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E PLURIBUS UNUM.

By SYLVANUS URBAN Gent.

L O N D O N :

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ACCOUNT of the Young Pretender's Escape after the Battle of Culloden.

THAT decisive engagement was fought on the 16th of April, 1746, in which the pretender had his horse shot under him, by one of the troopers in the king's service, as he was endeavouring to rally his people. After his forces were entirely defeated, he retired to the house of a factor of Ld L—v—t, about ten miles from *Inverness*, where meeting with that lord, he stay'd supper. After supper was over he set out for Fort *Augustus*, and pursued his journey next day to *Invergarry*, where he proposed to have dined, but finding no victuals, he set a boy to fishing, who caught two salmon, on which he made a dinner, and continued waiting there for some of his troops, who had promised to rendezvous at that place; but being disappointed, he resolved to proceed to *Lochharcige*.

He arrived there on the 18th, at two in the morning, where he went to sleep, which he had not done for five days and nights. He remained there till five o'clock in the afternoon, in hopes of obtaining some intelligence; but gaining none, he set out from thence on foot, and travelled to the Glen of *Morar*, where he arrived the 19th at four in the morning. He set out about noon the same day for *Arrashag*, where he arrived about four in the afternoon. He remained there about seven days, waiting for Capt. *O'Neil*, who joined him on the 27th, and informed him, that there was no hopes of drawing his troops together again in a body; upon which he resolved to go to *Stornway*, in order to hire a ship to go to *France*.

The person employ'd for this purpose was one *Donald M'Leod*, who had an interest there. On the 28th he went on board an eight-oar'd boat, in company with *Sullivan* and *O'Neil*, ordering the people who belong'd to the boat to make the best haste they could to *Stornway*. The night proving very tempestuous, they all begg'd of him to go back, which he would not do, but, to keep up the spirits of the people, he sang them a Highland song; but the weather growing worse and worse, on the 29th, about seven in the morning, they were driven on shore, on a point of land called *Rushness*, in the island of *Benbicula*, where, when they got on shore, the pretender helped to make a fire to warm the crew, who were almost starved to death with cold. On the 30th, at six in the evening, they set sail again for *Stornway*, but meeting with another storm, were obliged to put into the island of *Scalpa*, in the *Harris*, where they all went on shore to a farmer's house, passing for merchants that were shipwreck'd in their voyage to the *Orkneys*; the pretender and *Sullivan* going by the names of *Sinclair*, the latter passing for the father, and the former his son.

They thought proper to send from thence to *Donald M'Leod* at *Stornway*, with instructions to freight a ship

for the *Orkneys*. On the 3d of *May* they received a message from him, that a ship was ready. On the 4th they set out on foot for that place, where they arrived on the 5th about noon, and meeting with *Donald M'Leod*, they found that he had got into company, where growing drunk, he had told a friend of his for whom he had hired the ship: upon which there were 200 people in arms at *Stornway*, upon a report that the pretender was landed with 500 men, and was coming to burn the town; so that were obliged to lie all night upon the moor, with no other refreshment than biscuit and brandy.

On the 6th they resolved to go in the eight-oar'd boat to the *Orkneys*, but the crew refused to venture, so that they were obliged to steer south along the coast-side, where they met with two *English* ships, and this compell'd them to put into a desert island, where they remained till the 10th, without any provision but some salt-fish they found upon the island. About ten in the morning of that day they embarked for the *Harris*, and at break of day on the 11th they were chased by an *English* ship, but made their escape among the rocks. About four in the afternoon they arrived at the island of *Benbicula*, where they staid till the 14th, and then set out for the mountain of *Currada* in *South Uist*, where they staid till the militia of the isle of *Sky* came to the island *Irasky*, and then sailed for the island of *Uia*, where they remained three nights, till having intelligence that the militia were coming towards *Benbicula*, they immediately got into their boat, and sailed for *Lochbusdale*; but being met by some ships of war, they were obliged to return to *Lochagnart*, where they remained all day, and at night sailed for *Lochbusdale*, where they arrived, and staid eight days on a rock, making a tent of the sail of the boat.

