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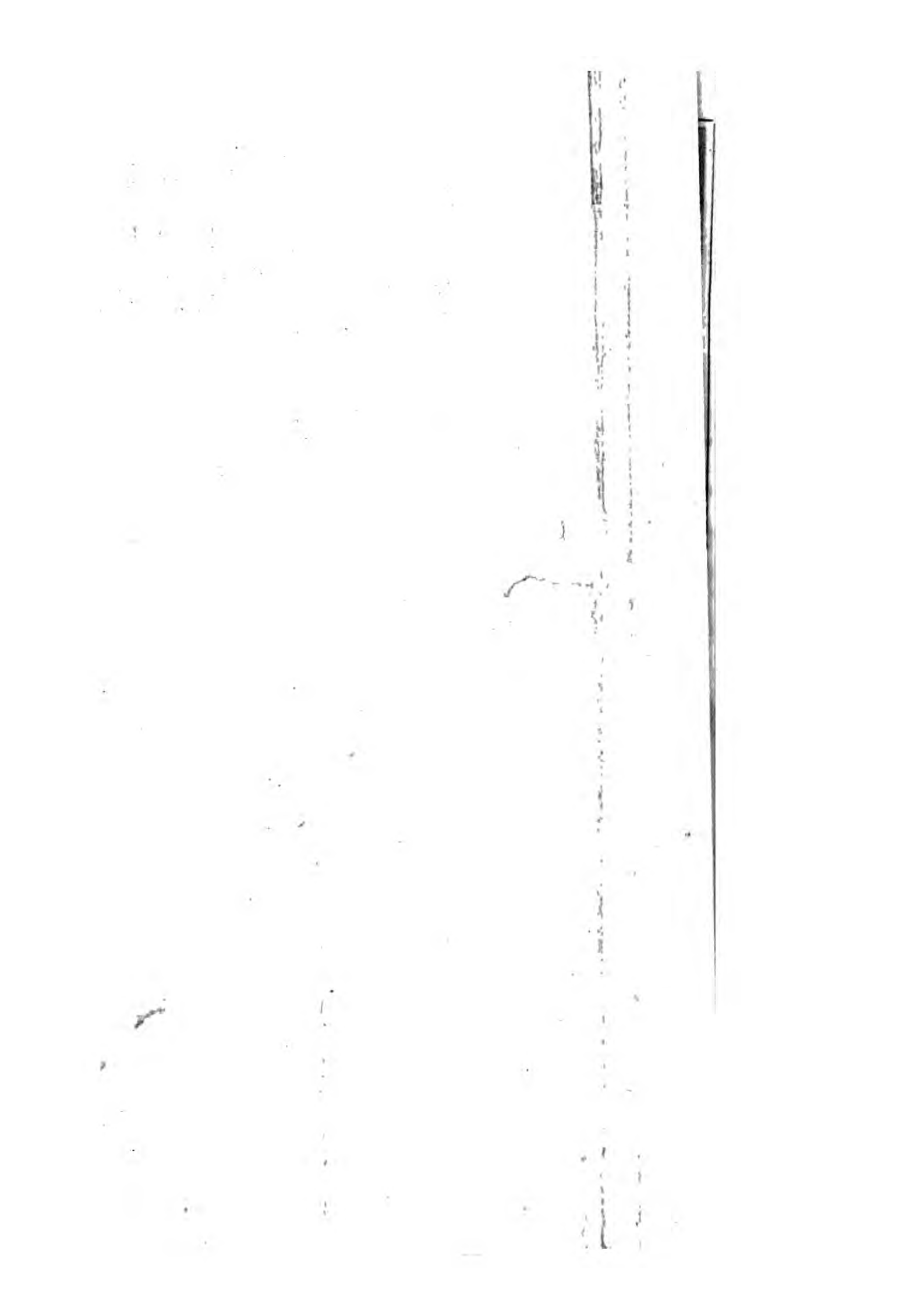
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SHIPWRECK AND CAPTIVITY  
OF  
CAPTAIN  
Donald Campbell,

ON LEAVING  
GOA FOR MADRAS,

MAY 21, 1782:

INCLUDING

The wonderful Manner in which he was,  
CONVEYED TO THE SHORE BY THE TIDES,

HIS

*IMPRISONMENT,*

BY

Hyder Ali's Troops,

AND HIS

NARROW ESCAPE FROM BEING HANGED,

For refusing to enter into the service of Hyder,

INTERSPERSED WITH

*Several Curious Anecdotes.*

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"Huge uproar lords it wide! The clouds commix'd  
With stars swift gliding sweep along the sky!  
All nature reels!"

THOMSON.

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# Shiptwreck and Captivity

OF

*Captain Donald Campbell,*

ON LEAVING

GOA FOR MADRAS,

MAY 21, 1782.



