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A New Revolutionary Story. ONE-EYED SAUL; OR THE Tory League of Seven.

A TALE OF SOUTH CAROLINA BY DR. J. H. ROBINSON,

Author of "Nick Whiffles," "Buck Bison, "Half-Witted Nat," "Marian's Brigade," " The Pioneers of Kentucky," etc. etc. CHAPTER I.

THE LEAGUE OF THE SEVEN.

Seven men, coming from different points, urging their way with great difficulty through almost impervious walls interlaced and opposing shrubbery, met at midnight beneath the spreading branches of a cypre-s tree, at a place called Laurel Swamp, in South Carolina, in the year Saul of Laurel Swamp." 177-. They gathered sticks and leaves and made a fire. The flames, springing up from the dry heap, threw a red glate upon their faces, which were scamed and disfigured by the play of bad passions --They were young men--- the oldest not being more than thirty-five years of age. As they stood in a circle around the fire, they resembled a group of vagabond English gipsies, fresh from the stocks or the sabres, knives, pi-tols and mu-kets .--Their faces were smutched with powder, their beards and hair long and neglected, their garments torn by conflict and the sharp teeth of the cypress hedges. The names of these men were respectively as follows: Martin Vantassle, Nathaniel Herrick, Philip Langford, Simon Arrowswith, John Nicotson, James Pollard, and Timothy Beeker.

Published by Theodore Schoch. bandsome; and if you win her at all, it'll with letuctance, and was often harrassed ed his startling warning, and vanished in The Tories rushed toward the door knocks takes the staren rush out of em ' TERMS .-- Two dollars per annum in advance-Two be by foul and not by fair means. I don't with fears for their safety; but duty- the deepening shadows of night. He was with a shout. Hutter quickly aimed his Hollars and a quarter, half yearly-and if not paid be-fore the end of the year. Two dollars and a half. No papers discontinued until all arrearages are paid, but I'm sure you can't do much in the and he went, hoping that Providence ered sufficiently from their dismay to shot into the midst of them. They re-dozen of 'em, at least, and they ou, bt to way of what folks call honest courtship. would protect those he left at home. So thank him.

bound to aid each other under all circum. The terrible tales of the atrocities com- stupor of wonder, a man leaped a high

stances, and in all cases." Martin Vantassle drew his sabre from were daily reaching him. The young la- vening ground, stood before them, pantthe earth and thrusting forward, held it dies had recently, too, had their fears ex- ing and covered with perspiration. It over the blazing fire; the blade was dint- cited by the persecutions of certain per- was Tom Hutter, the partisan and scout, ed and serrated, and there were red stains sons, whose characters and principles who was known to the neighboring lovalupon it. The other six unsheathed theirs were alike obnoxious. With these par- ists as a staunch and unswerving patriot and crossed them upon his, when he die- ties we shall soon become better acquain- and a brave man, shrinking from no dap- door and admitted two persons. Poditated a terrible and impious compact ted.

which they severally repeated. It was Wishing to conceal her dejection of bilities of the part he had chosen. too profane and shocking to be put ver- mind, and see if the open air were not "Tom Hutter!' exclaimed Judith and batim upon paper. They pledged them- more exhibirating, Jesse Burnside opened Ruth, simultaneously, 'what has happenselves to mutual trotherhood and crime ; the door, and stepped out, as she believed, ed ? You are excited with effort ; can to exterminate the struggling and hunted unobserved by Ruth and Judith. There scarcely stand.' Whigs; to give no quarter to the captur- was a small summer house overgrown 'I have been pursued,' said Hutter. 'I ed foe; to pursue the flying fugitive with with vines, a few yards distant : she en- bave had a race for dear life. In, and remorseless fury; to commit every enorm- tered it, and sat down. She had searce- barricade the doors! A party of the misity upon the defenceless patriots; to rob, ly done so, when she heard a voice pro- erable renegades will be hear in a minutel be pleased with life as he found it, and to guish! What thought have they to comto lurn, to outrage helpless innocence. nounce her name. She sprang up with Where's Blinko ?' When this fearful and unnatural com- a cry of terror. A large rough hand was pact had been made, Vantassle turned to laid rudely over her mouth, it was the out a few minutes ago.'

hand of Martain Vantassle. Herrick and asked : 'Come, Miss, don't be frightened, for I "What names have you brought." Herrick drew a soiled paper from his am neither a wolf nor a panther, but plain finger. waistcoat pocket, and bending toward the Martin Vantassle-as good a man as you fire, read the following names : "Paul Hazelhust, Frank Haviland, Tom the Santee. What's better, I'm a king's oranch of a tree. It was Blinko, who Iy. Hutter, Podijah Makepeace, Gideon man, and the king's men have it all their was swaying to and fro, and quivering in Grant, Blinko, a nigger, and One-eyed own way, now."

