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The Patriot & Union. VOL. 3. HARRISBURG, PA., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1860. NO. 73.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING, SUNDAYS EXCEPTED, BY O. BARRETT & CO. THE DAILY PATRIOT AND UNION will be served to subscribers residing in Harrisburg for six months for \$2.00 per annum.

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The Patriot & Union.

SATURDAY MORNING, NOV 24, 1860. THE SAMPHIRE GATHERER'S STORY. "It was here, sir, that Mr. Clements descended."

"How fearful!" I exclaimed, scarcely venturing to look down a precipice at least 600 feet deep. To repeat in a few words what had occupied nearly an hour, and omitting his numerous digressions, the samphire gatherer's tale ran thus: At the close of the last century, he and his father, samphire gatherers by trade, had assisted in lowering one Mr. Clements down the cliff under rather extraordinary circumstances.

Following his example, and taking a seat on the grass near him, the old man continued his tale. "I give it in his own words. 'Well, sir, when we found we could not persuade him to let one of us go down in his place, father, as usual, secured a crowbar into the earth, a few feet from the edge of the cliff, and then, twining the rope once around it, in order to give us a steady hold on Mr. Clements fastened it under his arms. We then made him change his coat for one of our frocks, and then, as he wished to see how he felt, he stepped against the sides of the cliff—as it were thus, and made him take the rope in his hands just above the knot, and told him to lean out as far as he possibly could, and to work downwards with his feet and look up, and keep a look out for the stones and rubbish which the rope might dislodge. We told him all this, sir, and bade him not be frightened at the birds, as they would not harm him—the sun had set, sir, and they always made a horrible screaming if you go down the cliff after they have gone to roost; and then, as he wished to give the rope a couple of pulls, and we'd haul him back, 'No, no,' says Mr. Clements, 'there's no necessity for that. When I get to the bottom, wait for a quarter of an hour; if at the end of that time I give no signal for you to pull me up, you will know that the ladies are safe, and then make what haste you can and get a boat from—' I am re-dy now,' says he, in a faint voice, and his teeth all the while chattering with fear. Never was a man so frightened."

"The undersigned would respectfully inform the Public that he has the honor to have the Hotel, formerly known as 'THE MANAGER HOUSE,' which he has retained and newly furnished throughout. The rooms are spacious and commodious, and furnished with every convenience to be found in the best hotels of the city. 'UNITED STATES' is admirably located for the convenience of travelers, being under the same roof with the Pennsylvania Railroad Depot, and thus saving both back hire and portage of baggage. No pains will be spared to render the 'UNITED STATES' a pleasant and agreeable residence to all who may favor it with their patronage. Charges moderate. oct23-d16y H. W. KANAGA, Proprietor.

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through the darkness up the cavern; he struggled—sank—rose again—heard his name called louder and nearer—made one effort more—felt the sand, the smooth sand, under his feet—staggered forward—reeled, and fell exhausted into the arms of his wife."

"And his sister?" "The ladies were both there, sir. The cave was about fifty feet in depth, sloping upwards, towards the back, and partly filled with weeds, stones and sand. Here Mrs. Clements and her sister had been driven to take refuge from the rising tide. They had landed from the boat on the rocks, at some distance from the cavern, in the hope of finding a pathway or outlet by which they could escape up the cliff. After a long and hopeless search, they beheld them of the boat, and to their extreme terror, found that it had been carried away by the rising tide, which now partly covered the rocks. They had just time to climb into the cavern, over the fallen rocks, under the arch, when the water, sweeping in, closed up all entrances to any but a swimmer. Although the tide was fast rising the ladies cheered each other with the hope that they should escape. Fortunately, the darkness of the cave prevented their discovering the height to which the water usually rose.

"As you might imagine, Mr. Clements was some time before he recovered his senses. His wife kneeling beside him, chafing his brows, when her sister, starting up, called their attention to the rope by which he had descended. They were pulling it up; and he shook his head as it disappeared over the arch of the cavern. Well he knew how useless it would have been for them to use it. 'It matters not,' he said, 'they (meaning us) have gone to—' We shall have boats here soon; we are safe—quite safe,' and so on, endeavoring to keep their spirits up, while he well knew that in the darkness the chances were that the boat would never find the cave.