**I**N the month of May 1781, our hero set out for India. His journey before he reached Goa, was attended with many misfortunes. In the first instance, he was prevented by the war with France from going by the direct route, which he should otherwise have taken, and obliged to pass through the Low Countries and Germany. In the next place, he was disappointed at Venice in obtaining a passage to Latichæ; and soon after he lost his servant (who from his knowledge of several languages, would have been very useful to him) at Trieste, by sending him for letters to Venice, and being obliged to embark before his return for Alexandria, or otherwise he must have lost his passage; afterwards when he had reached Alexandria, with expectation of travelling through Egypt, and viewing that interesting part of the world, his intention was frustrated by the unhappy circumstances of the country, as the plague then raged in Alexandria, and all the roads were blocked up by an incursion of the Arabs. Thus mortified and disappointed, he turned about in order to make his way in another direction, and ar-

iving at Cyprus, found to his infinite surprize and regret that an epidemic disease, little short of the plague, prevailed there, and swept off the inhabitants in great numbers; when, after surmounting all these obstacles, he arrived at Aleppo, the first information he got was, that the caravan was gone, and that it would be a long time before another would be ready, and his departure from Aleppo was attended with circumstances no less inauspicious than his entrance. At Mosul he experienced another disappointment, by the river's being dried up, and rendered impassable by boats. His passage from Bassora to Muskal was impeded by the vessel springing a leak; and lastly, when he hoped to get from Busheer to Bombay, he was stopped by the intelligence that the gulph was blocked up by the French privateers, inso-much that no vessel could hope to escape.

Captain Campbell was now obliged to remain at Busheer, till a company's frigate, commanded by Captain Hardy, and soon expected, should afford him an opportunity of proceeding to Bombay. Time having at length brought about that wished for period, he took his passage, and arrived safe at Bombay, where he soon afterwards embarked on board a Portuguese vessel (being the only convenience that offered) to proceed to Madras; she was first bound to Goa, and arrived safely at that island where the Captain was received with great politeness by the English resident, Mr. Henshaw.

Our captain was exceedingly impatient to get from Goa, and notwithstanding he had been all his life an enemy to superstition, he was very much troubled with the foreboding thoughts of being shipwrecked. Impressed with these presentiments, he actually made his will, which he left in the hands of Mr. Henshaw, who had kindly used all his endeavours to dispel those gloomy ideas.

Captain Campbell having gone on board a Portuguese, and now bound to Madras, sailed from Goa, May 18, 1782. The hemisphere had been for some days overcast with clouds; some light showers of rain had fallen, and our hero's ominous apprehensions were very much increased, when he was told that these circumstances were strong indications of an approaching storm. He also observed that the vessel was much too deep in the water, being greatly overloaded; that she was in many respects defective, and, as the seamen say,

ill-found; in short, she was very unfit to encounter a gale of wind of any violence.

On the 19th the sky was obscured by immense fleeces of clouds, surcharged with inflammable matter; and in the evening the rain fell in torrents, the firmament darkened apace, sudden night came on, and the horrors of extreme darkness were rendered still more horrible by the peals of thunder which rent the air, and the frequent flashes of lightning, which served only to show the horrors of their situation, and leave them in increased darkness; mean-time, the wind became more violent blowing on the shore; and a heavy sea raised by its force, united with it to render their state more formidable.

On the morning of the 20th, by day-light, the gale had increased to a furious tempest, and the sea, keeping pace with it, ran mountains high; and as it kept invariably to the same point, the captain and officers of the vessel became seriously alarmed, having been almost persuaded that the S. W. monsoon had set in; which, had it been really the case, would have rendered it absolutely impossible for them to weather the coast. All that day, however, they kept as close as the violence of the weather would allow them to the wind; but the sea canted her head so to leeward that she made more lee than head-way; and the rigging was so strained with the work, that they had little hope of keeping off the shore, unless the wind changed, of which there was not the smallest probability. During the night there was no intermission of the storm; many of the sails blew into ribbons; some of the rigging was carried away, and such exertions were made, that, before morning, every stick that could possibly be struck was down upon deck.

On the morning of the 21st, about seven o'clock, Captain Campbell was alarmed by an unusual noise upon the deck, and running up, perceived that every remaining sail in the vessel, the fore-sail alone excepted, was totally carried away. The sight was horrible; and the whole vessel presented a spectacle as dreadful to the feelings as mortifying to human pride. Fear had produced not only all the helplessness of despondency, but also the mischievous freaks of insanity. In one place stood the captain of the ship, raving, stamping, and tearing his hair in handfuls from his head; here, some of the crew were down upon their knees, clasping their

hands, and praying with all the extravagance of horror painted in their faces; there, others were flogging their images with all their might, calling upon them to allay the storm. One of the passengers (who was purser of an English East Indiaman) had got hold of a case bottle of rum, and with an air of distraction and deep despair imprinted in his face, was strutting about in his shirt; Captain Campbell perceiving him to be on the point of serving it about in large tumblers, to the few undismayed people, and well convinced that so far from alleviating it would sharpen the horrors of their mind, boldly went forward, and with much difficulty prevented him.

Having happily succeeded in calming the fury of this passenger, Captain Campbell next addressed himself to the captain of the vessel, endeavouring to bring him back, if possible, to his recollection, and to a sense of his duty as commander, and of his dignity as a man. He exhorted him to encourage the sailors by his example, and strove to raise his spirits by assuring him the storm did not appear by any means so terrible as some he had before experienced.

While Captain Campbell was thus employed, they shipped a sea on the starboard-side, which he really thought would have sent them down. The vessel seemed to sink beneath her weight—she shivered and remained motionless—it was a moment of critical suspense!

