Mr. Roor protested against t

II achaden Speech, Free Men:

WEDNESDAY, AT TOWANDA, BRADFORD COUNTY, PA., BY E. O'MEARA GOODRICH. PUBLISHED EVERY

E O GOODRICH EDITOR

TOWANDA:

mednesdan Alexning, Wecember 19, 1849.

Correspondence from Harrisburg.

Harrisburg, Dec. 7, 1849. A Telegraphic despatch has just been received here, stating that the men in the employ of the Commonwealth, on the Philadelphia and Columma Raul Road, have all quit work in consequence at having received no pay for the last two or three months. Mr. Ball, the State Treasurer refuses to allow the Superintendent of the road to draw from the Treasury, consequently he has not been able to pay the men, and they have borne and foreborne, until they can stand it no longer. The Engineers and workmen refused, to-day, to work any longer

The conduct of the State Treasurer in refusing to allow the Superintendents & Supervisors, on the difterent lines of improvements, to draw cash to disburse the expenses of their several lines, is certainly very extraordinary. It is no doubt the concerted action of the whigs who have control of the administration, from Governor down. They have thrown out their estimates of a large amount to remain in the Treasury on the last thay of the year. and have boasted that they would be able to pay the February interest without resorting to a loan, and they take this course to verify their statements without regard to justice or the rights of individu als. But they have strained the string until it has broken, and although they may be able to show on paper that the commonwealth has a large amount in the Treasury, it is done by withholding the honest and hard earned dues from the laborers in her employ; and the amount due them must remain to be paid off by a Democratic and honest admin-

I am well informed that Col. English, the Super intendent of the Philadelphia & Columbia Rail Ruad, has called no less than three times personalif at the Treasury, within the last few weeks for money to detray the expenses of the hands in this employ, and could not obtain a dollar while the debts have been accumulating to a very large amount. The same game is practised upon other ines, all in direct opposition to the policy of the Canal Commissioners, who have been constantly strong to pay all their liabilities on the public works in each, and not to permit the accomplation e. debts. But all their efforts have been irnstrated by the over a rought cuntiling of our self-elected whiz care Treasurer, for the soie purpose of makageapital for this party by showing on spaper a large balance in the Treasury, which would be flaily contradicted by facts if he would discharge be demands due to the laborers in the employ of are common wealth -and which ought to have been paid weeks ago, and would have been if the offices placed in charge of the several lines had been rmitted to take the money and pay them

HARRISBUEG, Dec. 4, 1849. Ma Friton-You will see by the official anhave finally been awarded. Some little delay was occasioned by the indisposition of Mr. Foster, the principal Engineer, and the fact that Mr. Power was absent, and Judge Longstreih mable, through continued filness, to attend a meeting of the Board at Harrisburg; thus requiring Col. Painter, the only active member, and the Engineers having the bids richarge, to repair to Philadelphia to meet Judge Long-treth, and there organize a board to make the necessary disposition of the proposals. This was lone in as short a time as practicable, consistent the allotments were made. with justice and the interests of the commonwealth, and, although the delay, thus necessarily occasioned, may have been a little vexations to bulders who cers in the faithful discharge of their official duty that every honorable mind will exempt the Canal board and Engineers from any wrong or blame in from depraved imaginations and malignity of spir the most cowardly and disreputable instructions fare thrown out against the integrity and fair deating of the majority of the canal board, and an open. shameless attack made upon the Hon. Jesse Miller I'm sentence to which I allude, reads as follows:

"It is understood that the bids have been sent to one of old, . Save me from my friends," , ", Brusburg for the avowell purpose of being open-al and alloted by the Canal Commissioners; but we have heard it hinted, for the real, purpose o being inspected and passed upon by Jesse Miller, work and erstood to be the chief fugle man of the majority of the Board."