"Man," said Vantassle, "these are for cried Jessie, pushing him from her indig- rope from his neck, staggered toward the They separated, and went their several nantly. 'If you have business with me, bouse beneath the weight of his great time, I should say, by gum! The blasted ways. A moment later, and nothing but speak it, and begone !'

mained to mark the spot where they had siness with ye, I reckon, which shall last The balls perforated his clothes and graz- that. Wax my flax, if we don't!'

mitted in neighboring towns and hamlets fence at the right, and crossing the inter-

'I don't know,' said Judith. 'He went under all circumstances.

"Which way?" ashed Hutter.

Hutter started off like a racehorse .--- integrity. can find atween here and the mouth of He saw a dark object suspended from the

'You are rude and unmannerly, sir !' him down in an in-tant, and tearing the

at the rear door.

'Who's there?' demanded Hutter.

there's any skrimmagin' goin' on.'

Blinko immediately unfastened the ger, and shunning none of the responsi- jah Makepeace had a figure of imposing The destruction of property will grive us height, but which lacked that fulness of development which gives symmetry and the Tory miscreants punished." comeliness to the human organization .--His hair was flaxen and long, his month exclaimed Paul Hazlehurst. Heaven what sharp, while his eyes, which were ing the reward of their villainy. Look small and bazel, sparkled with drollery. at those expiring wretches who fell near He was manifestly a man who meant to the door. Listen to their moans of anmake himself as comfortable as possible fort them and soften their pains of disso-

Judith indicated the direction with her He impressed the beholder at once with na will leave to po-terity l' the idea of manly beauty, courage and

'Paul Hazlehurst!' cried Jessie joyful-

tended to greet bim.

'We've come jest aebout in the nick o' body. A half dozen musket shots were | critters are a peggin' into ye, a'n't they? the smouldering embers of their fire re- 'Well, Mistress, I have a matter of bu- poured after him rom the nearest copse. Well, we'll show 'em a trick worth tu of

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'They're cowards if they don't try it coiled and retreated to to the covert of be a match, in the course of natur', for Uradvertisements of one square (ten lines) or tess, one or three insertions, \$100. Each additional inser but don't be down-hearted, lad, for we're far, Laurelwood had not been molested. While they gazed at each other in a the shrubbery. A knocking was heard four; but we've got something within us that they haven't-love of friends, home, country and ju-tice. See what work "Well, I ruther guess on ou 'em's me!' they've made of your house, Miss Jessie: said a genuine Yankee voice. 'Podijah | the winders are riddled, the doors broke, Makepcace is pooty giner'ly abcout when the furnitary ruined, and everything at sixens and sevens.'

'We love Laurelwood,' replied Jessie, but we love the cause of freedom better. but little, if valgable lives are spared and

'Punished?-beassuredthatthey will !' large and good humored, his nose some. is just! Some of them are even now reaplution? They die-a horror to themselves His companion was more youthful and and every justice loving mind. What a presented a different type of humanity. remembrance the Tories of South Caroli-

> 'The word Tory will be the synonym of infamy,' said Judith.

The night had set in quite dark, and objects could be seen at a short distance The young man sprang forward and only. The trees looked dim and misty the agonies of strangulation. Hutter cut grasped the hands that were eagerly ex- in the nocturnal gloom. Tom Hutter and his comrades strained their eyes in every direction in search of their foes, but without discovering them. The surrounding scenery was as quiet as if it had never been disturbed by the sound of human conflict; nothing broke the quietude save It may be as well to remark here that the groans of the wounded in the house, seasoned with the technicalities of the The faars of the young ladies began to cordwainer's art. As Podijah finished subside; an assurance-faint and trembthis eloquent peroration, he brought the ling, at first-that those lawless men bad breech of his rifle upon the floor with a retired and would not seturn to renew the severed one of his flaxen locks from his compassion for the wounded Tories visited their hearts. They would have pro-'Cramp my uppers! Now that's what duced lights to examine their condition, as likely to be shot right square through not been cautioned by their more experi-Half an hour elapsed. The silenne For a few minutes the shouting and continued unbroken. Tom Hutter was Paul Hazlehurstat first shared Hutter's confident that there was no immediate danger to apprehend. "I can't comprehend it!" muttered Hutter, in a perplexed manner. There's allers mischief goin on when tolks are still. 'That's abcout my own way o' thinkin',' remarked Podijah, who heard Tom's remarks. 'The most mischief is done with the least noise, 'cordin' to my experience fust and last, here and there, by and large as the world goes. Did you ever go a courtin', Mister ?'

