, and by half an hour after seven the croud was prodigious; all the windows and roofs of the houses were covered with spectators. The throng continued to increase every moment, and the moſt marked dissatisfaction seemed to reign amongst the multitude in consequence of their having been twice before disappointed. Every individual appeared in a state of anxious uncertainty, some asserting that the execution would take place, but far the greater number were of a different opinion. The discontent at eight o'clock became

general, and the murmurs seemed to threaten a riot; but, owing to the vigilance of the City Marshal, the constables, and their attendants, aided by the London Militia, who were all on duty, the tranquillity of the neighbourhood was preserved; even when the scaffold and drop were placed ready, still the populace would not believe the execution would take place. At five minutes after eight, Mr. WALL ascended the scaffold, dressed in apparel far inferior to his condition; an old light brown mixed coat and black velvet collar, pantaloons and slippers: he held a handkerchief in his hand. His appearance, being unexpected, produced a very powerful sensation in the public mind: he was received with three distinct huzzas on coming out: this appeared to agitate him much. On coming forward, he turned his head towards Smithfield: he did not seem to wish to speak to the populace, but took Mr. Sheriff Cox by the hand, and said to Dr. FORD, the Ordinary, "I beg that I may not be pulled by the heels." This Dr. FORD communitated to the executioner, who, in whatever manner he took it, affixed the knot on the back of the prisoner's neck. When the platform fell, he made a motion as if he wished to drop without a jerk. His fall was accompanied by another huzza from the multitude; a much shorter time was passed in the previous ceremony than usual. He was observed to struggle longer in that situation than any such sufferer has ever been observed to do. At the expiration of eleven minutes, it was however found necessary to pull his legs. At the end of the usual time, being about ten minutes after nine, the body was cut down, and conveyed

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in a cart to the theatre of dissection on Saffron Hill, escorted by the City Marshal and his attendants.

During the time of his confinement, previous to trial, he occupied the apartment which was formerly the residence of Mr. RIDGWAY, the bookseller. His wife lived with him for the last fortnight; she is a very accomplished woman, about his own age: although he was allowed two hours a day, from twelve to two, to walk in the yard, he did not once embrace this indulgence, and, during his whole confinement, never went out of his room, except into the lobby to consult with his Counsel. He lived well, and was at times very facetious, easy in his manners, and pleasant in conversation, but during the night he frequently sat up in his bed and sang psalms, overheard by his fellow prisoners. He had not many visitors, his only attendant was a prisoner, who was appointed for that purpose by the turnkey. After trial he did not return to his old apartment, but was conducted into a cell; he was so far favoured as not to have irons put on, but a person was employed as a guard to watch him during the night to prevent his doing violence to himself. His bed was brought to him in the cell, on which he threw himself in an agony of mind, saying, it was his intention not to rise until they called him on the fatal morning. The Sheriffs were particularly pointed and precise in their orders, with respect to confining him to the usual diet of bread and water preparatory to the awful event. This order was scrupulously fulfilled.

The Prisoner, during a part of the night, slept, owing to fatigue and perturbation of mind. The next morning his wife applied, but was refused admittance without an or-

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der from one of the Sheriffs. She applied to Mr. Sheriff Cox, who attended her to the prison. From the time of the first respite, until twelve o'clock on Wednesday night, he did not cease to entertain hopes of his safety.

At eleven o'clock on Wednesday night Mr. KIRBY went into the prisoner's cell with the man who was appointed to sit up with him. He inquired if any news had arrived? he was told none. Mr. Sheriff Cox, who called upon him frequently before his trial, about this time visited him in his cell. He expected a respite till twelve o'clock —none then arriving, after the lapse of near an hour he inquired particularly whether the machine, in being brought out of the press-yard, would make a great noise, and inquired at what time? The attendant being unwilling to discompose his mind, pretended to be ignorant of those matters. He fell asleep between four and five o'clock, and did not hear the noise of the fatal machine, which was brought out at five o'clock, although it shook the whole prison: but about twenty minutes after a mail coach going by, he started, and said, "Is not that the fatal scaffold?" The same person answered, no, observing, it was the mail, and he might hear the horn blow with it. He did not go to sleep again; he asked many other questions, and inquired whether, being a tall man, he could not avoid the jerk in the falling of the scaffold, although it was done, he apprehended, to dislocate the neck of the sufferer, and put him sooner out of pain. He never had been off the bed, but to go to the water-closet, since condemnation.

The crowd, though prodigious, was said to be not so great as that which attended the execution of Adamson and Wilkinson

Wilkinson for forgery, about three years ago; but the public indignation has never been so high since the death Mrs. BROWNRIGG.

Yeſterday morning this unhappy individual ſuffered the puniſhment which the law of the country attaches to the crime of murder, of which a Jury of his fellow-ſubjects had declared him guilty. He appeared on the platform preciſely at eight o'clock, in a light coat, dreſſed on the whole meanly, and attended by the Ordinary of Newgate. His devotions were finiſhed in the priſon, and all that remained was the execution of his puniſhment. His arms were bound in the uſual manner, and a white night-cap concealed the greater part of his countenance. From the moment he came on the ſcaffold, his looks were fixed on the ground; he appeared wholly indifferent to every ſurrounding object, and his thoughts ſeemed altogether abſorbed in concerns unconnected with the preſent world. He converſed for a few moments with the Ordinary, and immediately after his aſcending the platform, preparation was made for launching him into eternity. The ſcene on the eve of being exhibited was one of the moſt ſolemn and impreſſive ever diſplayed in the hiſtory of this country. An example, never to be forgotten, of the impartiality and vigilance of our ſyſtem of Criminal Law, was on the point of being preſented. This was enough to command the reſpect even of the multitude, and to reſtrain every appearance of tumult or diſorder. It is with ſincere regret, therefore, that we have to mention that the populace, at the moment when the rope was put about the neck of the wretched criminal, raiſed a ſhout—we do not mean to ſay

of