It is, indeed, a matter of surprise that the publishers of a public newspaper, to whatever party they may belong, living on the simmediate line of the North Branch Canal, who profess to be in favor of its completion, and whose interests would seem to give at least the semblance of truth to their proessions, should continually pursue a course calcuand to induce unfavorable impressions upon the completing that work. In Bradford County and its vicinity, where the editors of that paper are known and their motives understood, no great harm can follow anything they may say; but in other parts of the state, where their political animosity and recklessness are not as well muderstood, their position, as publishers, may entitle them to a degree of consideration, and the unfounded and wanton insinuations they utter, may arouse prejudices in the munis of many well disposed persons, and force of hese Editors excited my surprise, and I have beard the sentiment expressed by every one who has chanced to fall upon the article alluded to."

But the absence of all cotrect Reling of principle and the willingness to sacrifice every thing, per superson the canal to a spirit of party making and said settlement, they make an argumy man descented the neck of settlement the morning and parted become friends in the morning.

The printers in washington to part and many and the morning and parted become friends in the morning and parted become friends in the morning.

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a shadow of evidence of wrong on their part; and are here called. Lossen owns 800 head of fat the malevolunt attack upon Mr. Miller, who has cattle, which he exchanges with emigrant the had nothing to do with the proposals for the work oven for one of his or sells a best for \$50 m We from beginning to end. Why has the name of have just bought one, and to morrow our team Mr. Miller been dugged in by the editors of the starts down to Secrements city, for providings.

Atgus, and he made the subject of unprovoked and Flour is there 35 per hundred weight, other things malicious attack? What has Jessa Miller done in proportion, white here flour is reality worth 50 that the publishers of public Journal, professing to cents per pound, hard bread 75, cents, been the be the especial friends of the north Branch Gasal, ublic and charge him with malcominet in relation States we would think learning a very good business firm and efficient friend of that Improvement? In it for the disinterested anxiety he has uniformly is a grand chance for milking the rocks " here. and money he has spent in collecting facts to convince its opponents of its great ptility and importance to the Commonwealth ! is it for the talent do much better. To-morrow our meer will and energy he has displayed in placing those facts start for the mines, except a man who goes for before the people and their representatives to in- provisions. It is reported as extremely unhealduce them to re-embark in this too long neglected thy at the directors below, and therefore we shall: and great public improvement? Or is it merely afpresent go to the mines above, which is "dry because Mr Miller and a majority of the canal board are Democrats and opposed to the policy of at the pieces, not washing the dirt at allpublic plunder pursued under the Ritner dynacty, and sustained by such public Journals as the Bradford Argus !

The North Branch Canal has need of all is friends, and those at home should practice more prudence than is displayed through the columns of is the price of good lumber there. But people are the Bradford Argus, or it will soon have fewer in number than it now has. Among the ardent, and efficient friends of that improvement, none can mill irons and tools, and putting up a mill, would be found, beyond the district through which it passes, more devoted, sincere and disinterested than Jesse Miller. No man has more thoroughly investigated the subject, and none more ready or able, on all occasions, to advocate its interests.-While acting as Canal Commissioner he gave particular attention to this branch of the public works. He made a personal examination of the whole line; and so thoroughly convinced was the of its utility and ultimate value to the commens ealth, the public on all proper occasions, and in the most write to all. Truly yours. clear and comprehensible manner.

It is known to the citizens of Bradford that the editorial department of the Keystone, at this place, is under the control of Mr. Miller, and that that paper has contained, from week to week, for the last two years, a series of able, gloquent and convincing articles in favor of the North Branch canal. The people along the line of this canal owe much to Mr. Miller and the paper under his charge for the very efficient aid they have received at his hands in the advocacy of their favorite project; and the editors of the Argus might well hide their heads with shame for the gross assault and deep initiation they have committed in assailing its best friends and endeavoring to throw doubt and darkness over the conduct of the Canal Board in award-

ing the contracts. No one here who has any knowledge on the sub ject, or reputation to hazard will venture the surmise that Mr. Miller or any other man, except those duly authorized by law to discharge that dunon-cement that the contracts on the North Branch | ty, had anything to do with making the allotments. or that any nodue influence was brought to bear or attempted, upon those officers in their final decision. "The Canal Commissioners, in the true spirit and meaning of the law, awarded the contracts, as they were bound to do to the lowest bidders who were considered substantial and competent to do the work."