Just at this crisis, the water, which rushed with incredible force through all parts of the vessel, brought out floating and nearly suffocated, another English passenger, who was endeavouring to take a little repose in a small cabin, boarded off from the deck; he was a very stout young man, and full of true spirit. Finding that the vessel was not as Captain Campbell imagined, going immediately down, he joined in exhorting the captain of the ship to do his duty. They persuaded him to throw the guns overboard, as well as a number of trunks and packages with which the vessel was much encumbered; and with some little exertion they got the pumps set a-going. The name of this passenger was Hall. He and Captain Campbell having with great difficulty got some hands to stick to the pumps, stood at the wheel, at once to assist the men and prevent them from quitting it; and, although hopeless, they were determined

that no effort practicable on their parts, should be wanting to the preservation of the vessel. The water, however, gained upon the vessel, notwithstanding all their exertions; and it evidently appeared that they could not keep her long above water.

At ten o'clock the wind seemed to increase, and amounted to a downright hurricane; the sky was so entirely obscured with black clouds, and the rain fell so thick, that objects were not discernible from the wheel to the ship's head. Soon the pump's were choaked, and could no longer be worked; dismay was now painted on every countenance—nothing was to be seen but unutterable despair, silent anguish and horror, wrought up to frenzy—not a single soul was capable of any effort that was useful—all seemed more desirous to extinguish their calamities by embracing death than willing, by a painful exertion, to avoid, or at least procrastinate it.

About eleven o'clock they could plainly distinguish a dreadful roaring noise, resembling that of waves rolling against rocks; but the darkness of the day, and the accompanying rains, prevented them from seeing any distance; and if it were a rock they might be actually dashed to pieces on it before they could perceive it. At twelve o'clock, however, the weather cleared up a little, and both the wind and the sea seemed to have abated; the very expansion of the prospect round the vessel was exhilarating; and as the weather grew better, and the sea less furious, the senses of the people returned, and the general stupefaction began to decrease.

The weather now continuing to clear up, they in some time discovered breakers, and large rocks without side of them; so that it appeared they must have passed quite close to them, and were now fairly hemmed in between them and the land. At this critical juncture, the captain of the vessel, entirely contrary to Captain Campbell's opinion, adopted the dangerous resolution of letting go an anchor to bring her up with her head to the sea; though no seaman, yet our hero's common sense convinced him that the vessel could never ride it out, but must directly go down. The event nearly justified his judgment; for she had scarcely been at an anchor before an enormous sea rolling over her, overwhelmed and filled her with water, and

every one on board concluded that she was certainly sinking; on the instant, a Lascar, with a presence of mind worthy an old English mariner, took an axe, ran forward, and cut the cable.

Thus liberated, the vessel again floated, and made an effort to right herself, but she was almost completely water-logged, and heeled to larboard so much that the gunnel lay under water. They then endeavoured to steer as fast as they could for the land, which they knew could not be at any great distance, though they were unable to discover it through the hazy weather; the foresail was loosened, by great efforts in bailing, she righted a little, her gunnel was got above water, and they scudded as well as they could before the wind, which still blew hard on shore; and about two o'clock the land appeared at a small distance ahead.

The love of life countervails all other considerations in the mind of man. The uncertainty they were under with regard to the shore before them, which they had reason to believe was part of Hyder Alli's dominions, where they should meet with the most rigorous treatment, if not untimely death, was forgotten in the joyful hope of saving life; and they scudded toward the shore in all the exulting transports of a people just snatched from the jaws of death.

This gleam of happiness, however, was of a short continuation; a tremendous sea rolling over them, broke over their stern, tore every thing before it, stove in the steerage, carried away the rudder, shivered the wheel to pieces, and tore up the very ringbolts of the deck, conveyed the men who stood at the wheel, forward, and swept them overboard. At this time, Captain Campbell was standing near the wheel, and fortunately laid hold of the tafferel, which enabled him to resist in part the weight of the wave. He was, however, swept off his feet, and dashed against the main-mast. The jerk from the tafferel, which he held very tenaciously, seemed as if it would have dislocated his arms; it broke, however, the impetus of his motion, and in all probability saved him from being dashed to pieces against the mast.

Our captain now floundered about in the water at the foot of the mast, till at length he got on his feet, seized a

rope, which he held in a state of great embarrassment, dubious what he should do to extricate himself. At this instant, he perceived Mr. Hall had got upon the capstan, and was waving his hand to him, to follow his example. This Captain Campbell wished to do, tho' it was an enterprise of extreme risk and difficulty; for if he lost the hold he had, a single motion of the vessel, or a full wave, would certainly have carried him overboard. He made however a bold push, and fortunately accomplished it. Having attained this station, he could the better survey the wreck and saw that the water was nearly breast high on the quarter deck, (for the vessel was deep-waisted,) and he perceived the unfortunate English purser, standing where the water was most shallow, as if watching with patient expectation its rising, and awaiting death. Captain Campbell, called to him to come to them; but he shook his head in despair, and said in a lamentable tone, "It is all over with us!" He then seated himself with seeming composure on a chair, which happened to be rolling about in the wreck of the deck, and in a few minutes afterwards, was washed into the sea with it, where he was speedily released from a state ten thousand times worse than death.

During this universal wreck of things, the horror Captain Campbell was in, could not prevent him from observing a very curious circumstance, which at any other time would have excited laughter; though now it produced no other emotion than surprise. They happened to be in part laden with mangoes, of which the island of Goa, is known to produce the finest in the world; some of them lay in baskets on the poop: a little black boy, in the moment of the greatest danger, had got seated by them, devouring them voraciously, and crying all the time most bitterly at the horrors of his situation.

