

wrist. I cried out, but he would not let me go; and here we are, having come before your worship, I holding my money in my hand, and he still grasping my wrist. Now, I swear by the prophet, that this man is a liar, when he says that I stole his money, for the money is truly mine own.'

Then spoke the oil merchant:—

'This man came to purchase oil from me. When his bottle was filled, he said, 'Have you change for a piece of gold?' I searched my pocket, and drew out my hand full of money, which I laid on a bench in my shop. He seized it, and was walking off with my money and my oil, when I caught him by the wrist, and cried out 'Robber!' In spite of my cries, however, he would not surrender the money, so I brought him here that your worship might decide the case. Now, I swear by the prophet, that this man is a liar, when he says that I want to steal his money, for it is truly mine own.'

The Cadi caused each plaintiff to repeat his story, but neither varied one jot from his original statement. He reflected for a moment and then said, 'Leave the money with me and return to-morrow.'

The butcher placed the coins, which he had never let go, on the edge of the Cadi's mantle. After which he and his opponent bowed to the tribunal and departed.

It was now the turn of Bou-Akas and the cripple.

'My lord Cadi,' said the former, 'I came hither from a distant country with the intention of purchasing merchandize. At the city gate I met this cripple, who first asked for alms, and then prayed me to allow him to ride behind me through the streets, lest he should be trodden down in the crowd. I consented, but when we reached the market-place, he refused to get down, asserting that my horse belonged to him, and that your worship would surely adjudge it to him who wanted it most. That, my lord Cadi, is precisely the state of the case—I swear it by Mahomet!'

'My lord,' said the cripple, 'as I was coming on business to the market, and riding this horse, which belongs to me, I saw this man seated by the road-side, apparently half dead from fatigue. I good-naturedly offered to take him on the crupper, and let him ride as far as the market-place, and he eagerly thanked me, but what was my astonishment, when, on our arrival, he refused to get down, and said that my horse was his. I immediately required him to appear before your worship, in order that you might decide between us. That is the true state of the case; I swear it by Mahomet!'

Having made each repeat his deposition, and having reflected for a moment, the Cadi said, 'Leave the horse here, and return to-morrow.'

It was done, and Bou-Akas and the cripple withdrew in different directions. On the morrow, a number of persons besides those immediately interested in the trials, assembled to hear the judge's decisions.

The taleb and the peasant were called first.

'Take away thy wife, said the Cadi to the former, 'and keep her, I advise thee, in good order.'

Then turning towards his chinaux, he added, pointing to the peasant,—'Give this man fifty blows.'

He was instantly obeyed, and the taleb

carried off his wife.

Then came forward the oil-merchant and the butcher.

'Here,' said the Cadi to the butcher, 'is thy money; it is truly thine, and not his.'—Then pointing to the oil-merchant, he said to his chinaux, 'Give this man fifty blows.'

It was done, and the butcher went away in triumph with his money.

The third case was called, and Bou-Akas and the cripple came forward.

'Wouldst thou recognize thy horse among twenty others?' said the judge to Bou-Akas.

'Yes, my lord.'

'And thou?'

'Certainly, my lord,' replied the cripple.

'Follow me,' said the Cadi to Bou-Akas.

They entered a large stable, and Bou-Akas pointed out his horse amongst twenty which were standing side by side.

'Tis well,' said the judge. 'Return now to the tribunal, and send thine adversary hither.'

The disguised Scheik obeyed, delivered his message, and the cripple hastened to the stable, as quickly as his distorted limbs allowed. He possessed quick eyes and a good memory, so that he was able, without the slightest hesitation, to place his hand on the right animal.

'Tis well,' said the Cadi; 'return to the tribunal.'

His worship resumed his place, and when the cripple arrived, judgment was pronounced.

'The horse is thine,' said the Cadi to Bou-Akas. 'Go to the stable and take him.'—Then to the chinaux, 'Give this cripple fifty blows.'

It was done, and Bou-Akas went to take his horse.

When the Cadi, after concluding the business of the day, was retiring to his house, he found Bou-Akas waiting for him.

'Art thou discontented with my award?' asked the judge.

'No, quite the contrary,' replied the Scheik. 'But I want to ask by what inspiration thou hast rendered justice; for I doubt not that the other two cases were decided as capitally as mine. I am not a merchant; I am Bou-Akas, Scheik of Ferdj'Onah, and I wanted to judge for myself of thy reputed wisdom.'

The Cadi bowed to the ground, and kissed his master's hand.

'I am anxious,' said Bou-Akas, 'to know the reasons which determined your three decisions.'

'Nothing, my lord, can be more simple.—Your highness saw that I detained for a night the three things in dispute?'

'I did.'

'Well, early in the morning I caused the woman to be called, and I said to her suddenly—'Put fresh ink in my inkstand.' Like a person who had done the same thing a hundred times before, she took the bottle, removed the cotton, washed them both, put in the cotton again, and poured in fresh ink, doing it all with the utmost neatness and dexterity. So I said to myself, 'A peasant's wife would know nothing about inkstands—she must belong to the taleb.'

'Good,' said Bou-Akas, nodding his head. 'And the money?'

'Did your highness remark, that the merchant had his clothes and hands covered with oil?'

'Certainly I did.'

'Well, I took the money, and placed it in a vessel filled with water. This morning I looked at it, and not a particle of oil was to be seen on the surface of the water. So I said to myself, 'If this money belonged to the oil-merchant, it would be greasy, from the touch of his hands; as it is not so, the butcher's story must be true.'

Bou-Akas nodded in token of approval.

'Good,' said he. 'And my horse?'

'Ah! that was a different business; and, until this morning, I was greatly puzzled.'

'The cripple, I suppose, did not recognize the animal?'

'On the contrary, he pointed him out immediately.'

'How then did you discover that he was not the owner?'

'My object in bringing you separately to the stable, was not to see whether you would know the horse, but whether the horse would acknowledge you. Now, when you approached him, the creature turned towards you, laid back his ears, and neighed with delight; but when the cripple touched him, he kicked. Then I knew that you were truly his master.'

Bou-Akas thought for a moment, and then said:—

'Allah has given thee great wisdom. Thou oughtest to be in my place, and I in thine. And yet, I know not; thou art certainly worthier to be Scheik, but I fear that I should but badly fill thy place as Cadi!'—[Dickens's Household Works.]

From the American Celt and Adopted Citizen, Boston, April 19.

ENGLISH INTRIGUES IN AMERICA.

AN INTERCEPTED DESPATCH FROM BOLWER TO PALMERSTON.

[The accident by which a copy of the following despatch came into our possession, it is not advisable we should explain at present. We have read it with feelings our readers can as easily imagine as they will be certain to share. It is fortunate for them, and for us all, that such a document should come to light, just at this moment, when English intrigue is more rife on this Continent, from Nicaragua to Nova Scotia, than it has been at any period since the war of 1812.—Ed. Celt and Citizen.]

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1851.

MY LORD: I am in possession of your Lordship's despatch, (No. 2,509,) by which you request a resume of my negotiations for the instruction of yourself or successors in office, and also informing me that her Majesty has been pleased to confer upon me the Grand Cross of the Bath.

This honor, in addition to those I have hitherto received from our gracious sovereign, is the more precious to me from the kind manner in which your Lordship has conveyed it, and your sense of my poor abilities.

I think I can assure her Majesty's government that the interests of England were at no time, since or before the "Revolution," in a more satisfactory condition on this continent, than they are at the present moment.

The country is paralyzed by many parties. The two old ones, after existing half a century, have split into a variety of fragments, known by a diversity of local names.