"Two hours, sir—two long hours passed on in this way, and Mr. Clements had given up all hope. The water kept rising and rising, till at last the waves broke over their feet, and each lady were almost dead with cold and fear, when a large, heavy, Dutch built boat—'you don't see such now, sir—swamp, with scarcely a sound, under the arch into the cave, her prow coming close in upon the spot where Mr. Clements and the ladies were. They did not see her until they were within the cavern; and no wonder, for the oars were muffled, and those who were in her were as silent as the grave. It was part of the cargo of a French smuggler, lying a few miles off, that her crew, assisted by some fishermen, were about to land, and they had taken shelter in the cavern, having been alarmed from calling out for assistance from them."

"Why, I should have thought that at such a moment even—"

"Not they, sir, not they; and Mr. Clements knew it. Desperate men like them would have left the poor things to drown, or have murdered them. No; Mr. Clements knew better. He tried a last and dangerous chance, but it was his only one; while the men had their heads turned to the opening of the cave, he slipped the boat pass, and in a twinkling had driven into the bow of the boat. They couldn't hear him for the noise of the waves; there was plenty of room for them, and he drew a seal over them, and was just going to step in himself, when one of the men turned, and he had only time to conceal himself under the bows of the boat before she was again moving silently out of the cave, with, as her crew little suspected, the addition of two their number since she had entered it.

"They were about a quarter of a mile down under the cliff, and landed a boy, who disappeared like a flash up the rocks. A dead silence ensued; no one ventured to speak; the men rested on their oars, and the boat gently rose and sank on the waves. At last the silence was broken; something dark was hurled down the cliff, at a short distance from the boat. It fell heavily on the rocks. 'God forgive him, his head is over,' said one of the men. And so it was. The poor man on the lookout was asleep near the top of the cliff, and we often hear of these men rolling off in their sleep. There's always a reason for it, sir. They were going to land their cargo, when they heard a gun in the offing, from one of the king's cutters. The alarm had been given. Not a moment was to be lost; and, straining every nerve, they bore out to sea.

"They were about two miles from the shore when some of the men declared it was a lost job, and that they could go no further. Mrs. Clements was quite senseless from cold and exhaustion, but her sister listened eagerly to what the men said. They had some angry words, but the meaning of their conversation she could not understand. There was a little boat astern of the larger one, which they drew to out as he stepped in, 'now then, boys, pull for your lives; they'll make after us when they find they've lost their prize.' The boat had disappeared in the surrounding darkness before the terrified lady comprehended all; and then, in a moment, the frightful truth flashed upon her. The devils had scuttled the boat, and it was sinking fast. She uttered one prayer, and turned to kiss her sleeping sister, when Mr. Clements' voice sounded almost above her side! There he was in the same little pleasure boat which had been the cause of all their misfortunes. He had just time to lift the ladies from the boat and get clear of her when she went down. The revenue cutter came up and took them aboard, all safe; but many months passed before Mrs. Clements recovered from the effects of that dreadful night."

"What became of Mr. Clements when they left him in the cave?" "He held on to the boat for a few moments, till they got outside, and then swam to the rocks, where he found his little pleasure-boat, and entering it, followed in the wake of the larger vessel, and was thus in time to save the lives of his wife and her sister. 'The sun is setting, sir,' added the samphire-gatherer, touching his hat to me, 'I must be going home now. Mayhap when you are strolling, one of these days, on the rocks below, you will look at the cavern where Mr. Clements found his wife. You can imagine better than I can describe, what must have been their feelings in such a place and at such a time. Good evening, sir.' MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF NEGROES.—Several slaves, one of them a very valuable bricklayer and plasterer, have mysteriously disappeared from Montgomery, Ala., since the election. No clue to their whereabouts has been found, and it is surmised that a dexterously managed branch of the underground railroad has been extended to that city.—Mobile Advertiser.

LYNCH LAW IN SAVANNAH.—On Saturday night J. K. Blyler was taken from a barber shop in Savannah, Ga., by some parties in disguise and treated to a coat of tar and cotton. He was suspected of abolitionism. The Savannah papers, however, earnestly denounce the outrage. C. H. Rhet, of South Carolina, but connected with the late or Department in Washington, has tendered his resignation.