The vessel now got completely water-log'd, and Captain Campbell and Mr. Hall, were employed in forming conjectural calculations how many minutes she could keep above water; each lamenting the unfortunate circumstances under which they had met. As the larboard side of the vessel was gradually going down, the deck, and of course the capstan, became too nearly perpendicular, for them to continue on it: they therefore foresaw the necessity of quitting it, and got on the starboard side, holding fast by the gunwale,



and allowing their bodies and legs to yield to the sea, as it broke over them. Thus they continued for some time; at length the severity of the labour so entirely exhausted their strength and spirits, that their best hope seemed to be a speedy conclusion to their painful death; and they begun to have serious intentions of letting go their hold, and yielding themselves up at once to the fury of the waves.

The vessel which all this time drifted with the sea and wind, gradually approximated the shore, and at length struck the ground; which for an instant, revived their almost departed hopes; but they soon found that it did not, in the smallest degree, better their situation. Captain Campbell, now perceived some of the crew collecting together, talking and holding a consultation: it immediately occurred to him, that they were devising some plan for escaping from the wreck, and getting on shore; and so natural is it for man to cling to his fellow creatures for support in the hour of danger, that he proposed to his fellow sufferer, (Mr. Hall,) to join them, and take a share in the execution of their plans; observing to him at the same time, that he was determined at all events, to quit the vessel, and trust to the protection of a superintending Providence for the rest. The unfortunate English purser who was drowned, had not courage sufficient to make an effort to save himself; notwithstanding he was a man of known courage. Captain Campbell, however, was determined on joining the crew, whom he saw consulting together. Accordingly he made an effort to get to the lee shrouds, where they were standing, or rather clinging; but before he could accomplish it, he lost his hold, fell down the hatchway, (the gratings having been carried away with the long boat,) and was for some minutes entangled there among a heap of packages, which the violent fluctuations of the water had collected on the lee side. As the vessel moved with the sea, and the water flowed in, the captain and the packages were rolled together, sometimes one and sometimes another uppermost; so that he began to be apprehensive, he should not be able to extricate himself; by the meekest accident, however, he grasped something that lay in his way, made a vigorous spring, and gained the lee shrouds. Mr. Hall, in following the captain, seized the shrouds, and was driven against him with great violence, that he could scarcely retain his hold of the rigging.

Captain Campbell, compelled by the perilous situation in

which he stood, called out to Mr. Hall to keep off, as he was entirely exhausted and breathless. Mr. Hall, notwithstanding his own danger, generously endeavoured to make way for the captain, and in so doing, unfortunately lost his hold; and went down under the ship's side. Great were Captain Campbell's sensations at this melancholy incident, he would have given millions to have recalled the words which he involuntarily uttered; however to his great surprise, as well as to his joy, he saw his fellow sufferer borne by a returning wave, and thrown among the very packages from which the captain had but just before, and with much labour and difficulty, extricated himself. In the end, Mr. Hall proved equally fortunate, but after a much longer and harder struggle, and after sustaining much more injury.

Captain Campbell once more changed his station, and made his way for the poop; where he found himself rather more sheltered. He earnestly wished Mr. Hall to be with him, whatever might be his ultimate fate, and beckoned him to come near him; but Mr. Hall only answered by shaking his head, in a feeble and desponding manner—staring at the same time wildly about him; even his spirit was subdued, and despair had begun to take possession of his mind.

The captain being a little more at ease in his new station, than he had been before, had more time to deliberate, and more power to judge. He recollected, that according to the course of time the day was far gone, and the night quickly approaching: he reflected that for any enterprize whatever, day was much preferable to night; and above all he considered that the vessel could not hold long together. He therefore thought that the best mode he could adopt, would be, to commit himself to the water with the first buoyant thing he could see; and as the wind and water both seemed to run to shore, to take his chance in that way of reaching it. In pursuance of this resolution, he tore off his shirt, having before that thrown off the other parts of his dress. He looked at his sleeve buttons, in which was set the hair of his departed children; and rolling the shirt up very carefully, thrust it into a hole between decks, with the wild hopes that the sleeve buttons might yet escape untouched. Watching his opportunity, he saw a log of wood floating near the vessel, and waving his hand to Mr. Hall as a last adieu, jumped after it. Here again he was doomed to aggravated hardships:

he had scarcely touched the log, when a great sea snatched it from his hold; still as it came near him, he grasped at it ineffectually, till at last it was completely carried away, but not before it had cut, and bruised, and battered him in several places, and in a manner that at any other time, he should have thought dreadful.

Death now seemed inevitable, and all that occurred to him to do at present, was to accelerate it, and get out of its pangs as speedily as possible; for tho' the captain knew how to swim, the tremendous surf, rendered swimming useless, and all hopes from it would have been ridiculous. The captain therefore began to swallow as much water as possible, yet still rising, by the buoyant principle of the waves, to the surface, his former thoughts of self preservation began to recur. Accordingly he endeavoured to swim, which he had not done long, when he again discovered the log of wood he had lost, floating near him, and with some difficulty caught it; hardly had it been an instant in his hands, when, by the same unlucky means, he lost it again.

Captain Campbell, had often heard it said in Scotland, that if a man will throw himself flat on his back, in the water, lie quite straight and stiff, and suffer himself to sink till the water gets into his ears, he will continue to float so for ever. This occurred to him now, and he determined to try the experiment. So he threw himself on his back, in the manner already described, and left himself to the disposal of Providence; nor was it long before he found the truth of the saying, for he floated with hardly an effort, and begun, for the first time, to conceive something like hopes of preservation,

After lying in this manner, committed to the discretion of the tides, the captain soon saw the vessel—saw that it was a considerable distance behind him. Liveliest hope began to play about his heart, and joy fluttered with a thousand gay fancies in his mind; he began to form the favorable conclusion, that the tide was carrying him rapidly to land from the vessel, and that he should soon touch *terra firma* again.

