Lancaster Entelligencer.

WEDNESDAY EVEN'G, APRIL 27, 1881.

" A LEAP IN THE DARK."

A MAD ACT.

The cliffs that rear their haughty head High o'er the river's darksome bed,
Were here all naked, wild and gray,
There waving all with greenwood spray;
Here, trees from every crevice grew,
And o'er the crags their branches threw,
And there, all splintered and uneven,
The shivered rocks ascend to heaven.

It was a clear, bright night, in depths of a mountain wilderness. There was a long, deep, narrow valley, running north and south, for many miles, flanked east and west by towering moun-

The range on the east was called Cata mount Cliffs, that on the west, Panther Peak.

Deep down in the bottom of the valley ran a low and narrow river called the On this night not a sound disturbed the awful solitude of the wilderness; not a

living creature appeared in sight.

Human life seemed far away.

Yet had there been light enough, a human form might have been seen on the May 7, which can now be had at any news

eastern range. It was the figure of a young girl, wrapped in a dark shawl that covered her from head to foot, gliding slowly, slowly down the winding mountain path, now passing out of sight behind a clump of trees, now coming into view again as the path turned in and out in its descent

Sometimes she paused and leaned against a tree, as if for momentary support, and then the faint light of the moon fell upor an upturned, lovely young face, pallid with

And now another figure appeared upon the scene, another and a taller young girl, enveloped in a long water proof cloak, whose hood was drawn over her head. She glided silently down the same path, ame manner, keeping her eyes upon esor, as if she were "shadowin the ...

her predece. and her sinuous ing" her—as in... to the very foot of The first girl wow down the mountain side . er, between a very the ridge and edge of the ri. which and herself lay the tracks o. recently laid railroad, whose trains, tw. a day, awoke the awful echoes of the tow-

leed she was.

ering rocks. Here she sat down on a fallen boulder, let her shawl drop from her form and lay in a heap around her, clasped her bands upon her knees, and turned her weefel young face up to the starlit heavens, as if help for hidden grief were there.

Then she looked vaguely at the little crescent of the moon that was sinking slowly behind the cedar crowned summit of the western ridge. Sic watched it out of sight, and then let her gomes slowly drop to the river at her feet. Coming on the low river, she began to mutter to herself as only the crazed or half crazed eve?

"If I dared—if I dared," she whispered, her eyes dilating as she gazed down upon the river, whose shining, smooth dark surface reflected every star above. "If I DRESS GOODS, &C. only dared to take the plunge. They say Umbra here has no bottom, at least none that has ever been sounded. Night after night I have come here-how many times-how many times; but I have never had the courage to take that plunge. What does the poet say?

'Who would not choose The leap attaining the repose ? Oh, but I cannot-I cannot! Oh, for one brief fit of madness . to give me courage to end it all-to end it all with me-who am afraid to die, and more afraid to live. The demon has driven me to this river's brink, night after night, but he has never driven me into it. "AH H-H!" she suddenly cried, starting to her feet. "What is

that ? It was the noise of the rushing express train from the north, gaining force and volume as it sped onward, its thunders caught up by the echoes of the rocky cliffs on each side the river, and hurled back and forth with an overwhelming uproar that filled the valley, and seemed to threaten with annihiliation every living

creature in it. The girl, standing up, gazed, breathless, upon the rushing monster, whose fiery eyes and bellowing breath were almost

upon her. She pressed her left hand hard upon her heart and bent forward, her lips apart, her eyes dilated to their utmost capacity, and blazing fiercely, as with the suddenly

kindled fires of madness. Another instant, and with a phrenzied yell she threw her arms on high, and, swifter than an arrow from the bow, she shot downwards from the bank and threw herself headlong upon the track, under the very heat of the rushing engine.

But swifter than the arrow was the arm of love, as the watcher sprang forward and flung her off, both falling back from the impetus clear of the track, just as the express train thundered onward, shaking the solid foundations of the mountains a

it passed. At last there was silence. Both girls, motionless, exhausted, half paralyzed, lay together where they had fallen. The elder, with every vein and artery throbbing, as if they would burst with intense excitement, still clutched the younger in her arms, and held her as in a death-grip. Both were panic-stricken, overwhelmed and speechless.

