NUMBER 1C. "REGARDLESS OF DENUNCIATION FROM ANY QUARTER." VOLUNE XV. PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT TOWANDA, BRADFORD COUNTY, PA., BY E. O'MEARA GOODRICH. we dimly saw small objects, which we knew to be one to me; and she promised to marry me, reproshake his clenched hand menacingly at the house. sired to leave the room, and had only time to ob- the ill-blood that had slways existed between the TOWANDA: At least, however, something after the fashion of serve that Mr. Shirley's manner was strange and families, and these members in particular, he was human bodies, coming towards us. bate as I was, if I would do as my father had urged One, thrown by the sea high up on the shore bis enemy, Reginald went suddenly abroad, no one excited, and that, as became forward into the lamp- | fearful that some mischief might ensue, especially me ten years before-break off my guilty ways, Saturdan Alorning, September 30, 1854. beside us, was seized upon by my brother and mylight, the bosom of his shirt was spotted with blood. as he otserved that Mr. Shirley had his gun, and and going abroad, strive to establish a new characknew whither. self, and carried to his house. Those we had tell During all the time of Mr. Shirley's neighbor. Very early next morning, to the consternation of Sir Peirs his usual heavy stick. "I could not be ler and honorable name. "Gladly I pledged myself to obey her wishes, Selected Boetry. hood to him, Sir Peirs had kept state and revely the household, the body of Sir Peirs Lynwood, hormistaken," he said, in answer to a question from there, expecting such guests, had got all ready to the Judge, " for they stood on a plain bit of the for in her society I had learned to be ashamed of at the coart, solely, as it seemed, to annoy and in. hibly disfigured by a gunshot wound in the head, receive them; and we found a huge fire and hot blankets, with all needful aids to recovery, prepar- the life I had led, and longed to retrace it. But to sult him ; for no sooner was Reginated gone than was found by the side of a tall quickset hedge in the Park, a good way off from the trees, and there was NEW ENGLAND. go abroad reputably required money, and I had ed for immediate use. the banquets and gaieties came to an end, the es- deer park. It had evidently been there many hours, nothing to shade them. The path I was on went BT JOHN G. WHITTIER. none : therefore, after long debating with myself I tablishment was materially reduced, and the baro- perhaps all night, for the clothes were saturated close up to where they were, and as I touched my Quickly then we laid the apparently dead body net became once more the stern, cold, hard man, hat, first to my master and then to Mr. Shirley. I resolved to apply to Sir Piers-with whom I had with dew, and the baronet's watch, the spring of before the fire, and never shall I forget the sensa-Land of the forest and the rockno communication since that interview which had which had somehow been broken had stopped at he had formerly seemed. looked hard at them both and noticed that Mr. Shirtion of astonishment almost of terror, with which Of dark blue lake and mighty riverended so disastrously-to tell him my hopes and I ought to have said before this, that when Sir seven o'clock, thus indicating precisely the hour ley had on his shooting-dress. I have known the my eyes fell upon the lifeless face. It was Regi-Of mountains reared aloft to mock The storm's career-the lightning's shockprojects, and to implore his aid to accomplish Peirs took possession of Shirley, all the old serat which the murder was committed. prisoner all his life. I used to be underkeeper to nald Shirley, the condemned murderer, whom all My own, green land, forever ! vants were dismissed, except one, an elderly wo-In the duch, with only one barrel discharged, his father." the world believed to be then lying in-goal, them. Land of the beautiful and brave-This closed the case for the prosecution; and "Whether my letter was less humble and con-The freeman's home-the martyr's gravewaiting for execution the next morning man, who had been nurse to Isabel Shirley, and lay a fowling-piece ; upon its stock was a silver trite than it should have been. I do not know-perafterwards to Reginald. Troly and faithfully this shield, bearing the Shirley arms. The pockets of then the prisoner-in those days prisoners were not In a few words I communicated the fact to my Whose deeds have linked with every glen, woman. Winifred Jones, had loved both her nurse. | the deceased were untouched, plainly showing that allowed counsel-commenced his defence. It was brother, who, although infinitely shocked, yet did haps it was, for I am an ill-hand at sping for favors ; At d every hill and every stream, not relax his