Vantassle, a tail, athletic, ill-vissaged fellow, was the leader of these fierce and intractable spirits. Unsheathing his heavy sabre, and planting its point in the ground between his feet, he addressed his companion.

"Men." he said, in a hard, harsh voice, that harmonized well with his general prestige, "we've met bere to-night to bind ourselves together in perpetual fellowship ; by solemn oath and mutual agreement. olson. Every man's hand is agin us-leastwise in these parts-and ours, in turn, is agin every man. We've sworn allegiance to his gracious Majesty, the King of Great Britain and the rightful ruler of these colouies, have toushed his money, and will do his work."

"It isn't the king I care so much about," muttered Nat Herrick, "but the utter destruction and extermination of the Whigs South Carliny is already more n balf conquered. The rebel cause is rapidly growing weaker, and we'll soon sweep 'em away like chaff. It'll be strange if Nat Herrick don't have his share of the plupder."

There was an applauding murmur around the grim circle.

"I was comin' to that subject," added Vantassle, impatiently. "I reckon I know the merits of the case, and understand the natur' of your feelin's, my lads. We "Let us join hands," he added, "and with no protector.' never seed the King of England, any of us; and if we should, it's agin reason to s'pose that he'd speak to us; and to tell the truth we care little about him. I love Martin Vantassle better por I do any king in the world. I fight the Whige because their side is the weakest, and I hate 'em; and there's a prospect of makin' somethin' by it. When we've driven 'em out, which will be soon, 'cordin' to present appearances, we'll be masters of the country ourselves. We'll have bouses and lands, and niggers to wait on us."

said Jim Pollard.

prophetic," rejoined Vantassle.

met. whose names you have heard, night and der fixed my mind on.' whipping post. They were armed with day, till you have swept them out of ex- 'Oh, this is your wooing !' said Jessie, self-possession, looked out and saw forms istence !"

us-a man for each," said llerrick. by lot," suggested Langford

"The idea is good, and by lot the mat- in the world, if you will." ter shall be decided," added Vantassle. Vantassle attempted to tap her play- sle. She wondered why he had left them

ciates. Herrick drew the first ballot. "Frank Haviland !" he exclaimed. bis comrade.

"Tom Hutter," said Langford, drawing fill me with horror!" and reading his ballot.

lard, in dismay. mong us.

"Podijah Makepeace, an infernal Yan- come for you'. kee I' declared Tim Beeker, looking at 'This is frightful!' gasped Jessie. "I through the shattered pane and fired .-bis ballot Simon Arrowsmith was the last to draw. Help-help!"

zlehurst for Vantassele.

latter, while a scowl of batred gave addi- with a triumph. 'It was Blinko, I'll be are taken, Tom Hutter?' tional malignance to his expression.

relwood," remarked Langford. "Is it Judith or Jessie !" asked Pollard,

with a sneer. tassle, casting fierce glances around him. you, that I am a poor, trembling girl, 'My poor gals, you don't know 'em so

the ballot."

bands and unsheathed sabres they re- rounded by the cursed rebels. Come, own hand, rather than leave you to their newed their terrible compact, invoking gal, our home is in Laurel Swamp.' direful penalties if they proved recreant Withquick, unexpected movement Van- and I'm to go the way of all the airth, to their oath- The League of the seven tassle drew her to him, lifted her in his I'll die here in defense of beauty and inwas complete.

CHAPTER II.

LAURELWOOD.

Twilight stole silently upon Laurel-"That's the kind o' talk I like to hear," wood; it curled in upon the mansion and surrounding trees like a pale, soft mist. "It's a kind of talk, too, that'll prove It was a very quiet hour, but to Jessie

Burnside there was something inexpressi-"It would, if we could keep Marion and bly oppressive in the air. Her fair com-

for life, if you like it. I sin't a person ed his skin in several places, but he the sword! We are to hunt them down that can talk much, and haven't a great reached the house in safety with the half Podijah was by trade a shoemaker, and and, at long intervals, the cry of a wolf and kill them. By virtue of my authori- deal of time to spend in that soft palaver dead black. Leaving him to the care of that his language was generally highly in the tangled hedges of Laurel Swamp. ty, and by the oath which you have sworn, they call love-making; but I want a wife Jupe, the mulatta girl, he barred the command you to pursue the persons right hard, and you're the gal I've a kin- doors and fastened the windows.