> I veniuse to affirm that Mr. Miller never saw single-one of the three hundred and more proposals received for that work either before or since

This attack of the Bradford Argus upon friends of the North Branch canal, and upon public offiwere anxiously waiting the result. I am confident must be viewed by all honest men as exceedingly envious, unjust and disreputable, emanating only the matter. But I was surprised and shocked, as it. Such articles as have appeared in that paper every friend of the North Branch canal must have from time to time, for the last few months, on the been, on reading an article in a late number of the subject of the North Branch canal, are calculated Bradford Argus headed "Canal Letting," in which I to impro its prospects, dishearten its friends, and inst ire its enemies with renewed hostility and twofold diligence in their efforts to deteat its accomplishipent. If the North Branch had no more neudent or profitable friends than the Bradford Argus well might people along his borders exclaim with

NORTH BRAKCH,

Letter from California. FIFTEEN MILES ABOVE SUTTERA, Sept. 16. FRIEND BLACK-I am at last on the Sacramento having been four months and four days in crossin the plains. I came over with all or leads with CRANNER, and two other men, whom you are not acquainted with. Each man furnished: a yoke of caule, and bought the maggon and provisions in partnership. We have had a tedious journey .-Had I time, I could "a tale nafold" of that, su fering, hardships, hair-breadth sacapes, &c., and public mond and throw obstacles in the way of too many, alas! have paid the great debt of nature reposing upon the vast prairies of America, far from their families and boffies. Large numbers of families, even now, are wending their way across the California, on toot-having been obliged to leave their waggenerand property, the caule being sta veil on the deserts. I have seen mule than one thousand wagons left on the road, and during the former part of the route, tons of every kind of provisions have been 'thrown away; to tighten' the toadr. Bacon, flour, sugar, pilot bread, beans, lard, some into opposition to the North Branch canat, shovels, pioks, crow-bars, and in fact everything who might otherwise have been its friends. Such which helped to campose the loads have been left sing agricultures, weakness and solly on the par to rat, or leed the ruthless Pawnes, or savage Crow. Mr. Mann went with another company, and l have not seen him since leaving St. Josephs. arrived here on the 12th of September. We have laid here four days, to recruit our oxeny and to-

same, coffee the same, sugar 50 cents, while at should shold him up contemptiously before the Reddi'ns mines these prices are doubled? In the o that work ! Is it because he has ever been the ness, you he population, enjoyally prefer work. ingrin the mines or From what I can have there manifested for its completion? Is it for the time From 8 to 10 dollars is offered per Jay for common laborers, which is probably near what a man will average to themines without house diggings." We there pick up the dirt, and pick

Towards the head of Feather river, where I pass ed, there is the finest fluber I ever saw. By cutting it into saw-logs, and floating it over the falls to a saw mill below, then rafting it to Sacramento city, it would ready bring \$1 per foot, which too much engaged here, to think of building mills now. A company starting from New York with make sums untold. And now if you have any friends to emigrate to California, next season, tell them never to cross the plains, for puless they have an iron constitution, they never will enrive

Tell my friends, that I am alive and kicking, and before two years, I shall probably kick up quite a dud. I never ask a man-to excuse my bad penmanship, but you will recollect that I am writing this upon my knee, on a sheet of paper which that he has not ceased to present its advantages to cost me 25 cents. As soon as I get time I will

JASS F. GAZLAY.

Agriculture—its Dignity and Importance.

In the countries of Europe, the quarter of the globe with which our communication are most direct and intimate, the state of Agriculture, varies with neculiarilies of soil, and political organization, and as might be expected the estimation in which is held, is not everywhere the same. In Russia the earth is cultivated almost exclusively by the serfs, subject to the arbitrary will of the noble who owns the soil. Manual labor, in any art, almost ecessarily partakes of the character of those by hom it is carried on, and in Russia, therefore, agriculture, as an occupation, is degraded. In the northern parts of Italy, in the Netherlands, and in some parts of the German States, the soil under juture, has attained the highest degree of productive ness. The Southern part of Sweden, formerly subject to Denmark, retains in some degree the reputation at once enjoyed as the granary of Northern Europe, Holstein, a dependency of Denmark, bordering on the northern banks of the Elbe, and the shores of the German Ocean, abounds in the richest fields of grain, and numberless flocks of cattle and sheep. In France a new impulse has been given to agricultural improvement, by the subdiviion of the soil, which has grown out of the law o equal succession, and the confiscation and sale of lands belonging to the church and expatriated nobles who followed the fortunes of the Bourbons.

