

Miscellaneous.

A Fight for Life. It was night in the tropics, and the It was night in the tropics, and the Firefly, a smart clipper-brigantine, rock-ed idly to and fro, rising and falling as her bow and stem dipped alternately in the long, easy swell peculiar to the low latitudes we were in. We were bound

to Porto Cabello, with an assorted cargo, which the Captain was anxious to trade off for the various rich productions of he country. was plainly visible, some distant. With an hour's eight miles distant. With an hour's fair wind, we could reach port; but there we laid, our sails hanging from the yards, occasionally fetching up with a heavy siap against the long, taper spars. The Captain, on this occasion, had brought his daughter with him—a perfect miracle of loveliness, nineteen years of age, and Bell Graham by name.

The Captain, his daughter, and my-belf were stauding aft, admiring the rare beauties of the scene spread out before us. The moon was not yet up; but away to the scene spread out before us. to the eastward a long streak of green-ish light was to be seen, which heralded Isn light was to be seen, which heraticulits approach. Above us, countless thousands of bright, gleaming stars studded the calm blue, azure heavens, and a light, thin, silvery mist rested lighty on the waters, gradually increasing to a dense binck bank, which hung ing to a dense black bank, which hung around the distant horizon like a pall. Gradually the round, silvery edge of the moon slid majestically up from its watery bed, disappearing and appearing at intervals, as the dark, heaving mass rose and fell between us and the God-dens of Nicht. Finally it rose above

at intervals, as the dark, heaving mass rose and fell between us and the God dess of Night. Finally it rose above the line of the swell, and a flood of gor-geous light, dancing and flokering upon the waters, was poured in one broad volume of glitering silver toward us, bathleg the brigantine in a halo of glory, and lighting up the hull, spars, and salis in a liquid radiance. The dark bank of vapor waslit up as though composed of one immense mass of pearl, and calld in zong in sectamation of delight which rose to my lips and was echoed by Bell, who was perfectly entranced by the beauties of the secene. "Well, child, what do you think of a

night in the tropics ?" soft and almost melodious, as he gazed with all the love of a doting father upon

surpassing my wildest imagination. How I wish I could always live on the

"Tut, tut, child; any not so! You see her now decked out in her finest rig; she has on her summer-smile of decelt! There is another side to this fair pleture: Instead of this caim, blue of the summer summer shows and the summer set of the summer summer shows and the summer set of the summer summer shows and the summer set of the summer summer summer shows and the summer summer set of the summer sum a wild, threatening one, covered with masses of dark, gloony clouds, along whose jarged edges the sharp tongues of forked lightning play, allord-ing a baleful light by which the unforate sailor fluds a watery grave ! The howl of the tempest, the snapping o spars, the roar of breakers, and despair ing cry of the drowning, are scenes to which you are a stranger, and I pray God you ever will be. Do not, my darling, wish for a life on the ocean, without considering there are two side to the question-a bright as well as a

And the old man fondly stroked the solden hair of his treasure, as she lay half-encircled in his arms. An interval of silence followed, which was at last broken by the Captain inquiring of

me: "What do you think of the weather, "What do you think of the wather, "It is barely possible that we may get a shant from out of yon bank. I think it rises somewhat." "Do you think so? Faith ! I believe parts what we may a share the source of the source of the parts what we have a source of the source of the source of the source source of the source of the source of the source of the source source of the source of the source of the source of the source source of the s

get a shart from out of yon bank. I think it rises somewhat." "Do you think so? Faith ! I believe you're right. For my pure, I am heartily lited of this infermal caim. I thus lasted this infernal It has lasted

mingled with oaths, ourses and groans, Not one escaped, and as I watched the followed; and in another instant they death agonies of the last despairing Not indegespice, and so the last despairing death aconies of the last despairing wretch, I breathed a hasty prayer of gratitude to Heaven for our fortunate-and hairbreadth escape. Soon after we were boarded by the board from the man-of-war, and with were alongside, and trying to swarm over the rail. The other boat was still over the rail. The other boat was still some distance off, but making desperate efforts to join their comrades. The four-pounder could not be used to ad-vantage on the boats, and had been placed in the barricade, reserved as a coup dist.