Stimulated by this encouraging hope, Captain Campbell took courage, and left himself still to the same all directing Power that had hitherto preserved him, scarcely doubting that he should soon reach the land. Nor was he mistaken; for, in a short time more, without effort or exertion, and

without once turning from off his back, he found himself strike against the sandy beach. Overjoyed to the highest pitch of transport, at his providential deliverance, he made a convulsive spring, and ran up a little distance on the shore; but was so weak and worn down by fatigue, and so unable to clear his stomach of the salt water, with which it was loaded, that he suddenly grew deadly sick; and apprehended that he had only exchanged one death for another, and in a minute or two fainted away.

As soon as our hero had recovered from his swoon, he found himself surrounded by a guard of armed soldiers, seapoys, and pikemen. He immediately knew them to be the troops of Hyder Alli, and almost wished himself back into the waves again. On looking round, he perceived that the people and effects, which had been saved from the wreck, were collected all together along with him.

These wretched people, remained in this state till it was dark. A Lascar belonging to the vessel, perceiving Captain Campbell's naked state, tore in two a piece of cloth which he had tied round his waist, and gave him one part of it, which afforded a short apron. The captain was exceedingly grateful for this voluntary act of beneficence; which rendered this poor black man, whom the world would call an idolater, as amiable as a Christian.

The vast quantity of salt water which Captain Campbell had swallowed, still made him deadly sick in his stomach; after some time, however, he threw it up, and got great relief. He had hardly felt the comfortable effects of this vomit, before he was ordered to march; nine of them, all Lascares, except himself, were conveyed to a village at a few miles distance, on the sea side, where they were for that night, put into a square place, walled round, open to the inclemency of the weather, above and below, and filled with large logs of wood; it blew most violently, and rain fell in torrents, while not one smooth plank could be found on which to stretch their harrassed and wasted bodies. Thus naked, sick, exhausted with hunger and fatigue, drenched with wet, and unable to lie down, their misery might be supposed to be incapable of encrease. But alas! another pang was added to their misery—Thirst the most dreadful of all pains, occasioned by the drenching with salt water, seized them; and notwithstanding their humble and repeated entreaties, for a

drop of water, they were most inhumanly and cruelly denied.

It is impossible to describe the distress which Captain Campbell suffered during the whole night. The thought of being a prisoner to Hyder Alli, was of itself sufficient to render him completely unhappy; but his utter want of clothes almost put him beside himself; and lying exposed to the open air, where he was glad to sit close to the Lascars, to receive a little heat from their bodies, and to hold open his mouth in order to catch a drop of the descending rain, was a state that might be considered as the highest refinement upon misery,

About four o'clock in the morning, a little cold rice was brought him to eat, and water was dug out of a hole near the spot for him: this wretched fare however was some refreshment. Captain Campbell was then removed to the ruins of a toddy hut, separated from the rest, and a guard set over him. Here he had full room for reflection; the whole of his situation appeared before him, with all its aggravating circumstances of horror, and it seemed hardly possible to fill the bitter cup of calamity fuller; for there was no probability of his being ever released, as his captivity was unlikely to be known to his country, or to any of his friends.

In this state he was, when to his utter astonishment, as well to his great satisfaction, Mr. Hall (his worthy fellow sufferer,) appeared before him. He scarcely knew how to think this appearance reality, as he understood the Lascars then along with him, were all that were saved from the wreck; and Mr. Hall was at the time that he parted from him, so exhausted, both in body and mind, that to every appearance he would be the last who could escape. This gentleman shook the captain by the hand, and sitting down told him that he had given him up for lost, and remained with the vessel until the tide having ebbed, left her almost dry. That immediately on getting ashore, and being taken prisoner, he made enquiries about him, and heard that he had been saved; that finding this, his joy was such, as to almost make him forget his own misfortunes, and exerting all his entreaties not to be separated from his friend, they had been so far indulgent to him, and had brought him there, that they might be companions in bondage. He added, that out of eleven Europeans, and fifty-six Lascars, who were on board, only he and Captain Campbell of the former, and fourteen

of the latter, were saved from the wreck; the rest having been drowned in the attempt, excepting some, who overcome with terror, anguish, and anxiety, and exhausted with fatigue, had bid a formal adieu to their companions, let go their hold, and calmly and voluntarily gave themselves up to the deep.

Captain Campbell, perceiving that Mr. Hall stood as much in need of relief, with respect to clothes, as he did himself, when the honest Lascar relieved him by dividing his cloth, took it off, tore it in two, and gave him half of it; their misery may be well conceived from this, if other circumstances were wanting, that such a thing as a rag not worth six-pence, was a very material accommodation to them both.

For some days they lay in this place exposed to the weather, without even the slender comfort of a little straw to cover the ground beneath him; their food, boiled rice, served very sparingly twice a day by an old woman, who just threw a handful or more of it to each, upon a very dirty board, which they devoured with those spoons which nature gave them.