. To give a country the highest degree of wealth and power, which it is expable of attaining, agriculture must be sustained by commerce and manufactures; but it may dispense with both the fatter, and yet retain its prosperity. The condition of the U. States is favorable-to all these pursuits, but whatever may be the fate of our commerce and manufactures, we must as an agricultural country rank among the first nations of the earth. The extent of our territory, the extraordinary fertility of our soil. file adaption of our climate to almost every species of production, our distance from other countries, in which agriculture furnishes a surplus for exportaion, show conclusively, that pur vast and rapidly rogmenting population gans and must, be sustained by the fruits of our own industry. In this field in abor. we fear no compellifor. The production ag-griculture have but one liquit - the demand for them. Centuries must elapse before they will be limited is in the densely populated States of Europe by the powers of headil. We have not only fire ability of expending the analysis of the policy of the p creasing to an indefinite exicht upon the surface we now occopy. For centuries after the resettor of settlement chall be felt from the West (an event too distant to enter into any estimate of our inture growth, "we may continue to multiply and year to able, by a more prudent husbandry of the privers of the soil, to furnish the additional consumer, with the necessaries of life.

A German Prince Inving, in a dream, seen three rais, one fut, one lean, the third blind, sent for a colebrated Bohemian gipsy, and demanded an excolebrated Bohemian gipsy, and permanent and parties for the form of human beings :

planation. "The fat rat," said the accesses, the many filled known to be so we said the old man, your prime minister, the text rate your people, and the said the cold man, the prime minister, the text rate your people, and the said the cold man, the prime minister, the text rate your people, and the said the cold man, the prime man text rate of the cold man, the prime man text rate of the cold man, the prime man text rate of the cold man, the prime man text rate of the cold man, the prime man text rate of the cold man, the cold man text rate of the cold man, the cold man text rate of the cold man, the cold man text rate of the cold man, the cold man text rate of the cold man, the cold man text rate of th the blind rat yourself her a many of the work

that we ought to regres the time which is lost willont the performance of some good! Par a nee on

A weak mind sinks under prosperity as well as under adversity, A Astrong and deep much has swo the ster bear into moon on at a and man when the conduct re- 1me mod Education

THE DEATH OF THE FLOWERS. Becken &0 101 101 101 101 101 101

The melancholy days are come, The saddest of the year, &!
Of waiting wilds and naked woods, And meadows brown and sere.

Heaned in the holldws of the grove. The withered leaves lie dead, They sustle to the eddy ing gust, And to the rabbigs tread,

The robin and the wren are flown, And from the shrub the jayo

Where are the gowers, the fair young flowers
That thicly apring and aped
That thicly apring and aped
To brighter right and softer alfa. V beauteods sinerbood! Alas ! they all life in their graves." The breatlesseads of financial And lying in their lowly bed,
With the fair and good of ours!

But cold November rain Calls not from out the gloomy earth The lovely ones again. The wild flower and the violet," They perished long ago, And the wild rose and the orchis died

The rain is falling where they lie,

Amid the Summer glow; But on the bill the golden rod; And the aster in the wood, And the reliew sunflower by the brook. "In autom beauty stood.
Till fell the frost from the clear, cold heaven, As falls the plague on men.

From upland, glade and glen. And now, when comes the calm midday, To call the squirrel and the bee rom out their wintry home, When the sound of dropping nuts is heard, Though all the trees are still.

And the brightness of their smile was gone

And twinkle in the smoky light The waters of the rill: The south wind searches for the flowers' Whose fragrance late he bore, And sighed to find them in the wood And by the stream no more.

The Raillesnake Hunter.

BY G. W. WHITTER.