exertions to restore life; and after a but Sir Peirs answered it in so called and insulting short but manly and candid. With a burst of elolings; and, for the sake of the first, she almost lik- some very different motive to plunder had caused The romance of some warrior dream ! a strain, that I cast his epistle into the fire which Oh-never may a son of thine, ed the stern, revengeful man who had so idolized quent indignation, he repudiated the charge bro's little time forgetting the man's guilt in his present the deed. Where 'er his wandering steps incline, extremity, and unwilling that he should die thus burned beside me, and set to work to try and raise against him, solemnly declaring that from the hour her, and who, in reverence for her memory, In few hours the terrible news had spread like Forget the sky which bent above . of parting with Sir Peirs in his own house, to the means to marry Jessie, and go to Canada. But, as unprepared. I too joined earnestly in my good brothtreated the guardian of her infancy with so much wild fire all over the country. The frightened ser-His childhood like a dream of loveer's efforts, which, sooner than might have been I might have foreseen, every effort failed ; and then indulgence and gentleness. For Isabel's sake she present, he had never seen him. That the last invants, scarcely knowing what to do, sent off mes-The stream beneath the green hill flowingterview was stormy and painful, he frankly acexpected, were successful; and then, anxious to Jessie entreated me to give her up, and go abroad forgave Sir Peir's wrongs to Reginald, whom she The broad armed trees above it growingsengers to doctors, lawyers, and friends innumera-The clear breeze through the foliage blowing ;alone. This, of course, I would not do; and, in knowledged ; since, not content with refusing his loved in spite of, and because of, his connections ble, so that before night-fall hosts of unnecessary assist the villagers in recovering any other bodies Or, hear unmoved, the taunt of scorn, Breathed o'er the brave New England born,despair, I wrote again to my father, humbling myproposal to re-purchase his paternal lands at any with his family whose treatment of her dailing had people, from all quarters, were gathered together that might be thrown on shore, I went back to the price, in the most insulting terms. Sir Peirs sufferself to the very dust for my sweet Jessie's sake ; in-Or mark the stranger's Jaguar hand caused her to detest the whole race almost as much at the Court. beach. forming him that I would be at a certain spot in Disturb the ashes of thy dead-The buried glory of a land Whose soil with noble blood is red, For some time, of course the visitors did nothing ed bimself, in the heat of his passion, to make cer-I had been there about two hours, when a seras the baronet did. Shirley Park at six o'clock on the following evenrant from the rectory, almost exhausted with run-Well, for ten years Winifred and Sir Peirs lived but get into each other's way-talk, wonder, and tain assertions relative to a deceased member of the Shirley family, which exasperated his visitor ning came up to me, and bade me harry back there ing, where I entreated him, by the memory of my in almost solitary grandeur at the Court. The lat. impede everything in the shape of business ; but And sanctified in every part, Nor feel resentment, like a brand, mother to see me. almost to madness. It was to obtain a contradiction instantly, " and M. Warden, too," he said breathat last Sir Peir's confidential solicitor arrived, and ter had become known in the country for a cruel Unsheathing from his fiery heart! "I went; but learning at the village that the laws the confusion was speedily reduced to order. The arbitrary landlord ; and was consequently very unof these assertions that he had sought his old nurse lessly, "must go as well; where is he ?-where against peaching and trespass were strictly enforc. supernumerary attendants were dismissed, the cor--the depository of the family secrets at the nous shall I find him ?" popular among people who, under the right of the Oh, greener hills may catch the sun ed upon the Shirley estates, and fegring that my "Here," I said as the gentleman named, one of ual hour he had done. And it was while on his Beneath the glorious heaven of France, Sherleys, had been treated with liberality and cononer and his jury summoned, and the events of the dress might attract attention if I was seen by the And streams, rejoicing as they run last twenty-tour hours laid before them. way to her, while plunging on recklessly through the most active magistrates of the district, came up; sideration, and equally so with the neighboring Like life beneath the day beams glance, the wood nearest the house, so absorbed in