

**THE JOURNAL OF  
LLEWELLIN PENROSE,  
A SEAMAN. IN FOUR  
VOLUMES. VOL. IV**

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The journal of Llewelin Penrose, a seaman. In four volumes. Vol. IV by William Williams

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**WILLIAM WILLIAMS**

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## JOURNAL OF PENROSE.

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### CHAP. XXXI.

NINETEENTH YEAR OF MY RESIDENCE.

Nothing remarkable happened from the time the Indians left us, which was about the latter end of March; but some few days after their departure, Harry told me that he had got a great secret from Soroteet to tell me.

“What may that be?” said I.

He told me that Gatta-loon had informed Soroteet when last here, that we were known to be on this coast by the Spa-

niards. I began to be much alarmed, and immediately called Bell. I then desired Harry to repeat all he had heard or knew, whether good or bad, for I must confess it had much discomposed me; but, on reflection, knowing it to be a thing that must one day happen, I began to be more calm.

He said that Gatta-loon had told Sorotet the affair, because he knew he could neither speak Spanish or English, and therefore it could not well be divulged to me whilst they were with us, lest we should take it ill, and attribute the discovery to their treachery; they, however, desired we would not entertain so bad a thought of them. Their friends who were dead had pledged their hearts with us, and we should find them equally faithful on all occasions. They had no knowledge by what means we had been discovered, but that a couple of Spaniards from Maracaibo had lately been among them, and inquired if



there were not two Englishmen married among their people, and settled somewhere along the shore, to the northward. Finding we were known to be there, they thought it wrong to deny they had some knowledge of us, and confessed they knew a poor man who told them he had been driven on that shore in a boat alone; that I had been there many long moons before they had found me out; and mentioned the circumstance, that one of their canoes had been driven on shore where I resided; that I had given every assistance in my power to the Indians in distress, and by means of this communication I had obtained an Indian wife. That I was a good man, and liked to live there with my family, but that I would have endeavoured to find out the Spaniards, had I not been fearful they would have sent me to the mines, as an enemy of their nation. But that I was so far from being an enemy to mankind, or to

them, that I had since my landing there, given my best assistance to two or three distressed Spanish vessels; and that they had often heard me say, that if I was once assured they would do me no injury, I should be content to die there in peace. In regard to the man who lived with me, he had been cast away long since, and came among them, but hearing of me, had travelled to find me out, and had got a wife of their nation. That we lived by fishing, and were very harmless and inoffensive men.

“Well,” said one of them, who was an old man, and whose name was Perez, “when you see them again, you may inform them that they may make themselves perfectly easy on our accounts; their condition is by no means to be envied, and we shall never molest them. If they are content to be voluntary anchorites, they are not likely to be disturbed. I suppose they are not good catholics.”

They told him we were ; that we prayed to the book and cross often. To this he answered, " star bon." They inquired how far it was from where they lived? They said about seven days distance ; and here the conversation respecting us finished.

I said we felt grateful in our hearts for their good conduct ; but how the Spaniards came by the knowledge of us we could not divine, except it was from our good friends the fair traders, who might have been wrecked near their settlement, or from old Organ's people. However it might be, we were now made quite easy in our minds, knowing the disposition of the Spaniards towards us, by the conversation which had passed, that they would not give themselves the trouble to seek us, as we were of no consequence to them, either for good or ill.

One day Nunez and Harry came in from fishing ; they brought home in the canoe