THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1870.

IN. Y R O Lord Byron's Story-Lady Byron's Story-Byron's Last Letter to his Sister. ... SOHN C. RUBMTON & CO.

As the public interest in the Byron seandal is still unabated, we publish the story of the separation, as told respectively by Lord and Lady Byron, with some contemporary testimony on the subject. Lord Byron's account of his marriage and separation is taken from Medwin's "Journal of the Conversations of Lord Byron, noted during a residence with his Lordship at Piss, in the years 1821 and 1822."

LORD BYRON'S STORY.

A very full account of my marriage and separation is contained in my memoirs. After they were completed, I wrote to Lady Byron, proposing to send them for her inspection, in order that any misstatements or inaccuracy (if any such existed, which I was not aware of) might be pointed out and corrected. In her answer she declined the offer, without assigning any reason; but desiring, if not on her account, for the sake of her daughter, that they might never appear, and finishing with a threat. My reply was the severest thing I ever wrote. I told her that she knew all I had written was incontrovertible truth, and that she did not wish to sanction the truth. I ended by saying that she might depend on their being published. It was not till after this correspondence that I made Moore the depositary of the MS.

-The first time of my seeing Miss Milbanke was at Lady ----'s. It was a fatal day; and I remember that in going up stairs I stum-bled, and remarked to Moore, who accompanied me, that it was a bad omen. I.ought to have taken the warning. On entering the room I observed a young lady more simply dressed than the rest of the assembly sitting alone upon a sofa. I took her for a female companion, and asked if I was right in my conjecture? "She is a

great heiress," said he in a whisper, that be-came lower as he proceeded; "you had better marry her and repair the old place, Newstead. There was something piquant and what we term pretty in Miss Mulbanke. Her features

were small and feminine, though not regular. She had the fairest skin imaginable. Her figure was perfect for her height, and there was a simplicity, a retired modesty about her, which was very characteristic, and formed a happy contrast to the cold artificial formality and studied stiffness which is called fashion. She interested me exceedingly. I became daily more attached to her, and it ended in my making her a proposal that was rejected. Her refusal was couched in terms which could not offend me. I was, besides, persuaded that in declining my offer she was governed by the influence of her mother: and was the more confirmed in my opinion by her reviving our correspondence herself twelve months after. The tenor of her letter was that, although she could not love me, she desired my friendship. Friendship is a danger-ous word for young ladies; it is love fullfledged and waiting for a fine day to fly.

It had been predicted by Mrs. Williams that twenty-seven was to be a dangerous age for me. The fortune-telling witch was right; it was destined to prove so. I shall never forget the 2d of January, 1815; Lady Byron was the only anconcerned person present; Lady Noel, her mother, cried; I trembled like a leaf, made the wrong responses, and after the ceremony called her Miss Milbanke.

There is a singular history attached to the ring. The very day the match was concluded

wards over-persuaded to forward it. There can be no doubt that the influence of her enemies prevailed over her affection for me. You ask me if no cause was assigned for this sudden resolution?—if I formed no conjec-ture about the cause? I will tell you.

I have prejudices about women: I do not like to see them eat. Rousseau makes Julie un peu gourmande; but that is not at all according to my taste. I do not like to be interrupted when I am writing. Lady Byron did not attend to these whims of mine. The only harsh thing I ever remember saying to her was one evening shortly before our parting. I was standing before the fire, ruminating upon the em-barrassment of my affairs, and other annoy ances, when Lady Byron came up to me and said, "Byron, am I in your way?" to which I replied, "damnably !" I was afterwards sorry, and reproached myself for the expression: but it escaped me unconsciously-involunta-rily; I hardly knew what I said.

heard afterwards that Mrs. Charlemont had been the means of poisoning Lady Noel's mind against me; that she had employed herself and others in watching me London, and had reported having traced me into a house in Portland There was one act of which I might place. justly have complained, and which was unworthy of any one but such a confidante. I allude to the breaking open my writing desk. A book was found in it that did not do much credit to my taste in literature, and some letters from a married woman with whom I had been intimate before my marriage. The use that was made of the latter was most unjustifiable, whatever may be thought of the breach of confidence that led to their discovery. Lady Byron sent them to the husband of the lady, who had the good sense to take no notice of their contents. The gravest accusation that has been made against me is that of having intrigued with Mrs. Mardyn in my own house; introduced her to my own table, etc. There never was a more unfounded calumny. Being on the Committee of Drury Lane Theatre, I have no doubt that several actresses called on me: but as to Mrs. Mardyn, who was a beautiful woman, acd might have been a dangerous visitress, I was scarcely acquainted (to speak) with her.