You are a bear !') ou can make me the best natured bear of the strange man who had so oppor-

This suggestion was cagerly received; fully under the chin with his clumsy hand. at such a juncture! His deep, resonant I call pooty close work. A feller's jest and make remedial applications, had they its novelty made it welcome. The names 'Don't touch me! there is contamina- voice still rang in her ears. of the parties doomed to destruction were tion in the touch of one who turns traiwritten upon seven slips of papers, and tor and betrays his own countrymen to Tom Hutter. drawn from Vantassle's cap by his asso foreign invaders. I have no patience with you, nor those of your character buckshot crashed through the panes as she firing ceased. The terrified girls fistter. not at case, but walked about nervously, or habits of thinking, who are associated stepped aside, some of which perforated ed themselves that the Torics were retir- casting prying glances from one window The brother of Ruth !" said Pollard, with you in your crime and spoliation .- her dress, while one of the hurtling mes- ing; but were presently undeceived, for then from another. He was suspicious with a strug, and looking inquiringly at The word Tory makes me shudder; your sengers drew blood from her white neck. they had silently surrounded the house, and unsatisfied. He knew that they had presence disgusts me, while your deeds 'These miscreants make war upon wo-

She tried to escape from the summer. 'Make war upon women, Miss Havil-"And I, Blinko, the black," said Nic- house. Vantassle caught her by the and? They are more savage nor the wrist.

"And I, One-eyed Saul !" cried Pol- 'Not so fast, my scornful! Now is the Laurel Swamp. Neither beauty nor Yankee, stood to their weapons, resolved reign of might over right. Law and or- tears can move 'em. They are ten times to make a desperate resistance. "You've got something to do," laughed der are fled the land. Fear of magis- worse nor the Britishers themselves !---Vantassle. "If you ontwit Saul of Laur- trates is not now before our eyes. We They've marked their way through Car'el Swamp, you'll be the greatest man a- con't a-k, 'Shall we do this or that?' but lipy with fire and blood, outrage and we do as we list. I want you, and am robbery."

I shall die with terror! Blinko! Blinko! A cry came back through the smoke.

He dress Gideon Grant, leaving Paul Ha- At that moment she heard the report quietly, reloading his piece.

of a rifle not far off. "It is just as I wish it," observed the 'Did you hear that I' asked the Tory, What can you expect from them if you

sworn! I left a man on his track that 'A rope from the branch of the nearest "He has visited the Burnsides at Lau- can knock over a dollar at a hundred tree,' answered the Partisan coolly. yards.'

'Spare me ? Have we not been neigh- when you may! They certainly will not bors ? Were we not friendly before this be so brutal as to harm us young girls," "It shall be neither !" thundered Van- terrible war ? Remember, I entreat of said Judith, entreatingly.

swear that we will respectfully abide by 'I shall have no trouble in remember- trail and looked upon their infarnal work. ing the last, I'll warrant. I shouldn't I i now what happens to sich as you, and This was instantly done; with clasped trusted myself here if you'd been surroun- should be tempted to kill you with my

arms, and moved toward the dark tangled nocence.' mass of wood lying in the rear of the mansion at the distance of a hundred rods, and covering an area of ten miles in cir- hurry to bring 'em and lay 'em down be-

Jessie, who had partly recovered her contemptuously. Let me tell you, Mar- moving to and fro among the shrubbery. great crash, and squinted out of the win- conflict, took possession of their minds. "There are seven of them and seven of tin Vantassle, that your wooing is odious. Her heart misgave her. How could they dow with his twinkling eyes. The move- A glow of hope returned to their pale resist so many enomies? She thought of ment was nearly fatal to Podijah, for a checks. As their own danger grew less "Let us determine our respective men 'That's right Miss; call me pet names. the strange many enemies? She thought bullet, aimed at random from outside, iminent, in their estimation, feelings of tunely appeared to save her from Vantas. check.

> 'Stand back from the window!' said the head as any way; close up my seams, enced defenders. if he isn't!'