The deliverer was the first to recover herself. "Were you mad?" she whispered, in husky and almost inarticulate voice.

"Yes-mad," moaned the other, after a "Oh, why did you do it?"

"I have told you-I was mad." There was silence for a few moments, and then the elder spoke again, gravely and tenderly. "Bevvie! what drove you to despera-

tion?" "I cannot tell you! Oh, I cen never tell you! I wish you had not stopped me! It would have been all over by this time," moaned the girl called Bevvie. "All over !"

"Yes, yes, yes, yes!" wailed the girl, rocking herself back and forward—" for I should have been out of all my misery! Ora! Ora! Why die you follow me? Why did you interfere with me?"

"I have watched you for weeks; I have followed you for days, I am responsible to the Lord for you; I was in duty bound to save you, even if I had not loved you as I do, ungrateful child !"

"Oh, if you knew !- If you knew, Ora Ah! why why did you interfere? It would have been all over now, and I should have been past all my troubles!" wailed Bev-

"You say that again! And it is false!
"All over?" 'Past your trouble?" Foolish girl! you would have been before your Maker for self murder! You would have exchanged temporal grief for eternal woe !" exclaimed the elder, in a tone of

intense emotion.
"Oh, no, I hope not! for I was mad then, Ora! I was mad then; indeed I was. I had not thought of doing that act one minute before I did it! But the rush of the engine, the thunder of the noise the uproar of the echo, the fiery eye, the flaming breath, the vision of swift and sudden death, all fascinated, maddened me as I stood alone in the dark, and drew me down to the destruction from which

you snatched me!"

"And yet you seem deeply to regret baing saved, and you bitterly reproach me for saving you! You are inconsistent,
Bevvie! But that too is a symptom of unsound mind! come with me! I do not know-I cannot even hazard a conjecture HAGER & BROTHER

settled you. You have steadily refused to tell me. But to-night I am determined to know! for I am in the place of a mother to you, Bevvie, and I am resposible to the Lord for your well-being. Can you walk up the steep?" "Oh, yes, I can walk," sighed the

younger girl. "Take my arm, then, and de not hesi tate to lean on it with all your weight," said Ora, lifting the heavy shawl from the ground, where Bevvie had cast it, wrapping and pinning it carefully around the girl's form, and then tenderly supporting her steps as they left the spot. And so the foster-mother of twenty-one

and the adopted daughter of sixteen re-ascended the mountain path to their home, where the dead secret which had driven Bevvie to temporary madness was to be revealed. The above is the opening chapter of Mrs. Southworth's new story—"A Leap in the Dark"-which is begun in this week's New York Ledger. The story, as the reader may see from this specimen of it, is a very powerful one. It is a nar-rative of events that occurred in Maryland and Virginia many years ago, when everyday life was wild and romantic in the mountain regions of those states. Mrs. Southworth has written many good stories but she herself thinks that this is one of her very best. Ask for the Ledger dated

office or book store.

The Key to Health. Have you found the key to perfect health and strength? It is Kidney-Wort, the only remedy that overcomes at once the inaction of the kidneys and bowels. It purifies the blood by cleansing the system of foul humors and by giving strength to the liver, kidneys and bowels to perform their regular functions. See displayed advertisement.

Great Merit. All the fairs give the first premiums and special awards of great merit to liop Bitters, as the purest and best family medicine, and we most heartily approve of the awards for we know they deserve it. They are now on exhibition at the State Fairs, and we advise all to test them. est them. See another column. a15-2wd&v

Appearance Deceitful. What a lovely figure! Who is she? I would give a trifle to lift that veil; and if he mad he would have seen a face more beautiful than poet's dream, only you could not have placed a finger where there was not a boil or pimple. A bottle or two of Burdock's Blood Bitters would have made her peerless. Price \$1, trial size 10 cents. For sale at H. B. Cochran's Drug Store, 137 North Queen street.

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Her Vegetab.'e Compound the Savior of Her Sex.

Health, Hope and Ha, piness Re-

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LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S Vegetable Compound,

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In fact it has proved to be the greatest and best remedy that has ever been discovered. It permeates every portion of the system, and gives new life and vigor. It removes faintness, fiatulency, destroys all craving for stimulants, and relieves weakness of the stomach.