I had been shut up in a dark street in London, writing "The Siege of Corinth," and had refused myself to every one till it was finished. I was surprised one day by a doctor and a lawyer almost forcing themselves at the same time into my room. I did not know till afterwards the real object of their visit. I thought their questions singular, frivolous, and somewhat importunate, if not impertinent; but what should I have thought if I had known that they were sent to provide proofs of my insanity?

I have no doubt that my answers to these emissaries' interrogations were not very rational or consistent, for my imagination was heated by other things. But Dr. Bailey could not conscientiously make me out a certificate for Bedlam; and perhaps the lawyer gave a more favorable report to his employers. The doctor said afterwards he had been told that I always looked down when Lady Byron bent her eyes on me, and exhibited other symptoms equally infallible, particularly those that marked the late King's case so strongly. I do not, however, tax Lady Byron with this transaction; probably, she was not privy to it. She was the tool of others. Her mother always detested me; she had not even the decency to conceal it in her own house. Dining one day at Sir Ralph's who was a good sort of man, and of whom you may form some idea, when I tell you that a leg of mutton was always served at his table, that he might cut the same joke upon it), I broke a tooth and was in great pain, which I could not avoid showing. "It will do you good," said Lady Noel; "I am glad of it !" I gave her a look !

You ask if Lady Byron was ever in love with me-I have answered that question already-No! I was the fashion when she first came out.

LADY BYRON'S STORY

is told in a pamplet of fifteen pages, formerly printed in 1830. It was sent by the anthoress to Moore, who afterwards inserted it in the appendix of his "Life of Byron." The following are the essential portions of this statement:-

I have disregarded various publications in which facts within my own knowledge have been grossly misrepresented; but I am called upon to notice some of the erroneous state ments proceeding from one who claims to be considered as Lord Byron's confidential and authorized friend. Domestic details ought not to be intruded on the public attention; if, however, they are so intruded, the persons affected by them have a right to refute in-jurious charges. Mr. Moore has promulgated his own impressions of private events in which I was most nearly concerned, as if he possessed a competent knowledge of the subject. Having survived Lord Byron, I feel increased reluctance to advert to any circumstances connected with the period of my marriage; nor is it now my intention to disclose them, further than may be indispensably requisite for the end I have in view. Self-vindication is not the motive which actuates me to make this appeal, and the spirit of accusation is unmingled with it; but when the conduct of my parents is brought forward in a disgraceful light, by the passages selected from Lord Byron's letters, and by the remarks of his biographer, I feel bound to justify their characters from imputations which know to be false. The passages from Lord Byron's letters to which I refer are: -

The aspersion on my mother's character, p. 648, line 4:-*

"My child is very well and flourishing, I hear; but I must see also. I feel no disposition to resign it to the contagion of its grandmother's society."

The assertion of her dishonorable conduct in employing a spy, p. 645, line 7, etc .:-

"A Mrs. C. (now a kind of housekeeper and spy of Lady N. ") who, in her better days, was a washer-woman, is supposed to he-by the learned-very much the occult cause of our domestic discrepancies.

The seeming exculpation of myself in the extract, p. 646, with the words immediately following it :--

where the blank clearly implies something too offensive for publication.

These passages tend to throw suspicion on my parents, and give reason to ascribe the separation either to their direct agency, or o that of "officious spies" employed by them. From the following part of the narrative p. 642), it must also be inferred that an indue influence was exercised by them for the accomplishment of this purpose:---

"It was in a few weeks after the latter communication between us (Lord Byron and Mr. Moore), that Lady Byron adopted the determination of parting from him. She had left London at the latter end of John him, she had jelf Johdon at the taiter end of January on a visit to her fainer's house, in Leices-tershire, and Lord Byron was in a short time to fol-low her. They had parted in the atmost kindness; she wrote him a letter full of playfulness and affec-tion, on the road, and immediately on her arrival at kirkby Mallory her father wrote to acquaint Lord hyron that she would return to him no more."

In my observations upon this statement, I shall, as far as possible, avoid touching on any matters relating personally to Lord Byron and myself. The facts are:- I left London for Kirkby Mallory, the residence of my father and mother, on the 15th of January, 1816. Lord Byron had signified to me in writing (January 6th) his absolute desire that I should leave London on the earliest day that I could conveniently fix. It was not safe for me to undertake the fatigue of a journey sooner than the 15th.