" Until my ghasily tale is told,

During a delightful excursion in the vicinity of he Green Mountains, a few year since, I had the good fortune to meet with a singular character, nown in many parts of Vermont as the Rattlesnake hunter. It was a warm clear day of sunshine, in the middle of June, I saw him for the first time while engaged in a mineralogic ramble among the hills. His head was bald, and his forehead was deeply marked with the strong lines of care and age. His form was wasted and meagre; but for the fiery vizor of his eye, he might have been supposed incapaciated by age and infirmaties for even a slight exertion. Yet he hurried over the huge ledges of rock with a quick and almost youthful tread, and seemed earnestly searching among the evices and loose crags, and stinted bu him. All at once he started suddenly, drew himself back with a sort of a shuddering recoil, then smote fiercely with his stuff upon the rock before him. Another and another blow, and he lifted the fifeless form of a large rattlesnake upon the end of

his rod The old man's eyes glistened but his lip trem bled as he looked steadlastly upon his writhing victim. "Another of the accursed race!" he muttered between his elenched teeth, apparently unconscious of my presence.

I was now satisfied that the person before me was no other than the famous Rattlesnake Hunter He was known throughout the neighborhood as an outcast and a wanderer, obtaining a miserable subsistence from the casual charities of the people around him. His time was mostly spent among the rocks and rude hills, where his only object seemed to be the hunting and destroying of the Crotolus horridus, or rattlesnake. I immediately determined to satisfy my curiosity; which had been strongly excited by the remarkable appearance of the stranger: and for this purpose I approached

"Are there many of those reptiles in this vicinity !" I enquired, pointing to the crushed servent. "They are getting to be scarce," said the old man, lifting his slouched hat and wiping his bald brow: "I have known the time when you could hardly stir ten rods from your door in this part of he State without hearing their low, quick ratife a your side, or seeing their many colored bodies coil ing up in your path. But as I said before, they are setting to be scarce, the infernal race will be exphet in a few days, and, thank God! I have in self been a considerable cause to their extermina

"You anust of course know the matters of these animals perfectly well," said 1. " Do you believe in their power of faccination, or charming?" Thepld men's countenance, tell. There was visible struggle of feeling within him ; and his lips dilivered, and he dashed his brown hand suddenly inners his eyes as il to congeal a lear; but quickly Macolating pineself be sive also in the low dead merof one that was about to reveal a berrible co-

He true of a Health Broom this life believe in the millemake a power of fascinalion es firmly as I believe in my own existedce." as of Surely," said I, " yould not believe that they

me," he said, slowly, after acrutinizing my features. Lost Time. Our soloum on warily is so short, tor a momenty store thyon will go down with me to the foot of this rock, in the shade there," and he pointed to a group of leaning oaks that hung over pointed to a group or remine. Mory of in Violen experience. Duois on a mare

heard of his education and intellectual strength. . of I was among the earliest settlers of this part of plet, and bathe her brow in the cold water. She the country. Lingdian finished my education at partly recovered, and sor down upon the bank; Harvard, when I was induced by the flattering rep; retentations of some of the control pioneers into the wild lamis beyond the Connecticut to seek my fortuna in the pass sentement. My wife and the old Man's eyes glistened in an instant, and then a tear crossed his brown cheek-" my wife accompanied me, young and deficate and beautiful as she was to this wild, and rade requiry, so bever shall forgive myself for bringing, her, hither, never on Young man, greeninged, he, the ou look like one who could nitred Komeball shall nee the image of the girl who followed made the new country. Aud be unbound on he spoke in ribbon from his neck, with a small migrature attacked to it.

It was that of a beautiful female, but there was an almost childish expression in her commensure; ready few and powerices. Do not imagine, said a softness, adelicary, and a sweeteness of smile; he expressly regarding the somewhat equivocal exwhich I have seldom seen in the festures of those pression of my countenance, "that I consider these who have lasted even slightly the butter, waters of creatures as sections of the fallen angels. The impagements of the fallen angels. existence. The old man watched, my countenance, intently as I surveyed the image of his early loge. "She must have been beautiful," I said us Lireurned the picture.

the comforts and delicacies of life were beginning to be felt, after the very severe privations and trials to which we had been subjected. The red men were low and feeble, and did not molest us. The healsts of the toxest and mountains were ferocious, but we suffered little from them. The only immediate danger to which we were exposed resulted from the raplesnakes which invested our neighborhand. Three or four of the settlers were bitten by them, and died in terrible agonies. The Indians' often told us frightful stories of this snake and its powers of fascination, and although they were generally believed, yet, for myself, I was rather amus-

ed than convinced by their marvellous legends.