The warning was timely; a charge of and now commenced the assault from suffered loss, but not enough to prevent different quarters with great resolution brave men, or persons of even ordinary and fury. Each felt that the crisis was hardihood, from making further attempts. rapidly approaching. Tom Hutter and Blinko, reinforced by Hazlehurst and the inquietude, but finally joined the ladies,

CHAPTER III.

FIRE AND SWORD.

The four defenders of Laurelwood ran Tom Hutter suddenly thrust his rifle from point to point to meet and repel the invaders, who endeavored to force an entrance through the windows and doors simultaneously. The voice of Tom Hutter swelled loudly above the din of conflict. The struggle was kept up with determined spirit by the beseiged. While each was engaged with an enemy, Jessie Burnside cried out that a party of them had beaten down one of the doors and were pressing into the hall.

Podijah and Hazlehurst sprang to meet them. For a time the result was doubtful, but victory finally turned in favor of the defenders, whose powerful blows and hearty courage they could not withstand. Those who were not repulsed were left upon the floor with broken heads. The door was replaced and everything moveable piled against it.

The Tories ignominiously withdrew to the shelter of the surrounding trees and shrubbery, and Hutter hoped that the attack would not again be renewed.

The girls, during this scene, behaved

nobly. Overcoming the natural timidity of their sex, they made themselves useful to their brave friends in various ways .--Paul Hozleburst fought like a lion. If he entertained fears, they were not for himself, but for Jessie Burnside and her conflict, panting and thirsty, she brought kindle the mad blaze, and that had been him water; her little band presented the cooling draught to his lips. He would Blinko disappeared, but soon returned gladly have imprisoned that ministering with a blunderbuss, two muskets, a brace member in his own and pressed grateful kisses upon it, had propriety sanctioned a horn of powder. Hutter took the blun- the act.

'I never did,' said Tom.

. Well, that's abcout the stillest work you can find. I reckon, though somtimes there's a heap o' business done.'

"Hark! said Tom.

"I don't hear nothin' but Paul and the gals. Paul's ruther sweet on one of 'em. I should say, though 'twould be hard to choose atween 'em. Wax my flax, if it wouldn't!"

'It strikes me,' said Tem, "that the air is growing bot and oppressive. Listen! be quiet there, Paul and the gals.

Each of the parties became attentive. A hissing, roaring sound was heard overbead

"The bouse is on fire!' eried Hutter. Some of the blood thirsty villains have effected an entrance through the roof."

The scout rushed up stairs and threw open a door. A deuse volume of smoke, mingled with flame, met him and drove him back. Beds, garments, everything combustible had been piled in a heap and fired. The straw, the feathers, the linen, companions. When he pau-ed from the were like tinder; it needed but a spark to

cumference.

By this time Ruth and Judith missed range of the winders.' her, and came running to the spot as he | By this time Blioko had revived and was bearing her away. They cried loud- hearing this order, said:

ly for assistance, while terror nearly de- 'I'll tend to dat, Mars'r Tom. Only prived them of sense and volition. At let the young misses keep out de way, and

'Then fly-escape from the back door

men!' exclaimed Ruth Haviland.

well as I. I've followed their terrible ruffian violence. If my time's come,

'There was mischief in that,' he said,

'Resi-tance,' cried Jessie, 'is hopeless.

ly. 'Blinko, give me the blunderbuss.'

The black handed the heavy and de-

'Noble Tom!' cried Rvth. 'If you've any firearms and amunition, side me, and be keerful to keep out of the

woives and catamount+ that prowl through

Sumpter still," interposed Langford.

panions, Ruth Haviland and Judith Burn-"The Swamp Fox will soon be still e- side, her sister, sympathized with these

nough, I'll warrant ye; Colonel Tarleton feelings of uneasiness. With the excep-is on his track, and he'll trap him afore tion of Blinko, a black servant, and June is on his track, and he'll trap him afore tion of Blinko, a black servant, and Jupe, he's a week older. However, that's nei a mulatto girl, these ladies were, at this ther here nor there; let them fight for this time, the sole occupants of the house. glory who will-our motto is 'Booty and Mrs. Burnside being absent in attendance upon a sick relative, while Mr. Burnside Beauty.' "

"We know who your beauty is," said was serving in Marion's Brigade. It was Simon Arrowsmith, with a leer; "it is at that period when the struggle for liberty seemed dark and hopeless. South Jessie Burnside."