anxiehere he is. But what is the matter ?" keepers, I changed my clothes in a deer hovel in For the result of the investigation every one was gentry, who resented many of his proceedings as May wander where the orange bough the park for a suit of keepers' garments which I ty, wrath and indignation, as to be unconscious an insult to their class. prepared. Combining all the circumstances, the "I don't know.; but master's in a terrible way With golden fruit is bending lowfound there; and shouldering a gun which was Things were going on this way, when one day ancient teud between the Shirleys and Lynwoods, where he was going, that he met with the accident so go, sir-go directly !" And there may bend a brighter sky O'er green and classic Italythe deep personal hate of the present chiefs, their there also, I went out, satisfied that if I was observthat deluged him in his own blood. Thus urged, and remembering in whose com-Reginald,-who, during his absence, had grown pany I had let my brother, I ran on quickly, ac. ed I should be mistaken for a keeper, and suffered And pillsred fane and ancient grave recent stormy interview, followed so closely by the The parting words, of which so much had been into a singularly handsome, gallant looking fellow Bear record of another time, to pass unchallenged. When I reached the apmade, were spoken in answer to Sir Petr's reiter companied by Mr. Warden, who, undoubtedly, death of the elder, the singular language and blood--exactly, as people said, the image of his poor And over shaft and architrave wondered, knowing nothing, whether I had taken pointed place no one was there, bu' at length I dea-The green luxuriant ivy climbated and taunting refusal to sell Shirley, and were aunt Isabel-suddenly returned to his cottage. stained dress of the younger, all pointed him out as And far towards the rising sun cribed Sir Peirs coming towards me through the No sooner was his arrival known than all the the assassin. Long before the jury met, their veruttered in the rage of the moment, without any leave of my senses. The palm may shake its leaves on high, wood. I went to meet him, and certainly none but old triends of his family called upon him. Their dict was foreseen, and when the coroner's warrant deeper meaning than to assure the baronet of his As we reached the house, a post chaise dashed Where flowers are opening, one by one, a man who was mad himself, or wished to make Like stars upon the twilight sky, past us, and standing at the rectory door, watching cordiality, however, received little encouragement for the apprehension of Reginald Shirley was isvisitor's unalterable determination to succeed in his so, would have said what he did, for treated me so And breezes soft as sighs of love eagerly for our coming was my brother. -for, notwithstanding Mr. Shirley received them sued, it seemed but the expression of the general aim. Above the broad banana stray, reverely. How the gun, which had been left with both bar-"Thank Gul you are here !" he said seizing with every courtesy, his manners were so cold and feeling. And through the Brahmin's sacred grove "For a while I bore all patiently, but at last Little as the deceased had been respected, and els loaded, in a keeper's hut at the Home Park, Mr Warden's arm. "Come with me-do not lose reserved, that the warm hearted people felt as if A thousand bright-hued pintons play ! human nature would endure no more, and I re-Yet unto thee, New England, still unpopular as his tyranical conduct had been, every came where it was found, he could not tell; and a moment." plunged into ice. Thy wandering sons shall stretch their arms, plied. I forgot all duty, all prodence; and in my And turning back into the house, he led us that the man who had sworn to having seen him How he had been spending his time while man felt outraged by the felon act which had slain And thy rude chart of rock and hill rage, gave back for every shameful, word and taun ; quickly to the room where I had left him with Rein the Park with Sir Peirs, was mistaken in his abroad, or where he had been, he did not deign to him; and at the next assizes, laden with the scorn Seem dearer than the land of palms! another as bitter and evil. identity, he solemnly asserted, repeating once more ginald Shirley. and indignation of the whole country, Reginald Thy massy oak and mountain pine say c he volunteered nothing, except the informa-More welcome than the banyan's shade, What I had expected to see I do not know ; but "At length he raised his stick to strike me-and. in the most impressive and positive language, his tion that he came to England expressly to re pur- Shirley stood arraigned for the murder of his en-And every free, blue stream of thine what I did see, was Mr Shirley lying upon the