At the end of that time, they, and along with them, the Lascars, were ordered to proceed into the country, and driven on foot to a considerable distance, in order to render an account of themselves, to persons belonging to government, authorised to take it. It was advanced in the morning when they removed, without receiving any sort of sustenance, and were marched in that wasting climate eight hours, without breaking their fast; during which time they were exposed alternately to the scorching heat of the sun, and heavy torrents of rain, which raised painful blisters on their skin; they had often to stand exposed to the weather, or to lie down, under the pressure of fatigue and weakness, on the bare ground; then to wait an hour, or more, at the door of some insolent unfeeling monster, until he finished his dinner, or took his afternoon's nap; and when this was over, driven forward with wonton barbarity by the people who attended them.

About two days after this, they were moved again, and marched up the country, by a long and circuitous route, in which they underwent every hardship that cruelty could inflict, or human fortitude endure—now blistered with the heat, then drenched with the rain, and afterwards chilled with the

night damps; destitute of any place, but the bare earth, to rest or lay their heads on, with only a scanty pittance of boiled rice for their support—often without water to quench their thirst, and constantly goaded by the guards, who pricked them with their bayonets every now and then, at once to evince their power, entertain the spectators, and mortify their prisoners. At length they arrived at Hydranagar, the metropolis of the province of Biddanou, a fort of considerable strength, mounting upwards of 70 guns, containing a large garrison of men, and possessed of immense wealth.

They arrived at Biddanou about two o'clock in the morning; the day was extremely hot, and they were kept out under the full heat of the broiling sun till six o'clock in the evening, before they were admitted to an audience of the jemadar, or governor of the palace, without having a mouthful of victuals offered to them, after the fatiguing march of the morning. While they stood in this forlorn state, a vast concourse of people collected about and viewed them with curiosity. Looking round thro' those who stood nearest, Captain Campbell observed some men gazing at him with strong marks of emotion, and a mixture of wonder and concern portrayed in their countenances. Surprised to see such symptoms of humanity in a Mysorean Indian, he looked at them with more scrutinising attention, and thought that their faces were familiar to him. Catching his eye, they looked at him significantly, as though they would express their regard and respect for him, if they dared; and then he began to recollect that they were formerly privates in his own regiment of cavalry, and were then prisoners at large with Hyder. The captain returned their sympathetic look with a private nod of recognition; but seeing that they were afraid to speak to him, and fearing he might injure them by disclosing their acquaintance, he forbore any thing more.

The captain, in consequence of the several calamities he endured, was reduced to the state of a mere skeleton. Every day he grew weaker and weaker, and was at length quite exhausted and weak. His fellow sufferer, Mr. Hall, in addition to his afflictions, laboured under a dysentery, which attacked him soon after their shipwreck, and which the torments of his mind, the want of medicine, and comfortable

food, and above all the alternate violent changes from profuse perspiration in walking to chilling cold at night, had increased to such an alarming degree that he was obliged to be carried the two last day's journey. In this state they appeared to each other as two spectres hanging over the brink of the grave; and indeed the captain perceiving the rapid progress Mr. Hall was making to his dissolution, was affected to such a degree as to deprive him of all attention to the rapid decline he was falling into.

At length they were brought into the presence of the jemadar. The captain had made up his mind for the occasion, determined to deport himself in a manly and candid manner, and to let no consideration whatever lead him to any thing disgraceful to his character or unworthy his situation in life; and, finally, had prepared himself to meet without shrinking, whatever misfortune might yet be in store for him, or whatever cruelties the barbarous disposition or wicked policy of the tyrant might think proper to inflict.

On entering they found the jemadar in full court. He was then occupied with the reading of dispatches, and in transacting other public business. His prisoners were placed directly opposite to him, where they stood for near an hour, during which time he never cast his eyes toward them; but when at last he concluded the business in which he was engaged, and deigned to look at them, they were ordered to prostrate themselves before him. The Lascars immediately obeyed the order, and threw themselves on the ground, but Captain Campbell contented himself with making a salam, in which poor Mr. Hall, who knew not the eastern manner as he did, followed his example. This ceremony over, the jemadar (Hyat Sahib) began to interrogate the captain, and after he had exhausted his whole string of questions, he expatiated on the excellent qualities of his great and puissant lord and master, Hyder Alli; he boasted of his successes over the English, and after expending near half an hour in this manner, he called upon the captain to come near him, and caused him to seat himself upon a mat with a pillow to lean upon, encouraged him, by every means he could to speak to him without the least reserve, and exhorted him to tell the truth in every thing, and hinted that



his falling into his hands might turn out the most fortunate event of his life.

Captain Campbell was at a loss to what motive to attribute all these singular marks of indulgence; but found that Hyat had learned whose son he was (and knew his father by reputation) from the seapoys, who were now prisoners at large there; and as rank and office are the chief recommendation in the east, the sagacious Hyat Sahib found many claims to esteem and humanity in him as the son of a Colonel Campbell, which he never would have found in him, had he been the son of a tradesmen or a farmer in England.

After a full hour's audience, in which Hyat Sahib treated the captain with distinguished marks of favor, considering his situation, he dismissed him with the ceremony of *buttlenul*, rose water, and other compliments, which are in that country held as the strongest marks of politeness, respect, and good-will. Leaving the court, the captain was led to the inner fort or citadel: and the officious zeal of those about him, unwilling to let him remain ignorant of that which they conceived to be a most fortunate turn in his affairs, made him completely wretched, as he went along, by congratulating him on the favorable opinion which the jemadar had formed of him, and intimating, at the same time, that he would soon be honored with a respectable command in Hyder's service.

