

The Maitland Mercury
&
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July 22, 1855

Peter Lisle's Progress.

Peter Lisle, being the mate of a ship, quarrelled with his captain, went ashore at Tripoli, and hired himself to the Pasha. He was appointed gunner of the castle. Associated with a strange people, he readily conformed to their manners and customs, embraced Mohammedan tenets, at least in appearance, and assumed the name of Mourad Reis.

About 1794 he was nominated captain of a xebeck mounting about eighteen guns, and in the course of time, by his naval skill and abilities, became the High Admiral of the Tripoline fleet and Minister of Marine. He married one of the Bashaw's daughters, had a fine family and enjoyed an ample income. Besides a house in the city, he had a villa and gardens in the Heshian among the date groves, which exhibited evidence of great taste and care, and were enriched with many trees of various species, brought by him from different places at which he touched in Europe.

He was a prudent and sagacious counsellor, gave excellent advice to the Bashaw, which was always based on good common sense, a quality not superabundant in the Divan, and was of great service to Lord Exmouth during his Algerine expedition. His appearance was venerable, he dressed richly, commanded much respect, and when addressing British officers, whom he always treated with great courtesy and hospitality, spoke with a broad Scotch accent, and sometimes entertained them with a relation of his own stirring adventures.

He was unpopular at times, as great politicians sometimes are. When the Pasha fell, Lisle retired to Sfax, in Tunis, and was no more seen. But, in the zenith of his glory, he used to sail gallantly into the Bay of Gibraltar, and fire a salute of four guns in honour of his uncle, Sergeant Blyth, of the Sappers and Miners; but, as he saluted like a pirate, with a shot in front of his powder, and once aimed too well over the parade, Sergeant Blyth ceased to enjoy the demonstration.

Conolly's History of the Sappers and Miners.

PETER LISLE'S PROGRESS.—Peter Lisle, being the mate of a ship, quarrelled with his captain, went ashore at Tripoli, and hired himself to the Pasha. He was appointed gunner of the castle. Associated with a strange people, he readily conformed to their manners and customs, embraced Mohammedan tenets, at least in appearance, and assumed the name of Mourad Reis. About 1794 he was nominated captain of a xebeck mounting about eighteen guns, and in the course of time, by his naval skill and abilities, became the High Admiral of the Tripoline fleet and Minister of Marine. He married one of the Bashaw's daughters, had a fine family and enjoyed an ample income. Besides a house in the city, he had a villa and gardens in the Heshian among the date groves, which exhibited evidence of great taste and care, and were enriched with many trees of various species, brought by him from different places at which he touched in Europe. He was a prudent and sagacious counsellor, gave excellent advice to the Bashaw, which was always based on good common sense, a quality not superabundant in the Divan, and was of great service to Lord Exmouth during his Algerine expedition. His appearance was venerable, he dressed richly, commanded much respect, and when addressing British officers, whom he always treated with great courtesy and hospitality, spoke with a broad Scotch accent, and sometimes entertained them with a relation of his own stirring adventures. He was unpopular at times, as great politicians sometimes are. When the Pasha fell, Lisle retired to Sfax, in Tunis, and was no more seen. But, in the zenith of his glory, he used to sail gallantly into the Bay of Gibraltar, and fire a salute of four guns in honour of his uncle, Sergeant Blyth, of the Sappers and Miners; but, as he saluted like a pirate, with a shot in front of his powder, and once aimed too well over the parade, Sergeant Blyth ceased to enjoy the demonstration.—*Conolly's History of the Sappers and Miners.*

A NOBLE SENTIMENT.—Charles Mills, of the 14th Regiment of Foot, writes to his cousin from before Sebastopol:—"We have a great talk