in a moment, never heeding what I did, or what it was I litted. I enterposed the gun I held, to ward very spot upon which I had helped to place him. off the impending blow, which tell upon the trig-His eves were open, and he was evidently senger, struck it back, and in an instant, to my un speakable horror, I saw any father dead at my feet. sible, and aware of all that was passing; but over To fly was the impulse of the moment, and after his countenance was that fearful gray shade which ascertaining that life indeed was extinct, and that never lingers long upon the face of the living, and nothing could be done. I cast down the fatal weaour entrance an expression of intense relief and pon, turned back to the hovel where I had left my own clothes changed those I wore for them, and,

than he had power to do; and, therefore, wonder bar. Many years ago, a fine old property in----shire within a few miles of my father's residefice ... passed, by the extravagance of the owner, almost en-

et tone of Reginald's voice, which forbade the idea

they yet thoroughly believed all they had been ed; his eyes never sank, his color never deepened old ; and that somehow or other, Reginald Shirley as the buzz which attended his appearance struck

fusely.

chase the Court, and reside there. émv. As you may suppose, the heniousness of the This startling information, coming from a man who was known to have been almost penniless len crime, and the position of the accused and his vic years before, puzzled the hearers strangely. Spok. Itim, attracted hundreds to the trial; and the court, en by many, the listeners would have thought it a as soon as it was opened, was crowded, every eye himself, than with any expectation of its being jest or a boast; but there was that in the calm, qui- eagerly fixed upon the dock.

At length, one or two less important cases being that he said anything more than he meant, or more disposed of, Reginald Shirley was placed at the

s'ricken, and follof conjectores as everybody was, He was very pale, but his bearing was undaunt-

asservation of never seeing the deceased after the time he left the house. and the village surgeon kneeling by his side. All this was said temperately, but firmly and frankly; more as if it were spoken as a duty to either effectual for an acquittal, or generally believed by the court.

which warned us that death was at hand. Upon After the conclusion of the defence, a pryman begged that the keeper who had deposed to having satisfaction crossed his features, and, in a faint seen the prisoner and deceased together, should be recalled, and asked again if he was perfectly con- voice, he said : vinced of the identity of the former.

where I got on a London coach. "I am glad you are come; but make haste, I

tirely from the family, in whose hands it had re maind since the wars of the Roses, into those of a morose, avaricious man, with whom, and whose ancestors there had been a lead for centuries. Never but once during all these years had there been the slightest approach made by either party to a reconciliation; and that exception was when Sir Peirs Lynwood startled the whole country, and the Shirleys in particular, by asking the hand of 1-abel. their youngest and favorite child, in marriage --Where he had seen her, and how wooed and won her love, no one ever knew; but the lover was indignantly and insultingly refused, and after a few months endurance of the most cruel tyranny, Isabel Shirley died.

Seem richer than the golden bed

Of Oriental wayes, which glow And sparkle with the wealth below

Setected Cale.

REGINALD SHIRLEY

To the unspeakable rage and mortification of her family, Sir Peirs followed her to the grave, stood over the vault, and when he turned away bent such a look of stern concentrated hate upon the old man and his son, father and brother though they were of leabel, that the bystanders shuddered.

Something of a mystery, a blight upon the poor the mmor soon died away. No one felt inclined to repeat, or keep alive, a scandal respecting one by demanding an audience of Sir Peirs. whose life had been so unhappy, and whose end had been so tragic. Some letters were said to pass after the funeral

between Sir Peirs and Colonel Shirley, Isabel's was only known that a leep personal hate, and thirsting for revenge, displaced in the baronet's mind the ancestral fend which had existed so long -and that in this mood he went abroad.

Twenty years after he returned to England, and -----shire, the possessor of Shirley Court ; but how he had contrived to obtain the transfer of all the the climax of a life-long system.

Wilh circumstances of great indignity and insult, Colonel Shirley and his only child, a very hand their home. They took refuge in a small collage, which, with its orchard and little farm, were all my oath. I have sworn that you shall hold my fathe miserable old man died, bequeathing to Regin if you thwart me then." nald such a debt of fearful vengeance, to be paid to from his manner and words, was not likely to be mulcted in the reckoning.

very liule of Reginald Shirley. He grew stern, self dependent, and reserved ; and letting the cotrooms in which he lived. He was seldom seen, except during the shooting season, when he follow-

seen.

that, about seven or eight months after his return, malignant nature, calm because its revenge and one of those good-natured friends who do more hatred were satisfied. mischiel than all the enemies in the world, repeat- In a clear, sonorous, and unfaltering voice, he ed to Mr Shirley an insulting exp easion which Sir | pleaded " not guilty" to the indictment : and that Peirs had used upon being told of his intention to re-purchase the Court.