They found themselves there in a most dreadful situation; for having intelligence that Capt. *Scot* had landed at *Kilbride*, the company was obliged to separate, and the pretender and *O'Neil* went to the mountains, where they remained all night, and soon after were informed that General *Campbell* was at *Bernary*; so that now they had forces very near, on both sides of them, and were absolutely at a loss which way to move. In their road they met with a young lady, one Miss *M'Donald*, to whom Capt. *O'Neil* proposed assisting the pretender to make his escape, which at first she refused; but upon his offering to put on woman's cloaths, she consented, and desired them to go to the mountain of *Currada* till she sent for them, where they accordingly staid two days; but hearing nothing from the young lady, the pretender concluded she would not keep her word, and therefore resolved to send Capt. *O'Neil* to Gen. *Campbell*, to let him know he was willing to surrender to him; but about five in the evening a message came from the young lady, desiring them to meet her at *Rushness*. Being afraid to pass by the Ford, because of the militia, they luckily found a boat, which carried them to the other side of

Uia, where they remained part of the day, afraid of being seen by the country people. In the evening they set out for *Rashness*, and arrived there at twelve at night; but not finding the young lady, and being alarmed by a boatful of militia, they were obliged to retire two miles back, where the pretender remained on a moor till *O'Neil* went to the young lady, and prevailed upon her to come to the place appointed at night-fall of the next day. About an hour after they had an account of Gen. *Campbell's* arrival at *Benbicula*, which obliged them to move to another part of the island, where, as the day broke, they discovered four sail close on the shore, making directly up to the place where they were; so that there was nothing left for

them to do, but to throw themselves among the heath. When the wherries were gone, they resolved to go to *Clanronalds* house; but when they were within a mile of it, they heard Gen. *Campbell* was there, which forced them to retreat again; and soon after *O'Neil* was taken, and we have no account of the pretender's proceedings afterwards.

See a further account of the young pretender's motions in *Aug. Magazine*, p. 429 E, 375 B, 428 B, C; also in the *Hist. Chron.* of this month, under article SCOTLAND.

Continued p. 554 from the London Gazette.

Historical Chronicle, *October 1746.*

Further particulars relating to the escape of the young pretender. See p. 531.

From the London Gazette.

*Fort William,
Sept. 21*

There is an account from the braes of Locharkieg, that last *Tuesday*, about 12 o'clock, the pretender's son embarked on board a *French* ship of war in the same loch, in Moydart, where he first landed, attended by the following persons,—*Macpherson* of *Clunie*, with others of his clan, *Cameron* of *Lochiel*, Dr *Cameron* his brother, *Ludovick Cameron*, of *Tor-Castle*, *Allan Cameron*, and *Macdonald* of *Lochgary*, with many others, whose names were not known. *Macdonald* of *Barrisdale* was said to have gone on board before the pretender's son got to the ships. *Gaz.*

Plymouth, Oct. 10. This day arriv'd a cartel ship from *St Malo's*, the captain of which reports, that the 29th past, the pretender's eldest son, with about 30 of his followers, landed about three leagues to the westward of *Morlaix*, at *Roscort*, in the *Happy* privateer, of 30 guns and 300 men, and the prince of *Conti* privateer of 22 guns and 240 men in company, both which were fitted out for that service, at the expense of the *French* king, from *St Malo's*. The pretender's son with all his followers, were very bare of cloaths. They came round the land's end, and were chased one afternoon, but thick weather coming on saved them, otherwise they owned they must have been taken. *Gaz.*

Extract of a letter from Inverary, Sept. 30.

On the 6th instant, two *French* ships of force came to anchor at *Loch Emanua*, and next day four gentlemen landed to enquire for some of the chiefs of the rebels, and employ'd *Hugh Macdonald* of *Keppoch*, to go in quest of them, and then returned to their ships. On the 8th they landed again, *Hugh* having brought *Barrisdale*

and his son to them. The gentlemen desir'd to have guides to Dr *Cameron*, *Lochiel's* brother, which they got, and were not heard of for several days. Mean time, young *Clanronald*, *Lochgary*, *Macdonald* of *Glenalladel*, *Macdonald* of *Dalela*, and his two brothers, the second *Barrisdale* and his son, and some say *Steuart* of *Ardshiel*, and four gentlemen from *Appin*, went on board. And on the 17th *Macdonald* of *Keppoch*, with one arm, and lame of a leg, with 3 gentlemen from the low country.—On the 19th came the young pretender, in a bad state of health, dress'd in a shirt coat of black freeze, trews, and philibeg over them, with a grey plaid; and along with him *Lochiel*, Dr *Cameron*, and *Ludovick Cameron*, *Macpherson* of *Cluny*, with the four gentlemen who had landed before, and ten or twelve persons more; and it is said about 100 common men. The gentlemen, as well as commons, were frequently seen to weep, tho' they boasted of being back soon with an invincible force. *Edinb. Courant.*