their aid our decks were soon cleared of marks of the fray. Captain Graham was discovered lay-ing on the deck, severely wounded in the side; he was carried carefully to his

antage on the boals, and had here is placed in the boals, and had here is placed in the boals, and had here is placed in the boals, and here is placed in the boals, and several provide the first. Captain Graham was discovered is captain and or captain and myself requention of porte Cabello, and soon after daylight dawned across the waters.
by encouraged the men; they knew as well as ourselves that their lives discovered to captain and myself frequention is success or fallure.
by ended upon their success or fallure.
captain Graham was discovered is captain and myself frequention of the success or fallure.
captain Graham was discovered is captain and myself frequention of the success or fallure.
captain Graham captain and myself frequention of the success or fallure.
captain the success or fallure. geon, and one day, Graham, calling m into his stateroom, addressed me a follows: "Well, Walton, I have made uy my

well as ourselves that then rives de-pended upon their success or failure. Twice had they attempted to gain our decks, and twice had we repelled them. For a third time they came rushing to the attack, and the deep base voice of their leader could be heard high above the due abouting. the din shouting: "At them again, my lads! Here comes the other boat; try them once more, and the prize is our own." "Beat them back; no quarter to the

pirates; remember we fight for our ves !'

tranced by the beauties of the scene. "Well, child, what do you think of a ght in the troples?" And the voice of the old sear dog grew ft and almost meiodious, as he gazed ih all the iove of a doting father upon 1 only child. \* "It is grand, superb, magnificent! far rpassing my wildest imagination. iw I wish I could always live on the and old ocean!" Tut, tut, child; say not so! You

pistol in his other hand, which he revered at my breast. I partied his blow with my cutlass, but as he fired I felt asharp twinge in my left arm, and I knew I was wounded. Inspired with fresh energy and athirst for revenge, lengaged my antagonist, aiming blow after blow my antagonist, alming blow after blow at him with all my strength, all of which he successfully partied, however. I was counted an accomplished swordsman,

counted an accomplished swordsman, but I found that I had met my match. I cut, hashed, hewed, and thrust at my gigantic adversary, but with the excepon of one or two trifling flesh wounds inflicted no damage, and received one. A fresh onset separated us, and was borne back amid the retreating

ad become.

ind thind tanks of our rew. Grapping my cutlass with a firm grip, & was soon again in advance, and fought with all the strength I could muster. I had soon again in advance, and fought with all the strength I could muster. I had everything at stake; Bell's life and honor wrethe prizes for which I fought, and sooner than see her fall into the hands of the blood thirsty gang who now polluted our decks I would shoot her with my own hands.

The conflict was desperate and bloody every inch of the deck was contested

chance remark about flowers brought my bouquetinto notice, and Mr. Warren asked for a flower. Of course, there was loved Leon with the affection he would have given to a son of his own, had he selves complimented by the attentions of such gentlemen." "This will never do—never do, Kuox. I must forbid him that be as better look elsewhere for a wife, who would combine all the perfections of a solut with the patience of an angel. As hand to hand, and foot to foot, we fought

known knock; Aunt, Mary was, sadiy wondering if her giddy little niece had not thrown away her own best hope for happiness; And Mr. Crofts was unusu-ally grave and abstracted. As he rose, from the table, he said to Alma, "I reart now in the library for a form mu

mind to retire from the command of the Firefly. You have proved yourself a brave man, and fought well in the de-fence of my daughter and the brig. Therefore you deserve them both. The surgeon informs me that they have a chaplain on board, and I think the

whiten and quiver in spite of all her efforts. sooner you two are spliced the better so overhaul your shore toggery, and I will make all the necessary arrange-

efforts. "The agency for the business in Aus-

tralia. My agent there wishes to re-turn home, and is only waiting for some one to be sent in his place to give up the situation. There are very few who could take that place, but Leon is one of the