Previously to my departure, it had been strongly impressed on my mind that Lord Byron was under the influence of insanity. This opinion was derived in a great measure from the communications made to me by his nearest relatives and personal attendant, who had more opportunities than myself of observing him during the latter part of my stav in town It was even repres that he was in danger of destroying himself. With the concurrence of his family, I had consulted Dr. Baillie, as a friend (January 8), respecting this supposed malady. On ac-quainting him with the state of the case and with Lord Byron's desire that I should leave London, Dr. Baillie thought that my absence might be advisable as an experiment, assuming the fact of mental derangement, for Dr. Bail-lie, not having had access to Lord Byron, could not pronounce a positive opinion on that point. He enjoined that in correspondence with Lord Byron, I should avoid all but light and soothing topics. Under these im-pressions, I left London determined to follow the advice given by Dr. Baillie. Whatever might have been the nature of Lord Byron's conduct towards me from the time of my marriage, yet supposing him to be in a state of mental alienation, it was not for me, nor for any person of common humanity, to manifest at that moment a sense of injury. On the day of my departure, and again on my arrival at Kirkby (Janury 16th), I wrote to Lord Byron in a kind and cheerful tone, according to these medical directions. The last letter was circulated, and employed as a pretext for the charge of my having been subsequently influ-enced to "desert" my husband. It has been argued that I parted from Lord Byron in perfect harmony; that feelings incompatible with any deep sense of injury had dictated the letter which I addressed to him; and that my little girl of nine years of age, named Hato sentiments must have been changed by persussion and interference, when I was under the roof of my parents. These assertions and inferences are wholly destitute of foundation. When I arrived at Kirkby Mallory, my parents were unacquainted with the existence of any causes likely to destroy my prospects of happiness; and when I communicated to them the opinion which had been formed concerning Lord Byron's state of mind, they were most anxious to promote his restoration by overy means in their power. They assured those relations who were with him in London, that "they would devote their whole care and attention to the alleviation of his malady," and hoped to make the best arrangements for his comfort if he could be induced to visit them. With these intentions my mother wrote on the 17th to Lord Byron, inviting him to Kirkby Mallory. She had always treated him with an affectionate consideration and indulgence, which extended to every little peculiarity of his feelings. Never did an irritating word, escape her lips in her whole intercourse with him. The accounts given me after I left Lord Byron by the parsons in constant intercourse with him, added to those doubts which had before transiently occurred to my mind, as am. to the reality of the alleged disease: and the reports of his medical attendant were far from establishing the existence of anything like lunacy. Under this uncertainty, I deemed it right to communicate to my pa-rents, that if I were to consider Lord Byron's past conduct as that of a person of sound mind, nothing could induce me to return to him. It therefore appeared expedient both to them and myself to consult the ablest

advisers. For that object, and also to obtain still further information respecting the ap-pearances which seemed to indicate mental derangement, my mother determined to go to London. She was empowered by me to take legal opinions on a written statement of mine, though I had then reasons for reserv-ing a part of the case from the knowledge even of my father and mother.

Being convinced by the result of these inquiries, and by the tenor of Lord Byron's proceedings, that the notion of insanity was an illusion, I no longer hesitated to authorize such measures as were necessary, in order to secure me from being ever again placed in his power. Conformably with this resolution my father wrote to him on the 2d of February to propose an amicable separation. Lord Byron at first rejected this proposal; but when it was distinctly notified to kim, that if he persisted in his refusal, recourse must be had to legal measures, he agreed to sign a deed of separation. Upon applying to Dr. Lushington, who was intimately acquainted with all the cir-cumstances, to state in writing what he recollected upon this subject, I received from him the following letter, by which it will be manifest that my mother cannot have been actuated by any hostile or ungenerous motives towards Lord Byron :--

Belleve me, very faithfully, yours, "Great George street, Jan. 31, 1830."

I have only to observe that, if the state-ments on which my legal advisers (the late Sir Samuel Romilly and Dr. Lushington) formed their opinions were false, the responsibility and the odium should rest with me only. I trust that the facts which I have here

briefly recapitulated, will absolve my father and mother from all accusations with regard to the part they took in the separation between Lord Byron and myself. They neither originated, instigated, nor advised that separation; and they cannot be condemned for having afforded to their daughter the assistance and protection which she claimed. There is no other near relative to vindicate their memory from insult. I am, therefore, compelled to break the silence which I had hoped always to observe, and to solicit from the readers of Lord Byron's life an impartial consideration of the testimony extorted from A. I. NOEL BYRON.

BYRON'S LAST LETTER TO HIS

From "Recollections of the Last Days of Shelley and Byron." By E. J. Trelawny. London: 1858.

