

**THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF
HENRY NEWCOME,
M.A., IN TWO VOLUMES,
VOL. II, PP. 185-375**

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HENRY NEWCOME & RICHARD PARKINSON

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AUTOBIOGRAPHY
OF
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But no sooner was I come home, but one was ready here from Dublin, (who had waited from Saturday,) with a letter thence, which acquainted me with the death of my dear friend Mr. Baines; and with a call from his people to come to them. I could not but wonder at the thing.

On the Friday, June 10th, Mr. Illingworth went with me to Denton, where we dined; and Mr. Angier went with us to Mr. Harrison, (who is weak and yet alive,) and I took their advice about this new business. And they seemed to incline that I should keep it private, if I could, and slip over to Dublin to see how matters were. Monday, therefore, July 4th, being the first time I could resolve on to set forward, I resolved to be going that day; though Mr. Daniel Serjaunt, who was to go with me, and Gilbert Low, who had come over for me and stayed to go with me, when it came to the point, were not just ready. It pleased God to order it, that I went out hence about one of the clock. Mr. Buxton kindly brought me over Irlom Water; there we stayed two hours for John Wolfendine, who had my portmanteau, and was to come after me. I then went on alone to Warrington. Late at night he came in to me; and about four o'clock the next morning we got up, and went towards Liverpool. Came thither about nine. All the ships were gone out the night before, only Owner Fornby, in the Supply, was just taking up his anchors as we light. This was told us as we lighted off our horses.

On July 25th, Monday, [at Dublin] the people at a full meeting gave me their call, which I only could take into consideration. On July 26th, Mr. Pares came in and told me of a ship going to Jamaica, and I wrote a few lines to Daniel. And this night at ten o'clock, with Alderman Preston, I went down to Ring's-end, and soon after we went aboard Capt. Philpot. Had much comfort and sweet society with Ald. Preston and Ald. Reader. We came to Daw Poole on Friday morning, where I parted with my kind friend Ald. Preston, he going for Chester, and I came with Ald. Reader for Liverpool—[Alderman] Enoch Reader, Lord Mayor elect for Dublin, an ingenious person and godly. And it was a mercy that I should

get ready by four o'clock to come out of Liverpool, and just light of Mr. Bradshaw of Lime and Mr. Jo. Swinton coming home-wards, and so I had their company, and also stayed with Mr. Bradshaw all night; and the next morning early set out and came to Hulme by eight of the clock, and found that my sister and Betty were come home the night before. And it being market-day, I thought I should be too much tossed with company, and wanting sleep, and therefore I sent for my wife and children to me; and they soon came, and we had great joy in our meeting, and being so well as we were. The 30th of July I came in safety home again.

I was tossed in my thoughts this week about this affair. I found this people in great sorrow and unwillingness at the thoughts of my going, and it was grievous to me to think to leave them in sorrow. But I was the next week taken off all thoughts of it by a strange providence. On Saturday night, August 6th, I went to Mr. Buxton's, and he sent for the Private Intelligence, and in it there was a blind passage which intimated that the man-of-war that went in company with the ships wherein Daniel went, it and another man-of-war was set upon by the Turks, and both the Captains slain, and the ships came off to Cadiz. I said nothing to any one but bore the sorrow to myself, but forthwith wrote to Mr. Samuel Ashurst to have him inquire, and to send me a speedy account. I did (and but rationally) conclude that in all likelihood, if the men-of-war were escaped with this loss, the merchant ships might be taken. And for several nights my heart was disquieted in the thoughts of the miserable captivity of my poor child; which might put me in mind of thinking at the many hundreds of our poor countrymen that are in slavery, to pity them and pray for them more than we do. On the Thursday I went to Dunham, and there saw the Gazette, which tells the story more fully: That seven Turkish men-of-war set upon them two ships, and other merchant ships, near the Cape de Gat; and that the Captains were slain, but they fought it out two days, and the Turks were glad to desist from their engagement. This satisfied me that there might

be no captivity in the case; but then I knew not but that my child might be killed in the fight: and so it rested with me till Saturday. Then going to Trafford, I discoursed of that part of the news, and Mr. Trafford shewed me that the Cape de Gat was in the midst of the Mediterranean, and one hundred and fifty miles within the Straits; by which it was apparent that the Amity bound for Tangier was gone off before. By the post, I had the same account from Mr. Ashurst. Then I told the reason of my trouble and sorrow that week, and how the Lord had delivered me from my fear; which I desired to be greatly thankful for. I had after, when I looked not for it, letters from Daniel, dated July 10th and 14th. And in the latter he gives an account of the former passage, which happened the Lord's day, after they were come to Tangier. These letters came to us September 8th and 17th.

August 10. Poor James Boardman's wife in labour; and upon his request, with tears, to pray for her, I did humbly seek the Lord for her.

On Sabbath day, August 14th, a Scotch lord, Lord Melvin, Mr. Aton, laird of Innis Darly, Dr. Tonstal, and Mr. Hickson of Leeds, were with me, between sermons; and I supped with them and Mr. Fairfax at Mr. Eccles's.

After my trouble was over about Daniel, I sent to Mr. Angier, and he came to me on Tuesday, August 16th; and he joined with Mr. Illingworth, and Mr. Constantine, and Mr. Finch, to consider my case in order to this call: and some of the town came in. And upon considering of it, they desired they might acquaint other friends in the town with it, and that I would suspend determining till they could do so. It was consented to freely on my part. August 23rd, Mr. Angier came over again to Hulme, and he and I spent the forenoon with that family, and earnestly sought God in my business. And the day after, (August 24th,) we went together to meet the Lord Delamer's son, who now brought his wife to Dunham. There was a great company. But I was sad sorrowful, and little concerned in it; my uncertainty and trouble was so great about this affair.