That night the jemadar sent our unfortunate hero an excellent supper, of not less than six dishes from his own table; but although he had been so long famishing with the want of wholesome food, the idea of being enlisted in the service of Hyder struck him with such horror, that he lost all appetite, and was scarcely able to eat a mouthful. Mr. Hall and the captain were now separated from the Lascars who were released and forced to work.

Notwithstanding all the kindness with which the captain was treated by the jemadar, no mark of any favor appeared in his lodging. This consisted of a very small place, in the zig-zag of one of the gates of the citadel; it was open in front, but covered with a kind of shed on the top, and a number of other prisoners were about him. Mr. Hall and he were each allowed a mat and a pillow, and this formed the whole of their local accommodations. Upon their re-

marking it, they were told that in conformity to the custom of the country, they must be treated so for some time, and that their accommodation would be afterwards extended, and made more agreeable to their wishes; yet even this was better than their situation since they landed. In addition to this luxury they were allowed to the value of four-pence half-penny a day, for their maintenance, and a guard of seapoys was put over them and a few more prisoners, one of whom was directed to go and purchase their victuals, and do such kind of offices for them. This guard was changed every week.

A short time after this the jemadar sent for Captain Campbell, treated him with great kindness, gave him some tea, and furnished him with two or three shirts, an old coat, and two pair of breeches, which were stripped from the dead bodies which were thrown ashore from the wreck; every thing that was saved from it being sent to Bidamore; he also gave him thirty rupees, and assured him that his situation should be rendered not only comfortable but enviable. In the evening the captain was sent for to attend, not at the court but at the house of a man high in office. As the captain expected to meet Hyat Sahib himself, and trembled at the thoughts of his expected proposition, he was agreeably surprised to find that it was one of his people only that he was to have a conference with. This man received the captain with great politeness, encouraged him, made him sit down, with him, and began to expatiate on the merits of Hyat Sahib. He then told the captain with a countenance expressive of great triumph and joy, as if he was communicating the most agreeable news, that it was the intention of Hyat Sahib, for and on behalf of his master the Sultan, to give him the command of 5000 men.

Captain Campbell was both shocked and enraged at this proposal; he paused a little to suppress his feelings, and then declared his firm resolution never to accept of such an offer. The stranger listened to all the captain's objections with great patience, but in the conclusion said he had little doubt of finding means to overcome his reluctance. He then dismissed him for the present, when the captain returned to his prison and communicated what had passed to his fellow-sufferer, Mr. Hall.

Here it should be observed that the place in which the

captain and Mr. Hall were lodged was situated in a way not very favorable to their feelings; just within sight of it the commandant of the citadel held a court of justice, where the most barbarous cruelties were hourly exercised, most of them for the purpose of extorting money and compelling the discovery of supposed hidden treasures; indeed five-sixths of those who suffered were of this description, and the process pursued was as artful as barbarous; they first began with caresses, then proceeded to examination and cross-examination, thence to threats, thence to punishment, and finally to the most cruel tortures.

Mr. Hall, notwithstanding the various sufferings both of mind and body which he had undergone, began to recruit and get a little better; and this circumstance, of itself, diffused a flow of spirits over the captain, that contributed to his support. They consoled each other by every means they could devise, and formed plans together to support them under their afflictions.

On the day succeeding that on which the agent of Hyat Sahib had held his discourse with the captain, he was again sent for, and brought to the same person, who asked him whether he had duly considered of the important offer made him by Hyat Sahib, and of the consequences likely to result from the refusal; observing at the same time, that the command of 5000 men, was an honour which the first rajah in the Mysorean dominions would grasp at with transport. Captain Campbell, told him he was well convinced of the honour such a command would confer on any man but an Englishman. He then repeated his objections; but notwithstanding those, and other remonstrances, the agent still continued to press him, and used every argument of persuasion, that ingenuity could dictate, or hints of punishment enforce. Captain Campbell, finally gave a peremptory, decisive refusal.

After this he was repeatedly urged on the subject by fair persuasions; they then had recourse to menace; then they withheld the daily pittance allowed him for his support; and at length they proceeded to coercion, tying a rope round his neck, and hoisting him up to a tree. All this however, the captain bore firmly: instead of shaking him from his purpose, these cruel proceedings tended only to confirm him in his resolution.

Thus the captain and his fellow prisoner continued for many months, during which, no alteration whatever took place in their treatment or situation. Directly opposite to them, was imprisoned another unfortunate person, who had for many years been a close captive, and the subject of much cruelty. He was a man once of the highest rank in the country, where he was now a prisoner: for a series of years he had been a governor, and sole manager of the whole province of Biddanou. The captain, and this prisoner, soon found means by looks, signs, and gestures, to exchange thoughts, and hold an intercourse of sentiments together; some messages also passed between them, by means of the seapoys, who had alternately been the captain's and the stranger's guard.

Captain Campbell, began now to meditate the means of escape. He held various councils with his own mind, and with Mr. Hall, on the subject. At last he began to think of sounding the Biddanou prisoner, and determined, if possible, to bring him into their consultations, and make him a party in the execution of the project. While the captain and his fellow sufferer was flattering themselves with the hopes of success, they were one day unexpectedly loaded with irons, and fastened together by the leg, by one bolt. These proceedings very much surprised the captain: but he was more astonished to observe, that the person who was employed to see this put in execution, manifested unusual emotions, and even shed tears as he looked on. This sorrow in the officer, portended, as the captain thought, some fatal, or at least very serious issue. This sudden event, naturally occasioned a temporary depression; add to these misfortunes Mr. Hall had now a relapse, his illness was rapidly increasing, which rendered his situation more than ever calamitous. Every application that Captain Campbell made in his favor was refused, or rather treated with contemptuous neglect. Notwithstanding the great and wealthy governor, Hyat Sahib, refused this expiring man the least relief, a poor seapoy, one who guarded him, of his own accord, and at the risk of being severely punished, purchased a lamp and a little oil, for these wretched sufferers; which they burned for the last few nights. At length, Mr. Hall was released from the power of one tyrant, by the hand of another, but a more agreeable tyrant, Death!