"And he shall have her, too!" said Carolina was overrun with pitiless ene-Herrick, with an oath. mies, and devastated with fire and sword. "Thank'e, Nat Herrick; and if you don't Toryism was rife, and stalked abroad like

succeed with Ruth Haviland, it'll be no a destroying angel, smitting old and young. No man trusted his neighbor fault of mine."

"And will nobody speak a word for until he stood shoulder to shoulder with him in battle. No one knew where to me ?" asked Langford.

"A hundred, if you like !" eried Pol- find faith and good fellowship till danger lard, "though to me it appears like the and death had come to apply the test to entirely unarmed.

greatest nonsence to be runnin' arter wo- friend and brother. men when there's so much real fightin' to Burnside's mansion-which had rebe done. My mistress is a bloody one. ceived the name of Laurelwood on acand I find her wherever there is a Whig count of its proximity to Laurel Swamp not rest till they have gorged themselves.' to hang, a till to rifle, or a bouse to burn. - was so far distant from towns and ci-Howsondever, if you like Judith Burn- ties that he flattered himself its quietude Jessie, and observing that she was faint, to rest upon his single arm. A chilling critters has got enough on'tl' said Podi- in the mass of smoke that rolled from aside, it's none o' my business, and I reck- would not be intruded upon by marching caught her up as if she were an infant, sensation of horror crept over them when jah. on none on us 'll stand in your way .- armies or wandering bands of loyalists. and carried her to the door. Placing her they reflected upon the consequences of much hammerin' as folks can as are moment of intense anxiety, then the door She's very handsome, and proud as she is It is true that he left his beloved ones esrefully within the threshold, he repeat- defeat and capture.

the moment when the catastrophe seemed [11] stand by ye longs there am a breff complete, a tall man, with a large black life in me.'

bery, seized Vantassle by the throat, of ducling pistols, a bag of buckshot and wrested Jessie from his grasp, and choking him till he was black in the face, derbuss and charged it heavily. There hurled him to the ground. While Van-

tassle lay stunned upon the earth, his vanquisher took his musket from his un-

nerved hand, discharged it into the air, to the Tory marksmen. and broke the stock against the trunk of a tree. He then drew the pistols from the Tory's belt and thru-t them into his own, from which already protruded the butts of four. The blade of Vantassle's knife he snapped by thrusting it into the ment desert him. cleft of a rock, but the heavy sabre he buckled to his side, leaving the ruffian

'In, gals, in l' cried the rescuer. 'Bar your doors, and say your prayers, for the

Tory bounds have scented blood, and will The tall, wild looking man glanced at describable interest. Their fate seemed

'Are you wounded!' she asked, hurriwas no light in the bouse save a single edly.

'I do not know,' he replied. 'I have candle, which was placed behind a door in a corner to prevent serving as a guide not thought of myself; I have thought only of you and your friends, I never have time to think of myself when you are Hutter cast himself upon the floor and watched the movements of the assailants near: I should despise myself if I did.' ' You are too brave, too generous!" anover the window sill. His person was swered Jessie, with emotion. 'You exsomewhat exposed to the shouts of the pose yourself needlessly; You have too enemy, but his coolness did not for a momuch contempt for danger.'

'There is no such word as danger 'The cowards are about to charge upon the door in a body,' he said, present- when I do battle for the safety and honor of Jessie Buruside.'

' Too chivalrous! too chivalrous!' exstructive weapon to the scout, whose mus- claimed Jessie.

cles were firm and obedient. The young ladies observed his movements with in- said Hutter, approaching Hazelburst. Wax my flax, if I dou't believe the

spplied some minutes before by a cunning and malicious hand.

Scorched by the furious element, and half suffocated, Hutter mounted the stairs again, in hopes to combat the destructive power by seattering the material which fed it, but it was too late. Podijab Makepeace ran after him and dragged him back, half choked by the penetrating, hot and smoke-loaded air.

Paul Hazlehurst, in defiance of the black, asphyxiating vapors, rushed to the chamber to close the door that had been left open, but sank blinded and overpowered upon the threshold. It was with difficulty that he could retrace his steps. He was gasping for breath like a drowning man when he rejoined the anxious group below.

'That door must be shet,' said Podijab, 'or we shall be smoked to death, like "I can't quite understand the silence,' rats in a hole! I'll shet it, or sufficeate tryin'. Wax my flax, if I don't!'

The tall form of Podijah disappeared 'You see they can't stan' near so hove like thunderclouds. There was a fightin' for liberty. A few right smart | was heard to close. Almost simultane-