The mischief maker afterwards remembered how dark the young man's brow became, how sollenly his eyes flashed, and how ominously some muttered words, sounding like a threat, came from between his clenched teeth as he turned wrathfully away. 👔

An hour after this interview the great door-bell at Shirley Court rang a sudden peal, which echoed dear girl's name, was whispered about, but she had through the silent mansion imperatively; and when deposed to the landlord's return from Shirley Court been beloved and pitied in the neighborhood, and the startled lackey answered it, he found the hear in a state of excitement ; and that, after remaining taken him. of its former master standing on the threshold, stern-

Scarcely allowing time for the announcement of his name, Reginald strode haughtily past the ser- with a shirt the front and wristbands of which were vant who carried it, and entered unbidden the presence of his enemy. For years neither had looked brother, but upon what subject never transpired 11 upon the o her, and now each sent back the gaze for the stains upon his dress by saving that an ac of his loe, with an intensity of hatred that was only cidental blow upon his mouth, from the bough of too visible to the frightened bystander.

Sternly and angrily the man was commanded to depart, and thenceforward the stormy interview

that followed was unwitnessed. The deep, clear tones of ReginalJ's voice wers, however, plainly heard, both by a gardener who was at work on the mortgages to himself, and thus get his enemy in o | terrace, and a housemaid who lingered in the hall. his power, no one ever knew; it must have been The tone was threatening although the words were not distinguishable; and at length the dining-room door was thrown widely open, and the maid, terrified into a corner, saw Reginald leave the cham some, fiery boy of eighteen, were ejected from ber, with flashing eyes and crimsoned brow, and heard him say, "I leave you now, but it is to keep

that were left to them ; and there, in a few weeks ther's land no longer, and woe to our next meeting This was in the evening-the evening, not the

their prosperous enemy, as would have terrified iwilight, of a bright September day. And shortly any less fiery nature than his; but which, judging after Reginald's departure, Sir Peirs Lynwood went out also, having first been seen by his servant to beholders.

take a roll of notes from his desk, and put them in-From the day of his father's death, people saw to his pocket. About three hours later, a housemaid, in attendence upon Winifred Jones, the nurse, heard a low top upon the window of her sittage and farm to a stranger, relained only two ting-room; and, upon it being repeated, was desired by her superior to see what was the cause of it. Reginald Shirley was neither the haid nor the bad who fired them were praying in agony for our help ; The moon was very bright, and upon drawing up | man he had been thought. After Winilred's testimony, came the last and ed, at the warm invitation of all the neighboring the blind the girl distinctly recognized Reginald most important, the evidence of a game keeper. gentry, his favorite sport over their lands. It was Shirley, in his usual chooling dress, standing out observable to every one how carefully he avoided side. By the nurse's orders she opened the low who testified to passing Sir Peirs and Mr. Shirley approaching the court, although he was often seen French window, and in an instant the late visitor in the Home Park about sundown. The angry single muscle. It was horrible; but at length a table friend, a profession, or a shilling left. Well, by people at a distance gazing mournfully upon it; sprang in. What passed, or what was the reason tones of both of their voices caused him to pass great ory was raised that the vessel had gone down, about twelve months since I fell in love with a girl, and more than once or twice, was observed to of his visit, the girl did not know, for she was de hem slowly and linger on his way; for, knowing and, in a few minutes, tossed on the bolling waves, who if ever angels visit this miserable world, was shameful death-depend upca' your speed. Cas

possessed the means and intention of recovering upon his ear. Whatever he might suffer, he had "Perfectly," he said, with a sorrowful voice, which left no doubt apon the minds of any who the lost lands of his race. How he would mange nerved himself to endure all without flinching, or it and how Sir Peirs would act, remained to be giving a sign. Very different were the impressions made by his manner upon the minds of those who were the last words I had to speak on earth, and proceed."