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The result is we get the best linens in the world, in the best possible condition, and for the least money anybody can get them for. We can give you the importers' profit, and still have enough left.

Now it is proper for to consider that somebody else may be doing the same thing, and afford the very same advantages. So, if you please, whatever you wish to buy get samples of it from us and from others, and compare.

Or buy our goods, if you like; and if you can 'do as well elsewhere, bring ours back. This is rather a brave challenge; for, you know nobody wants

The linens now in are sheeting, pillow, bolster and shirting linens, towels, towelings, doilies, napkins, table cloths and table linens.

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/ Cars run as follows:
Leave Lancatser (P. R. Depot), at 7, 9, an 11:30 a. m., and 2, 4, 6 and 8:30 p. m., except on Saturday, when the last car leaves at 9:30 p. m.
Leave Millersville (lower end) at 5, 8, and a. M., and 1, 3, 5 and 7 p. m.

Cars run daily on above time except on Sunday.

YOLUMBIA AND PORT DEPOSIT E. E Trains now run regularly on the Columbia and Port Deposit Railroad on the following time:

STATIONS No WATT. Port Deposit..... Peachbottom..... Safe Harbor..... Columbia..... 2:00 3:18 5:21 6:20 6:35 7:12 7:55 8:35 3:55 4:28 5:11 5:60 A. M. WARD. A.N. 7:45 Ar9:06 Le 9:40 11.07 11:45 afe Harbor. 1:30 8:05

When a man is seriously ill be should call on his doctor at once; but when his trouble is only a cough or a sore throat he need only in-yest 25 cents in a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough

READING & COLUMBIA R. R. ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS OCTOBER 2578, 1880.

NORTHWARD. A.M. P. M. P. M. A. M. 6:45 ... 2:39 7:36 7:55 ... 3:40 9:30 8:05 1:05 3:50 9:40 7:55 1:10 3:40 ... Quarryville Lancaster, King St...... ------ARRIVE SOUTHWARD. 3:20 5.50 A.M. A.M. P.M. P.M. 12:00 6:10 ...

10:15 2:10 8:20 ...

10:15 2:10 8:20 ...

10:18 ... 8:29 5:10 1:20 ...

11:20 ... 9:25 6:4 LEAVE. Reading ... ARRIVE. Columbia.

Quarryville 11:20 9:25 6:4 6:5 Trains connect at Reading with trains to and from Philadelphia, Pottsville, Harrisburg, Allentown and New York, via Bound Brook Boute. At Columbia with trains to and from York, Hanover, Gettysburg, Frederick and Balti-more. A. M. WILSON, Supt.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD—NEW SCHEDULE—On and after MONDAY, JANUARY 17th, 1881, trains on the Pennsylvania Railroad will arrive and leave the Lancaster and Philadelphia depots as follows: ane'ter Philad's EASTWARD 2:10 A.M. 2:55 " 4:15 A.W 5:15 " 7:30 " 5:08 " 8:00 " 8:00 8:05 8:45 12:01 r.m 3:45 " 5:00 " 5:30 " 6:35 " 9:30 " 1:40 P.M. W BSTWARD, Way Passenger, Mail Train No. 1, via Mt. Joy, Mail Train No. 2, via Col'bia liagara & Chicago Express unday Mail..... 10:50 "
2:30 P.M.
2:35 "
2:50 "
5:45 "
7:20 "
8:50 " Fast Line, Frederick Accommodation Dillerville Local, via Mt. Joy

Cincinnati Express,... 9:10 11.39 " 2.45 A.M Pacific Express, east, on Sunday, when flag ged, will stop at Middletown, Elizabethtown Mt. Joy, Landisville, Bird-in-Hand, Leman Place, Gap, Christiana, Parkesburg, Coates ville, Oakland and Glen Loch.
Fast Line, west, on Sunday, when flagged, will stop at Downingtown, Coatesville, Parkesburg, Mt. Joy, Elizabethtown and Middletown.
Hanover accommodation west, connecting at Lancaster with Niagara and Chicago Express at 11:30 a. m., will run through to Hanover.
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