"In one of my hunting exensions abroad, on a

fine morning, it was just at this time of the year, was accompanied by my wife. Twas a beautiful morning. The sunshine was warm, but the atmosphere was perfectly clear, and a fine breeze which clothed to profusion the wreathing branches above us. I had left my companion for a short time in pursuit of game, and in climbing a rugged and I paused for an instant to survey him. I know work of death and destruction. not why, but I stood still and looked at the deadly serpent with a strange feeling of curiosity. Sud- then commenced a trial of seamanship, of nautical dealy he unwound his coil, as if relenting from his skill, each using every artifice and every expedifrom anything I had ever before experienced, fol- long hours did the two frigates strive in this way, lowed this movement of the serpent; but I stood moment there was a visible change in the reptile. parent the in sailing qualities the American was lits form seemed to grow larger, and his colors superior to the British frigate, and that in another brighter. His body moved with a slow, almost tack she would accomplish what her commander mperceptible triotion towards me, and a fow hum of music came from him, or at least it sounded in my ear a strange sweet melody, faint as that which he tints of his body deepened, and changed and ope, green, purple, and gold, antil I lost eight of the serpent entirely, and saw only wild and curionsly woven circles of strange colors, quivering around me, like an atmosphere of rainbows. I seemed in the centre of a great prism, a world of mysterious colors, and tints, varied and darkened. and lighted up again around me; and the low music went on without ceasing, until my brain reeled, and fear for the first time come over me. The new sensation gained upon me rapidly, and I could feel the cold sweat gushing from my brow. I had no certainty of danger in my mind, no definite idea of peril, all was vague and clouded, like the unaccountable terrors of a dream, yet my limbs shook, and I fancied I could feel the blood stiffening with cold sait passed along my veins; I would have given worlds to have been able to tear myself from the spot-I even altempted to do, but the body obeyed not the impulse of the mind, not a muscle stirred; and I stood still as if my feet had grown to the solid rock; will the internal music of the tempter in my ear, and the baleful coloring of his enchantment before me.

6 Saddenly, a new sound came on my sear. It

was a haman voice, but it seemed strange and awwhite form plunged before the and greeped my arm. The horrible spell was at once broken. The strange colors passed from before my vision... The radicanake was coiling at my pery-feet with glowing eyes and uplified fangs; and my wife was clinging in terror upon me. The next instant the serpent threw himself upon us. My wife was the victim! The langs pierced deeply into her hand: and her egream of agony, as she staggered back marda from me, told me the dreaded truth

"Then it was that a feeling of mainess came upon me a and when I saw the foul serpent spaling away from his work; teckloss of danger, I sprang forward and crushed him under my feet, grinding him upon the rugged rock. The groups of my min upon the rugged rock. Ine groups of my lost, and prepared on the first position demonstrahighest ides—when the mison seembe fully and the proposal. Bestowing one more blow upon the old residuation. There was a dark live The printers of washington City are about for man deschaded the rock with a supplier wash, we as I led ber away. We were at a considera-

Towards, Wednesday, Dec. 19, 1914. manner which confirmed what I had previously in my arms. Montenall withdrasted at was, I vet had strength enough to carry her to the near while I supported her head upon my bosom. How after how passed away, and none came near, as and there, alone in the great wilderness; I watch over her, and payed with her hap he wild! The old man grouned and by as he unered these wreads, and as he closed his long bony hands over his eyes I could see the team falling thickly through

his feelings he lifted his bend once more and mountain, fire a lest this all there and so obsure partition was a peace light in the sice of peace of the property of the state of the the tentile order of my affliction, to rid the place of my, about of its fondest curse. And I bare well nigh succeeded. The fascinating demons are al-

mediate ministers of the infernal days are an account to the contract of the c Tears have passed since my interview with the Rattlesnake Hunter; the place of his abode has

ac Beautiful! " "you may well say so. But this changed—a beautiful village rises near the spot of acalls nothing. I have a tearful story to tell—would to God I had not attempted it; but I will go on—My heart has been too often seared on the rack too memory to suffer any new pang.