For some time, however, public curiosity seem- watched; many thought his calm self possession God was here to judge me, I could sately swear my sending for you thus unceremoniously is, that happy. ed fated to remain unsatisfied, for nothing more positive proof of innocence; but others, mysell that Mr. Shirley was the man I caw with my mas you might receive the confession, and take the de- "What would happen at Shirley when the body watched ; many thought his calm self possession was said or done by either party, until it happened among them, looked upon it as evidence of a hard, ter that night." After such evidence as this, the conviction of the

prisoner was certain, and in a few minutes he left the bar, condemned to die for the murder of Sir Peirs Lynwood.

done, the trial proceeded.

It was Friday night when the long trial closed, and when it was over, I, and every one else, left The evidence against him was very strong and complete; scarcely a link was wanting; never in. the court. The prisoner was to be hanged on Mon. go before it is finished." deed, in my whole practice, have I seen a case of day.

As might be expected, little else beside the trial circumstantial evidence so clear. First appeared the footman who had admitted of Reginald Shirley was talked of in the town ; at the accused into the presence of Sir Peirs-he prov. I the assize ball it was the one subject of conversa tion. and, with very tew exceptions, everybody ed his visit : then the honsomaid, who had overbeard them, his parting words of threat and men. applauded the verdict, and looked upon the conace. The people at the cottage where he lived, demned man as a cold-blooded, infamous assassing

who thoroughly merited the late which had overalone in his room a few minutes, he went out Not a few ridiculed the idea of his having the again, carrying his gun; they also testified to his means to re-purchase Shirley ; and in their over-

coming in about ten o'clock, without his gun, and flowing displeasure, I do believe that they were rather disappointed that theft had not been added to the crime; and that they could not call him much stained with blood, His manner upon this occasion was silent and abrupt, and he accounted robber, as well as murderer.

His conduct, too, during the time of his continement in goal, previous to the trial, had given peoa tree, against which he had inadvertantly came in ple great offence ; it had been so proud, stern, and reserved; and now that he was condemned, his contact in the wood, had caused it to bleed promanner remained the same.

Well, Satarlay, and part of Sunday, passed ; and The story of Winifred Jones, who came next, cor roborated : further declared that she had supplied upon Sunday afternoon I went to spend two or three days with my brother, the rector of a sea coast Mr. Shirley hersell with warm water to bathe his mouth, and that he left his blood-stained pocket | village, about five and-twenty miles from the as

handkerchief with her. Of the reason for his visit size town. It was a stormy evening, and towards midnight at so strange an hour, and why it was accomplish ed in so extraordinary a manner, she said little, the wind blew a hurricane dead upon shore. My brother and I had not met for many months, and except that it was wholly unconnected with any Mr. Shirley's own family. In conclusion, the old the sound of guns out at sea caused us to rush from woman uttered a solemn declaration of her belief the house, and hurry to the beach. It was an awful in Reginald's innocence. And then for the first | night; and through the dim haze we could see a

time, his color came and went, his dark eye bright- great ship beating with the waves. evidently dis masted, and in distress. To send her help was ened, and his chiselled lips parted with a most beantiful smile, which, from the contrast with his impossible, no boat could have lived in such a sea : previous gloom, found its way to the hearts of all and although we offered large sums of money to volunteers, and the brave men around us were as

That smile I recollect made me feel very un- anxious to render assistance as ourselves, none comfortable; for it awoke in my mind the first | dared rush upon the certain death which must have doubt I had ever entertained, or heard others en- befallen any who ventured out. Still, although too bly that, however, implicated in this terrible crime, the solemn appeal of the guns, and know that these to know that within so short a distance hundreds of freedom.

> human beings were perishing, and that there we stood, strong, powerful, willing men, with ample

am going fast-raise me up " "Yes, but take this draught first," said the surheard him of the truth of his statement; "if they geon ; you require it. Now, Mr. Heydon, you may could not endure to meet her; and therefore simply

position of this person. He is perfectly aware of was discovered I dure not think; but what did haphis state, Mr. Grant ?" he continued, addressing the pen never entered my thoughts. I never dreamed surgeon.