few." He waited for her to speak, but she sat with her face half averted, silent. "I was pained, Alma, more pained than I can express, when he told me "No, Alma; sorry because you have very i''
''No, Alma; sorry because you have
that this iste acceptance of my offer
grieved as noble a heart as ever throbbed; sorry because you have trifled with
sincere, pure love, such as it is given to
that the sincere ist is sever throbgagement. I respect Leon, and had
hoped to call him my son, and when
your feeling for him, I sorrowed for my
''But, Aunt Mary, you don't know
how exacting and disagreeable Leon
how exacting and disagreeable Leon
how ether ist is a sever throbthat the since acceptance of my offer
greenet. I respect Leon, and had
hoped to call him my son, and when
your feeling for him, I sorrowed for my
own disappointment as well as bis. Do
hot think, my child, that i wish to force
your reflection ' you are the heat 'iddra' that this late acceptance of my offe

your allection ; you are the best judge of what will make you happy; but I am avery you were so hasty, for I fear you have given a deep, lasting wound to a true while heavil "How was he disagreeable, Alma?" "Always scolding me." "Scolding? For what?" "Well, not exactly scolding, but findrue, noble heart." Pride and love! How the two were

ing fault, in his quiet way. I don't know but I could have borne it better if battling in Alma's heart; but pride was Satill uppermost. "And he is going to Australia?" She said it in steady, even tones, too calm to be entirely natural. More friendly interest would have given more animation to the measured words. he had flown into a rage, and given mea real scolding; but when he commences, 'Alma, dear,' then I know there is a catalogue of faults and short-comings as long as my arm to follow. The fact is, Aunt Mary, Leon Harris is too good for me. He ought to find a saint, and I am not one." "He has gone !" "Gone ?" There was pain then in the

am not one." "But, Alma, you have not told me now the cause of your last quarrel, your ruptured engagement." "I hardly know myself." "Alma! You cannot mean that you sudden cry. "Yes, he left this afternoon, and will take the steamer that sails to morrow. Alma, Alma, do not tell me you mistook your own heart when you sent him

"No, no, it is better for him to go." "No, no, it is better for him to go." Pride still uppermost, though she shivered as if with cold, and was white as Parlan marble. "Well, my dear, I hope you have indeed correctly go upper own heart.

happiness; And Mr. Crofts was unusu-ally grave and abstracted. As he rose from the table, he said to Alma, "I want you in the library for a few mo-ments!"

ments!" Wondering, half frightened, the young girl followed him. With gentle gravity he motioned her to a seat, and spoke: "Alma, Leon Harris came to my office this afternoon to accept a sit-sessed her heart. -Southern Home. Jour-nd. "

Marriage of Jefferson Bavis.

It may not be generally known that Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, late President of the Confederate States of America, was first married to a daugh-ter of the lamented Zachary Taylor, who was elected President of United States in 1847. Much less are the peculiar incidents and romantic circum-stances attending Mr. Davis's marriage to Miss Sarah Knox Taylor known to

to Miss Sarah Knox Taylor known to the world. I propose to make up this chapter of history, During the "Black Hawk War," more than a third of a century ago, Col. Taylor commanded Fort Crawford, at Prairie Du Chien, Wis., (then Michi-Prairie Du Chien, Wiss, (then Michi-gan), and his family were with him. Jefferson Davis, then a young graduato of West Point, bearing à lleutenant's commission in the regular army, was also under orders at the same fort. Handsome, brave, and chivalrous by

handsome, orave, and chivalious by nature, and possessing all the snavity, ease, and grace, which thorough intel-lectual culture and the most refined so-ciety confers, it was not strange that his heart became the target for very many of Cupid's seldom erring arrows. One of those arrows, being directed by a glance of Miss Knox 'Taylor's flashing a glance of Miss Knox Taylor's flashing eyes, "hit the mark," and it so hap-pened that Miss Knox's heart went with the missile, and that the two hearts became indissoluby connected. Col. Taylor, looking with disfavor upon the situation, resolved to break the alli-ance, and accordingly directed his ser-vant to say to Knox, as he always ca'led his daughter, that he wished to see her in the parlor. "She came, and the fol-lowing conversation ensued :

wing conversation ensued : "Knox, what can possibly be the object of Lieutenant Davis in visiting this

"I cannot imagine, father, unless it is to see and talk with me." You surely do not encourage his vis-

Be gered for some words of praise or flattery is the continual fault function of the present with the state of the present with the state and had be and the present of the present with the state and had be and the present with the state and had be present and the prese