"We had resided in the new country nearly a year. Our settlement had increased rapidly, and the computer and delignment and delignment of this application. The rooms are too horible for reality.—The rooms.

A Nafrew Escape.

In a conversation a day or two since with one of our gallant naval officers, he communicated to, me a remarkable incident connected with the war. which did not break out between the United States. and Great British on the North Eastern boundary question, a few years since. You will recollect that at one time, a rupture between the two countries, on the subject, was considered inevitable by a great many, whose opinious were entitled to consideration. About sunrise on one fire morning a frigute of our navy espiced a large ship on the horizon, which after a few hours' sailing, proved to be a first class frigate of the British navy, belonging to the

India squadron.

By an extraordinary coincidence the commander of the British vessel had a few days previously hailed a ship, the captain of which informed him that from the north west shook the bright green leaves, the United Stated had declared war against England on the boundary question, and the captain of a vessel, which the American commander hailed reported that England had declared war against the ledge of rocks, interpersed with shrubs and dwar- United States. Simultaneously, and if by concert fish trees, I was startled by a quick, grating rattle. the American and British flage were housted, and I looked forward. On the edge of a loosened rock soon after the order to " Prepare for action; double lay a large rattlesnake, coiling himself as it for the shot the guns !" was given on-board each vessel.deadly spring. He was within a few feet of me, in five minutes both were ready to commence the

The years were within-miles of each other and curpose of hostility, and raising his head he fixed ent to get to windward of the other to select a posihis bright flery eye directly on my own. A chill- tion that would enable to successful one to do the ing and indescribable sensation, totally different other the most infairy by a single broadside. For six never were orders given in a clearer voice, or more still, and gazed steadily and earnestly; for at that readily or willingly executed. But it became ap-

was so skilfully striving to do. She "bouted ship," went around beautiful and directed her course toward the supposed enemy.nelts from the throat of the hummingbird. Then Soon the frigates approached, not a word was spok en dr even whispered by any of the efficers or crew glowed, like the changes of a bean iful kaleides- of either vessels. The eyes of all were intently and eagerly fixed on the commanders, who, trumpet in hand, occupied a position where they could be seen by all, and from which their orders would be heard by all. The gunners were at their guns, the the matches were in their hands, all ready to be instantaneously applied. All were allent as death

> And now the vessels are quite close, and the order to fire is about to be given-a moment of dread ful suspense enenes—the American commander applies the trumpes to his mouth—he speaks— Fri gate aboy !" No answer for a moment." Frigate ahoy!" Avelul suspense. "Halloo!" was the answer at last. "Any news from England." "No," was responded in a deep, clear and sonorous voice. The craw gave vent to a little of their pentun excilement. "Where are you bound !!

Yena. Frigale shoy!" said the British commander in his turn. "Halloh," was the response. "Any news from the United States!" "No." A pause which lasted for a few minutes. "Where are you bound ?" "Havana." Simultaneously a buille ensued on abeard both frightes. Defiance of discipline, the men left their guns, and it was till a quarler of an hour before they could satisfy themselves that they were not going into an engagement— Wishing each other a prosperous passage, the two vessels altered their coprises and headed for the port of their destination.

In a few days they both reached Havana, the American frigate some twelve hours in advance -When the British vessel got out her anchor, she was saluled by the American, and the compliment was returned. In the evening the two commanders supped logether, and communicated to each other the inaccuracy of the intelligence which had, by a ingular coincidence, been conveyed to both. If on had fired a single gun, said the American commander, I would have fired a broadside into you.-My crew, said the British commander, were at their tion to engage with you. What a bloody, engagement would not that have been ! I need hardly say hat the two commanders made a night of it.

The only way to be permanently safe is to be