

scottish reel band in the rotunda, and a pandean band in the gardens, played alternately reels, waltzes, and country dances. this interval of peace was truly acceptable to bob, and he did not fail to make the most of it, roving like the bee from one delight to another, sipping pleasure as he went, almost regretting he had not taken the last dress first, though he was every now and then importuned by mendicants and servant girls, very desirous to obtain places of all work. the introduction of a dancing bear, who appeared to possess more christian qualities than his leader, attracted his attention; but, in pressing to the scene of action, he received a flogger from a bruiser in gloves, who milled indiscriminately all who came in his way, till the bear took the shine out of him by a fraternal embrace; and his leader very politely asked those around which they thought the greater bear of the two. upon rising, bob found himself in the hands of two itinerant quack doctors, each holding an arm, and each feeling for his pulse. one declared the case was mortal, a dislocation of the neck had taken place, and there was no chance of preserving life except by amputation of the head. the other shook his head, looked grave, pulled out his lancet, and prescribed phlebotomy and warm water. bob, who had received no injury, except a little contusion occasioned by the blow, seized the ignorant practitioners by the throat, and knocking their heads together, exclaimed with a stentorian voice, throw physic to the dogs, ill none ont. go along bob, was repeated again, as loud and as long as before; he however burst from those around him in pursuit of fresh game; nor was he disappointed, for he presently found a dapper young clergyman in gown and surplice, and who, with book in hand, was fervently engaged in exhortations pardon and spare me, that no evil be done to me, being a stranger to this nation i have served, and i shall sincerely inform you of all that passed till our arrival at this lake. we were sent by orders from the supreme council of state in spain, being six men of war well equipped, into these seas, with instructions to cruise upon the english pirates, and root them out from these parts by destroying as many of them as we could. these orders were given, upon the news brought to the court of spain of the loss and ruin of puerto bello, and other places; of all which damages and hostilities committed here by the english, dismal lamentations have often been made to the catholic king and council, to whom belongs the care and preservation of this new world. and though the spanish court hath many times by their ambassadors complained hereof to the king of england; yet it hath been the constant answer of his majesty of great britain, that he never gave any letters patent, nor commissions, for acting any hostility against the subjects of the king of spain. hereupon the catholic king resolved to revenge his subjects, and punish these proceedings: commanded six men of war to be equipped, which he sent under the command of don augustine de bustos, admiral of the said fleet. he commanded the biggest ship, named n. s. de la soleda, of forty eight great guns, and eight small ones. the vice admiral was don alonso del campo y espinosa, who commanded the second ship called la conception, of forty four great guns, and eight small ones; besides four vessels more, whereof the first was named the magdalen, of thirty six great guns, and twelve small ones, with two hundred and fifty men. the second was called st. him, and when he suddenly turned round he saw the same badge on the collar of the examining judge who calmly looked down at him with his hands in his lap. so, called out k, throwing his arms in the air as if this sudden realisation needed more room, all of you are working for this organisation, i see now that you are all the very bunch of cheats and liars we just been speaking about, youve all pressed yourselves in here in order to listen in and snoop on me, you gave the impression of having formed into factions, one of you even applauded me to test me out, and you wanted to learn how to trap an innocent man well, i hope you havent come here for nothing, i hope youve either had some fun from someone who expected you to defend his innocence or else let go of me or ill hit you, shouted to a quivery old man who had pressed himself especially close to him or else that youve actually learned something. and so i wish you good luck in your trade. he briskly took his hat from where it lay on the edge of the table and, surrounded by a silence caused perhaps by the completeness of their surprise, pushed his way to the exit. however, the examining judge seems to have moved even more quickly than