" Perfectly. I dare hold out no hope." "No, I feel that I am dying; therefore lose no; time. I have a terrible tale to tell, and would not

"I am ready." "Then listen. My name is Piers Shirley, son of the late Sir Plers Lynwood and Isabel Shirley --Ah! sir, you may start," said the man, observing the movement of astonishment which I could not repress. "Mine is a fearful story, but conceal ment would be useless, and you shall hear all the truth now. My mother died at my birth, and, by

a favorite servant whom she trusted | was convey ed immediately to Sir Peirs, who, as had been pre viously arranged, sent me under the care of a faithful person, to France, where I was brought np. unil the age of fifieen, when I came to England, and was placed at school in London. There I remained three years, and then, still believing myself in be an orphan, and that Sir Piers Lynwood, whom I

never saw, was simply my guardian. I was articled the crime to a lawyer. Neither the profession, nor the restraint, however, suited me. I formed idle and bad connections, got into debt, and, at last, at the age of twenty-one, owed so much that my creditor

shortly afterwards arrested and threw me into pris "Sir Piers was sent for by my master, and

coming up to town, paid the money, and set me free. Upon this occassion I saw him for the first time ; and from his manner, and the singular language he used, suspected the truth, and that, inmatter now in question, having reference only to were sitting up talking over tamily concerns, when stead of being only his ward, lawas his son. The suspicion enraged me, and in violent and most unbecoming terms, I demanded from him whether my fears were justified.

"In equally passionate words, upbraiding me for my extravagance, idleness and excesses, Sir Piers acknowledged the relationship ; but conclud ed by threatening to cast me off at once and lorev. er, unless I relinquished my evil courses, and ap-

plied myself steadily to my profession. "This I refused to do, and after a shameful scene, we parted; Sir Piers torbidding me ever tertain, of the p isoner's guilt; and told unmistaka- well convinced of this, it was maddening to bear again to apply to him for assistance or even allempt to see him; and I, insolent and boastful, taunting him with his sins towards me, and exulting in my

> "A fearful time of sin and riot followed this rupture, from bad I grew to worse, until atthirty years cient to delay the execution until the matter can be means at hand to succor, and yet unable to exert a of age-and I am little more-I had not one repu

Immediately upon arriving in town I wrote a farewell letter to Jessie ; blood stained as I was I telling her that circumstances had occurred which-"Very well. Then, Mr. Warden, the object of must part us forever, I bade her forget me and be

> that any one would suffer for my silence, and therefore I maintained it. What I should have done had I known the truth. I dare not say, for life is dear to all; and, as I could not have proved that my father brought on his own death, and I should have feared to die for it. I might not perhaps, have come forward and exonerated Mr. Shirley as I ought. However, I was spared the trial of principle, for the day after I reached London I was seized with typhus fever, and for weeks I lav. insen-ible to everything between life and death

"When I recovered, I resolved to go abroad; and, learning that a creditor was seeking me with threat of arrest, I got on board the ship which was lost to-night, in ending to work my way to Canada. She sailed five days since, and this morning from an old newspaper which tell in my way, I learned for the first time all that had taken place lately at Shirley-that the son of my mother's brother had been committed to jail upon suspicions of having murdered Sir Peirs ; and he was to be tried for

"That he would be convicted seemed to be taken for granted, and the shock I received when read the whole awful story, and learned the peril of an innocent man, by my silence, standing in jeoparty of his life, brought on one of those violent attacks to which I have been subject since my illness, and from which I had not recovered when the ship went down, and I was cast on the shore. "Now, gentlemen, you have heard all, and I implore you, by your own hopes of salvation, to lose no time in conveying my confession to ----I have been spared from the waves, to save my cousin from a felon's death, and I entreat you in whose hands his late now lies, not to en langer it by detay."

Although I have given you the man's confession continuously, you must not suppose he spake it so. No; it was often interrupted by pain, or stopped by faintness; and when at last it was/concluded. he had barely strength left to sign it. i

"Now, then," said my brother anxiquely, when all was duly signed and witnessed, " there is not a moment to lose. You have five and twenty miles to go, and it is near daybreak already. I must remain here to attend this unhappy man's death bed, and give him such comfort as I dare; but you, Edward, and Mr. Warden, must go ; and this confes. sion, corroborated by your testimony, will be suffiplaced before the proper authorities. I need not urge you to speed as for life, for more than ordins. ry life-fame, lionor, and the preservation from a