Arriving at the willage, the lieutenan and ladies, without being permitted

Few men have lived, who, at any period of their existence possessed stronger self will or control over him-self than Lieutenant Davis ; yet, in vain did he on that occasion exert every faculty and power to repress the risibil-ities of his nature in order to render an explanation possible. Much less was it possible for the ever-merry and great-hearted Lieutenant Wilson to do so. These ludicrous circumstances, with the exhuberence of public rejolcing

-all jabbering away in French and English at the same time-rendered it utterly impossible for either of the "res-cued party" to get in a word edgewise --all jabbering away in French and devoted to assault, on the First Consul. English at the same time-rendered it utterly impossible for either of the "res-cued party" to get in a word edgewise or otherwise, and so the crowd gradually dispersed. Colonel Taylor, however, "smelt a mice," and was not long in ascertaining Mackintosh to defend him, and the lat-

the true state of affairs, that is, that Jeir and his daughter Knox had engaged in "a runaway match," with Lieutepant Wilson and the beautiful Miss Street as groomsman and bridesmaid. Truth groomsman and bridesmaid. Truth would out, and in less than an hour every man, woman, and child in the village knew all about the wedding; and as they discussed the singular af-fairs and adventures of the morning. the most uprovious shouts of laughter the most uprorious should of houghter's along was defined to be "a demonstrate arcse from every group and household, or ridiculous writing, picture, or sign, There was, however, one face amid that wide spread scene of mirth and intent toward government magistrates gayety that was livid with rage; two or individuals." By the Roman law, lips tightly compressed, two eyes flash-libel was at one time a capital offence, while a the discriminant of the second scene of ing with indignation, and one strong ing with indignation, and one strong | while in the days of Alfred, slander of hand grasping, now and again, the hilt any kind was punished by the loss of of an oft-tried sword. The reader may well imagine that I refer to Col. Zach-ary Taylor, before whose angry glance brave indeed must have been the heart that did not become faint

that did not become faint. Col. Taylor having declared, with an

oath strong as he ever used, that under no circumstances would he ever forgive Davis or become reconciled with his daughter, an alienation thereafter ex-isted as wide as the polls of the earth.

ed ardu-the dis-fitung into my very face. Parhape I shall reasons. live long satugh to forget, the picture-miles the line traverses the drear creak region. Here the situal wat reasons live long satugh to forget, the picture-miles the line traverses the drear creak region. Here the situal wat reasons live long satugh to forget, the picture-as that trout for an instant hung in the statush air, his blue back and azure sides spot ind also gilts distended, the leader hanging from his jaws, while a shower of penriy drops if were shaken from his quivering sides. liked in glided back waid, and when he touched ine water as bolt, from a cross bow might cleave the air. 'Possibly for thirds wat there the preizy listed. Not a driver, heat word was uttered. The whit of the fly-word stated as the phreizy listed. Not a fit was there y stage, t word was uttered. The whit of the fly-syor of ung into my very face. Perhaps I shall (Way in which they dould enable with a state in a new trial he failed to hand the scaped a senter to the state Beneath as also the state Beneath as also trains in a cross in a state Beneath as also the state beneath and for course the state Beneath and for state and more, as the state Beneath and for course the state Beneath and for course the state Beneath and for course the state Beneath and for state and more, as the state Beneath and for course the state Beneath and for course the state Beneath and for state and more, as the state Beneath and for course the state Beneath and for course the state Beneath and for state and more, as the state Beneath and for state and more, and the state Beneath and for course the state Beneath and for state and the state and the fish tage and the state and the state beneath and for state and the state and the state beneath and for state and the state and the state beneath and for state and the state and the state beneath and for state beneath and for state and the state be word was uttered. The white of the line through the water, the whit of the fly-ing reel, and an occasional grunt from John as the flah doubled on the boat, were the only sounds to be heard. When, suddehly in one of his wildest flights, the terribly taxed rod straightened itself out with a spring, the pressure ceased.