A letter from his half-sister, Augusta Leigh, was on his writing-table. This lady was the only relation Byron had, or at least acknowledged; and he always spoke of her in the most affectionate terms. He was in the act of writing to her when he was taken ill. This unfinished letter I copied, as the original would run many risks of being lost before it reached its destination. It is interesting as the last of Byron's writings—as an index, too, of his real and inward feelings.

script of one from Lady Byron, with a minute mental and physical account of their child,

was struck with the resemblance of parts of

it to the paternal line, even now. "But it is also fit, though unpleasant, that I should mention, that my recent attack-and a very severe one-had a strong appearance of epilepsy; why, I know not, for it is late in life. Its first appearance at thirty-siz, and, so far as I know, it is not hereditary; and it is that it may not become so, that you should tell Lady Byron to take some precautions in the case of Ada. UNSETTLED CLAIMS, INCOMP. 1,193,845 40

"My attack has not returned, and I am fighting it off with abstinence and exercise, and thus far with success-if merely casual, it is all very well.



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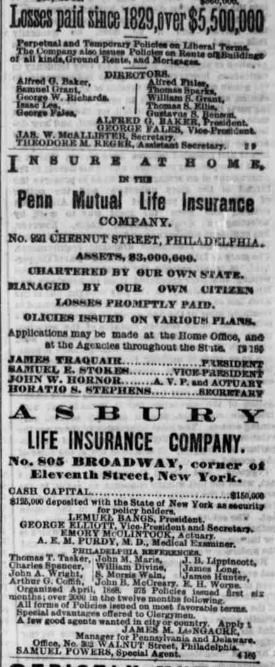
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His sister's letter contained a long tran-

Hanger Hill, Feb. 19, 1830.

SISTER.

a ring of my mothers, that had been lost was dug up by the gardener at Newstead. I thought it was sent on purpose for the wedding; but my mother's marriage had not been a fortunate one, and this ring was doomed to be the seal of an unhappier union still.

After the ordeal was over, we set off for a country-seat of Sir Ralph's (Lady B.'s father), and I was suprised at the arrangements for the journey, and somewhat out of humor, to find the lady's maid stuck between me and my bride. It was rather too early to assume the husband; so I was forced to submit, but it was not with a very good grace. I have been accused of saying, on getting into the car-ringe, that I had married Lady Byron out of spite, and because she had refused me twice. Though I was for a moment vexed at her prudery, or whatever you may choose to call it, if I had made so uncavalier, not to say brutal a speech, I am convinced Lady Byron would instantly have left the carriage to me and the maid. She had spirit enough to have done so, and would properly have resented the affront. Our honeymoon was not all sunshine; it had its clouds, and Hobhouse has some letters which would serve to explain the rise and fall in the barometer, but it was never down at zero.

You tell me the world says I married Miss Milbanke for her fortune, because she was a great heiress. All I have ever received, or am likely to receive (and that has been twice paid back, too), was £10,000. My own income at this period was small, and somewhat bespoke. Newstead was a very unprofitable estate, and brought me in a bare £1500 a year; the Lancashire property was hampered with a law suit, which has cost me £14,000. and is not yet finished.

We had a house in town, gave dinner-parties, had separate carriages and launched into every sort of extravagance. This could not last long; my wife's ten thousand pounds soon melted away. I was beset by duns, and at length an execution was levied, and the bailings put in possession of the very beds we had to sleep on. This was no very agreeable as a suffering angel-an incarnation of all the state of affairs, no very pleasant scene for virtues and perfections of the ser. I was Lady Byron to witness; and it was agreed she should pay her father a visit till the storm had blown over, and some arrangement had .

been made with my creditors. You may suppose on what terms we parted, from the style of a letter she wrote me on the road: you will think it hegan ridiculously enough-"Dear Duck !"

Imagine my astonishment to receive, immediately on her arrival in London, a few lines from her father of a very dry and unaffectionate nature, beginning, "Sir," and ending with saying that his daughter should never see me again.

In my reply I disclaimed his authority as a parent over my wife, and told him I was convinced the sentiments expressed were his, not hers. Another post, however, brought me a confirmation (under her own hand and seal) of her father's sentence. I afterwards learnt 'from Fletcher's (my valet's) wife, who was at that time femme-de-chambre to Lady Byron, that after her definite resolution was taken, and the fatal letter consigned to the post office, she sent to withdraw it, and was in hysteries of joy that it was not too late. It seems, however, that

etter of Brodern and a set of the set of the

I had the character of being a great rake, and was a great dandy-both of which young ladies like. She married me from vanity and the hope of reforming and fixing me. She was a spoiled child, and naturally of a jealous disposition; and this was increased by the infernal machinations of those in her confidence.