In the morning, a report was made to the commandant, of the death of Mr. Hall; and Captain Campbell patiently waited for the removal of the dead body till the evening, when he desired the seapoys who guarded him to apply for its being removed. They returned and told him, they could not get an answer respecting it. Night came on, but there was no appearance of an intention to unfetter him from the corpse. The commandant was sitting in his court, just opposite the prison, administering justice. The captain called out to him as loud as he could, but received no answer. Great now was our hero's rage and consternation; for exclusive of the painful idea of being shackled to the dead body of a friend he loved; another circumstance contributed to make it a serious subject of horror; in those climates the weather is so intensely hot that putrefaction almost instantly succeeds death. So far, however, from compassionating his situation, or indulging him by a removal of the body, the barbarity of his tormentors prompted them to make it an instrument of punishment, and they pertinaciously adhered to the most mortifying silence and disregard of his complaints.

For several day and nights the corpse remained attached to him by the irons. Poor Captain Campbell grew almost distracted—he wished for the means of putting a termination to his miseries by death; and could not move without witnessing some new stage of putrescence it attained, or breathe without inhaling the putrid effluvia that arose from it; while myriads of flies and loathsome insects rested on it; the former of which every now and then visited the captain, crawling over his face and hands, and lighting in hundreds on his victuals.

When, however, the body had reached that shocking, loathsome state of putrefaction which threatened that further delay would render the removal of it abominable, if not impossible, the monsters at last agreed to take it away from the captain, and he was so far relieved: but the mortification and injury he underwent from it, joined to the consequent agitation of mind which he endured, made a visible inroad on his health. He totally lost his spirits; his appetite entirely forsook him; his long nourished hopes fled, and he looked forward to death as the only desirable event that was within the verge of likelihood or possibility.

It now happened that the captain's opposite friend, the prisoner already mentioned, gave him a look of the most interesting and encouraging kind; he also perceived a more than usual bustle in the citadel, while the seapoys informed him that they were ordered on immediate service, and that some events of great importance had taken place. Hope again, though she "had told him lies from day to day," now revived the captain's spirits. In a day or two the bustle increased to a high pitch, accompanied with marks of consternation; the whole of the troops in the citadel were ordered to march, and the commandant, and a man with a hammer and instruments, came to take off the captain's irons. During this operation our hero perceived that they were also taking off those of the opposite prisoner, who went away under a guard. This prisoner and the captain looked at each other complacently; they nodded and smiled, expressive of their hopes of still recovering their liberty. This unhappy man, however, had little reason to rejoice, for, in conformity to the barbarous policy of those countries, he was, by the jemadar's orders, taken forth, and his throat cut! This, the jemadar himself afterwards acknowledged to Captain Campbell, and what was still more abominable, if possible, he undertook to justify the proceeding upon the principles of reason, sound sense, and precedent of Asiatic policy.

It seems during the captain's confinement, descents upon the coasts of Malabar had been planned by the English in retaliation for insults received. General Matthews with a small army took Onore and several forts, and having been joined by other troops, after surmounting various obstacles, he mounted the Ghaut, carrying every thing before him with the fixed bayonet. He then reached, within a short march of Hydermajur, the place where Captain Campbell was confined. These operations were much facilitated by the sudden death of Hyder Alli, which drew the attention of Tippoo Saib to affairs of more immediate importance than the defence of the Malabar forts. At present, however, the captain was ignorant of those proceedings. To his great surprize, he was taken from his prison, and walked out of the citadel, with two or three men, who had charge of him. He was highly delighted with once more revisiting the open air.

As they went along, his attendants gave him to understand, that Hyat Sahib, (the jemadar) was at a place twelve miles distant from Bidamore. When they had got a mile from the fort, they met a person attended by three others, all on horseback. He was a man of considerable rank in that country, who knew Captain Campbell. This gentleman immediately leaped from his horse, apparently in great agitation, and turning to the captain's guard, ordered them to quit their prisoner; the men hesitated; but on his shaking his sword, which was all along drawn in his hand, and smeared with blood, they all ran off. He then told the captain he had long pitied him, and as he had heard Hyat Sahib give orders that Captain Campbell should be brought before him in order to be put to death, he rejoiced that he had met with this opportunity of rescuing him. He proposed to carry our hero back with him to Bidamore, and place him in a state of security, with his family. Captain Campbell expressed his gratitude as well as he could, and accepted of his unprecedented generosity.

Our hero was now on the point of returning with his deliverer to Hydernagur, when they were suddenly alarmed by the approach of the jemadar's guards. The captain accordingly quitted his deliverer, and fled through a wood. He afterwards boldly waited on the jemadar, and offered himself as an instrument of negociation with General Matthews. Suffice it to say that the fallen jemadar was obliged to acquiesce, and Captain Campbell having joined the British army, after an absence of four years and five days, returned to England.