Histowell's Island; the second time the indictment was by means of peculiar management quashed, and of course the culprit escaped. Bennett, no doubt, owes this success to his attorney, the astute Benjamin Galbraith, who is one

Infinite generation of the second of the most remark-owes this success to his attorney, the astute Benjamin Galbraith, who is one of the canning practitioners in the city. He has paid Galbraith large sums, and this found him a successful champion in the hour of need.
The most famous suit on record is that which accited the English contranearly seventy years ago. It occured immedi-tately after the peace of Amiens, that the index with your place, and the trouk of dex eating the first Consul, was very sensitive to public opinion, and being that your has a successful to made earnest com-tanging ant, named Peltier, who published a sheet called L'Ambigu, which was sevent y carse divide acture was a Freaton-t emigrant, named Peltier, who published a sheet called L'Ambigu, which was sevent y formals, he, through his represen-t devoid to assault on the First Consul, the two of the success and the surface and under the light neight has a plet, and the trout savered I gave a jerk, and the trout started again. But why repeat? Why is explaint, the chief offender was a Freaton.
The was graced with acut, representing a sept child by atth acuts of the First Consul.
I devoted to assault on the first Consul.
I devoted to assault a label of flights and rushes which followed? I Twicedid hebreak the surface a hundred I had hore the surface a hundred hore to save so true a rod from ruin, shouted to ne method to substitution to sustain the hundred arcdit through the darkest days of the war.— "Young men for a citon." While older cand when the hast foot of silk was given I advanced the butt. The heavy fush and pliant rod were pitted one sgainst time it triumphed. For a moment the of the other. Three dnys later, in another struggle, the old red partied; but this time it friumphed. For a moment the gaiting to the surface, and rolled over the part ing to the surface, and rolled over the landing-net beneath him, and the for the rest is base, measured five finches; and his length from tip to tip finches; and his length from tip to tip for the seveneen inches and three-quar-ters. ter added to his already brilliant fame i by his eloquent arguments in defence of free speech. The defendant, howev-er, was convicted, but escaped sentenco by the rupture which so quickly threw the two nations into hostilities. Next to this in national importance was the case of The people vs. Croswell, who was indicted for libel on President Jef-ferson, and tried in 1803. In this case a libs! was defined to be "a censorious a censorio intent toward government magistrates or individuals." By the Roman law, libel was at one time a capital offence, while in the days of Alfred, slander of

The Pacific Bailway--Its Origin, History and Completion.

Landing a Trout.

rolling snow ball. The bonds were raphiny advanced in price to keop them from selling faster than funds were needed, and inally a party of European capitalists subscribed at one transaction \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000 worth on condition that the lean should be closed on the part of the Company. After reaching the summit of the Sierras, the Company pushed forward with wonderful vigor. There was no connecting roads from which to borrow rolling stock; and all their from. Icormotives, and other material had to were seventeen inches and three-qua otives, and other materla be shipped 16,000 miles around the

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	Tota	d			698	mile

ever, they have committed many outrages. Going to California in 1867, via the Kansas Pacific Road, and thence by stage, through

mounted Slour and Oheyennos. The trav-elers made the best resistance they could with their rifles, and kept the savages at a little distance, while the driver put his horses to their utmost speed. Every man on hoard, except one, was killed or serious-ly wounded. An old frontier friend of mine, Charles H. Blake, happily escaped with a broken arm and a wound in the head. At last the vehicle, with its bleeding and dying inmates, reached the shelter of Big Timbers Station, and the savages sul-lenly retired without having taken a single scalp. The fight was probably one of the last, and cortainly one of the most remark-able in the history of the plains. The Union Pacific road found for the first 500 unites west, from Omaha the easiest route

Wallace, one day in

d'a run

The trav

In the Croswell case, altitude to above, the question arcse whether the truth could be given in defence, and Alexan-der Hamilton argued strongly in the affirmative, and this has now become the general law of the land. In 1859, Congress authorized the con-In 1859, Congress authorized the con-struction of three roads—a Northern, a Southern, and a Central—and-thus indica-ted our natural and inevitable trans-conti-nental system. They were to receive no money endowment, but very liberal land granis. But before any active steps could be taken to build them, all such enter-prises wore extinguished for the time by our great war. What Government had failed to do, how-eyer, the steady course of immigration was

three long, weary days, now; and the Lord only knows how much longer we

There ! There it is again, can't you hear it Again we listened, and this time with distinctness I heard the regular clauk of