She was easily made the dupe of the designing, for she thought her knowledge of mankind infallible. She had got some foolish idea of Madame de Stael in her head, that a person may be better known in the first hour than in ten years. She had the habit of drawing people's characters after she had seen them once or twice. She wrote pages on pages about my character, but it was as unlike as possible. Lady Byron had good ideas, but could

never express them; wrote poetry too, but it was only good by accident. Her letters were always enigmatical, often unintelligible. She was governed by what she called fixed rales and principles, squared mathematically. She would have made an excellent wrangler at Cambridge. It must be confessed, however, that she gave no proof of her boasted consistency. First she refused me, then she accepted me, then she separated herself from me. So much for consistency. I need not tell you of the obloquy and opprotell brium that were cast upon my name when our separation was made public. I once made a list from the journals of the day, of the different worthies, an-cient and modern, to whom I was compared. I remember a few :- Nero, Apicius, Epicurns, Caligula, Heliogabalus, Henry the Eighth, and lastly the _____. All my former friends, even my cousin George Byron, who had been brought up with me, and whom I loved as a brother, took my wife's part. I was looked upon as the worst of husbands, the most abandoned and wicked of men, and my wife abused in the public prints, made the common talk of private companies, hissed as I went to the House of Lords, insulted in the streets, afraid to go to the theatre, whence the unfortunate Mrs. Mardyn had been driven with insult. The Examiner was the only paper that dared say a word in my defense, and Lady Jersey the only person in the fashionable world that did not look upon me as a monster.

In addition to all these mortifications, my affairs were irretrievably involved, and almost so as to make me what they wished. I was compelled to part with Newstead, which I never could have ventured to sell in my mother's lifetime. As it is, I shall never forgive myself for having done so; though I am told that the estate would not now bring half as much as I got for it. This does not at all reconcile me to having parted with the old Abbey. I did not make up my mind to this step but from the last necessity. I had my wife's portion to repay, and was determined to add £10,000 more of my own to it, which I did. The moment I had put my affairs in train, and in little more than 18 months after my marriage, I left England, an involthey did not last long, or that she was after- ; untary exile, intending it should be forever.

No. 40 Bouth THIRD Street.

"(The references throughout are, of course, to the first edition, in quarte, published in 1830.- E0.)

1.00

Ada. Lady Byron's letter mentioned a profile of the child. * * *

This unfinished letter was the last of Byron's writings; it is to his half-sister, Augusta Leigh:-"MISSOLONGHI, Feb. 23, 1824.-My Dearest

Augusta, I received a few days ago your and Lady Byron's report of Ada's health, with other letters from England, for which I ought to be, and am (I hope) sufficiently thankful, as they are of great comfort, and I wanted some, having been recently unwell, but am now much better, so that you must not be alarmed. You will have heard of our journeys and escapes and so forthperhaps with some exaggeration; but it is all very well now, and I have been some time in Greece, which is in as good a state as could be expected, considering circumstances. But I will not plague you with politics, wars, or earthquakes, though we have had a rather smart one three nights ago, which produced a scene ridiculous enough, as no damage was done, except to those who stuck fast in the scuffle to get first out of the doors or windows; amongst whom some recent importations from England, who had been used to quieter elements, were rather squeezed in the press for precedence.

"I have been obtaining the release of about nine and-twenty Turkish prisoners -men, women, and children, and have or Hatagee, has expressed a strong wish to remain with me or under my care; and I have nearly determined to adopt her, if I thought that Lady Byron would let her come to England as a companion to Ada. They are about the same age, and we could easily provide for her; if not, I can send her to Italy for education. She is very lively and quick, and with great black Oriental eyes and Asiatic features. All her brothers were killed in the revolution. Her mother wishes to return to her husband. who is at Previsa, but says that she would rather entrust the child to me in the present state of the country. Her extreme youth and sex have hitherto saved her life, but there is no saying what might happen in the course of the war, and of such a war. I shall probably commit her to the care of some English lady in the islands for the present. The child herself has the same wish, and seems to have a decided character for her

You can mention this matter, if you think it worth while. I merely wish her to be respectably educated and treated; and if my cars and all things be considered, I presume it would be difficult to conceive me to have any other views.

With regard to Ada's health, glad to hear that she is so much better; but I think it right that Lady Byron should be informed, and guard against it accordingly, that her description of much of her disposition and tendencies very nearly resembles that of my own at a similar age, except that I was much more im-petuous. Her preference of prose (strange as it may seem) was, and indeed is, mine (for I hate reading verse, and always did); and I never invented anything but boats, ships, and generally something relative to the ocean. showed the report to Colonel Stanhope, who

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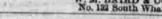
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