oars. "You are right, Bell, it is a boat; but but are ingine, here, it is a back, but what their errand can be puzzles me but come, girl go below; 'tis damp, and the night air is cool." "Eutering my state room I snatched

up my night glass, and levelling it in the direction from whence the sound came, I at last made out the dim, dark shadow of a boat. It was a large, heavy, clumsy looking atflair filled with men; and as I watched it approaching, an-other of the same build came creeping out of the fog, both pulling directly towarl us. The blood coursed through my veins as I turned, shutting up the joints of my glass with a crash. "Can you make out what it is?" In-quired the old man, auxiously. "Yes, Sir; there are two boats ap-proaching, and they are filled with men." came, I at last made out the dim, dark

for me, I was aware that I could eet, and with in their gore beneath our i aspire to the character."

three long, weary daya, now; and the Lord only knows how much longer we are to stay here. You young folks don't mind it so much; between your love making and cooling, the time passes merily enough; but I, who am old and more matter-of-fact, ind that time drags somewhat monotonously." I may as well add here that Bell and mysolfwereengaged—I having obtained Captain Graham's cusent to the mar-riage as soon as we returned to the States. I was then to assume command, of the briggantine, which belonged ex-dusively to the old man. My prospects in life were bright and merry; tho whole world, in my eyes, bore the tint of the rose, and I dreamed not of the thorm which lucked beneatto. The haze, which at first had been thin my betrohed, remained not deter what denser, and was gradually closing in around us. For an hour or more the captain, with my betrohed, remained not deter will denser and neaver to the sing relieved could join us in defonding the ship, she being well aware that in grapped the wheel, while the briggantine was reason as that before." The haze, which at first had been thin my betrohed, remained not deter what denser, and was gradually closing in around us. For an hour or more the captain, with my betrohed, remained not deter were bright in first produce as that being well aware that in may are and and now becomesome-of the bring she being well aware that in grapped the wheel, while the man to the ship, she being well aware that in sourd out s. For an hour or more the captain, with my betrohed, remained on deck con-wers grant anging is and as the dow began to fail they prepared to descent the ship, she being well aware that in their group is the sheard on the the sheart of the ing relieved could join us in defonding the ship, she being well aware that in their group is bestice. "Here is again, con "toon" The relieve matching is bartine, " "Never!" I shouted, and as the vi-ing spain. The relieve matching is bartine, " "Here is again. Son the bill be is cally sorry, we will make bar-thans is

So the blue silk dress ne autor of the silk dres

The leaden storm swept through their ranks, marking its way by a wide, open lane, while the dead and mangled bodies of our foes lay piled across each other on either side. Loud and thrilling were the shrieks and groans that attested to the success i of the shot. They wavered, hesitated, and fell back. "Now is your time, men, have at them, and victory is ours." Sallying over the barricade, with my handful of men, I fell on their demor-allzed ranks with the fury of a thun-derbolt. It was more than they could stand, and we drove them before uslike a flock of sheep. The advantage that

p again." So the blue silk dress he admired wa

Alma bethought her of her boquet. She had thrown it pettishly into a corner in her anger of the preceding evening; but perhaps there was one flower yet unfaded that she could put in amongst the folds of her hair. Perhaps one of the scoret gergeniums he lowed to see

the folds of her hair. Perhaps one o the scarlet geraniums he loved to se the scarlet geraniums he loved to see against the glossy jetty braids was yet bright enough for ornament. Rather slowly the young girl went to the cor-ner where the flowers lay upon the floor, and, lifting them, sat down to search for one fresh one. Not one was there; but as the faded leaves fell from the bare stems she say thet there was

stand, and we drove them before using a flock of sheep. The advantage that we gained, however, was of short dur-ation; as they clustered round the fore-mast and topgallant forecastle, they were rallied by their now infuriated and enraged leader. With furious cries mingled with furibule oothe they came charging there; but as the faded leaves tell from the bare stems, she saw that there was something glittering, tied securely in the heart of the bouquet. Wondering, she untied the jewel and slipped it upon her finger. It was a ring of a quaint device, two hearts of pure gold, joined by a torquoise forget-me-not, in the

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