Harragaragaragaragaragara karabarabaraharagaragaragara Thor, the Norwegian

-

By Frederic Van Rensselaer Dey.

There is no place in all the world so deso. navigate a craft which ordinarily should late, particularly when a nor west gale had have carried a crew of four or five. been on the rampage for three successive. When morning came the storm had in which caps the waves is not white and with a noise like distant thunder. flakey as it is in the southern zones, but seems to have been adulterated with some who had held the helm through the storm refuse tint suggestive of the dirty suds of of the preceding night, and brought the wash day. The wind is as creatic as the slop safely into this strange retrest, said waves which chop unmer-fully, it howls to his companion, while they steed together and shricks and roars with deadly energy at the bow;

for a time, and then moans suffenly while "Craddock, this tile of nature's masonry it generates new force for a more furious. region and avoid it when they can, but georets, too, and one of them I have disthe amphibious Norwegian and the stormwilderness. If you should study one of the older

charts of this had-tempered sea you would discover that fifty-two miles off the coast of Denmark, by the compass north-northwest from Tyberon, there looms a rock the Devil's Nose. At the present time it Devil's Nose. Two-thirds of the distance to has disappeared, for upon it had stranded so many vessels and to it was due the loss of so many lives and so much property that the Danish and the German governments united to destroy it. It is not located on the charts in use today, and the deepest draught war vessel may now pass over the spot in safety.

Originally it loomed sixty-four fee into the air, and from the westward formed. had the appearance of a huge nose, the more so when the tide was low, for then at the water's edge could be seen indentations that had been ground out by centuries of pounding waves, and these cavities were the nostrils of this mammoth proboscis. To the eastward it extended from the summit to the water at an angle of 23 degrees. This part of the rock was concave in form, and it broadened as it descended until it finally disappeared beneath the water like the tines of a pitchfork, leaving a sheltered bay about fifty feet in length by thirty in breadth, and as deep as the sea itself. Many a belated craft returning from a fishing voyage and evertaken by a furious nor wester found shelter here before the rock was destroyed, and in the little bay rode out the gale in safety; and it was just such an occasion as this which one afternoon in August compelled two men, the sole occupants of sloop-rigged craft, to seek the little haven

The gale had come upon them almost without warning. They had reefed and double recfed their sails, but the wind, as if it enjoyed their discomfiture, increased its strength in proportion as they reduced the resistance to it, so that at last they were obliged to scud before it with only sail enough left standing to give them steer-

age way. One of these men, almost a giant it stature, held the tiller and watched with unerring eyes the play of the savage water around them. He knew these waters as the half-grown child knows the dooryard of its birthplace, and he loved the sea, the leaping waves and the rushing wind with a passion that was hereditary. He loved it, and in his ear: he delighted to defy its dangers. His companion held the sheet rope, which, notwithstanding the fact that he had taken two straight to windward. turns around the cleat, was, with each frish gust of wind, almost snatched from his

"We'll make the Devil's Nose, Craddock, said the big man at the helm, "and we'll he there in ten minutes' time. Pass the sheet to me. I can hold it with my left hand. Now take the heaving line and go forward. Make one end fast to the capstan tie the other end around your waist, and when I round to into the little bay jump and swim for your life. She'll have headway enough to carry her into the neck of the cove, but not a bit more. There is at fron ring set in the rock near the point on the north shore and another at the head of the cove. If you can make one of them, and get a hitch through it before the line pulls taut, we will be as safe as a church. Put your clasp knife in your teeth, Crad, and if you cannot make one of the rings in tim . cut yourself adrift and swim ashore and wait. I'll ride out the gale alone, and then I'll come back for you. Go forward, now!

Not a word! I'm captain of this craft. When the sloop was again upon the summit of a wave Craddock, from his position at the bow, could see the huge rock to which his companion had referred. He had heard him describe it many times, but he had never seen it before.

There is nothing so deadly uncertain in the life of a sailor as running straight be fore a gale of wind. Billows, like mountains, tower in front and rear up out of the ocean's depth astern, making destruction appear inevitable. And there is an angry swish and a resentful scething in the rush ing water as it lifts the stern on high and hurls the craft like an arrow from a bow before it. But neither of those men seemed to realize the danger they were in, or if they realized it, they were careless concerning it. And while he at the stern stood with feet apart, his right hand grasping the tiller and his left firmly holding the straining sheet, Craddock prepared himself for the leap he was to make, upon the success of which their safety depended.

From a small thing in the distance the Devil's Nose loomed greater and mightier as they advanced. It seemed to be rushing toward them at fearful speed, growing taller and mightier and more ominous as it ap proached. The waves beat against it with savage fury and clouds of spray and chunks of water were hurled almost to the summit-It seemed to Craddock as they drove on

ward as if his friend was steering straight for the forbidden rock; but he never lookes astern. He knew that the hand that held the tiller was strong, tried and sure.

Then came the mighty boom of the mad dened waters against the barrier of rock and the yacht was enveloped in a shower of foam and mist through which, half obscured, the black monument towered. The helmsman released his hold upon the sheet. Bity feet below. the boom flew forward with a sudden crash sgainst the shrouds, the sloop heeled over petrified, clinging with both hands to the on the forehead. She made no reply, and Instant that Craddock made his leap.

Twenty minutes later the sloop was safely moored within the little bay, which was with water, and, surely foundering, was disappeared. se placid as a mill pond, and the two men thrown by the violence of the wave that were snug in the cabin with nothing but struck her out of line with the Devil's Nose, tude for many minutes, but at last he the roar of the rushing wind above them and almost before there was time to realize strade forward to where Craddock waited and the booming of the water against the the awful thing that had happened she at the bow, western extremity of the rock to remind had passed beyond his view to larward. He "The daughter of a king," he raid to him. them of the perils through which they had was dimly conscious that the binnacle and "Craddock, I never cared till pow to know

came smothered by advancing night they cooked and ate their supper and smoked figures of the woman and of the two men Craddock, but only a woman after all." their pipes in tranquil security. Why they who were lashed to the wheel. have inspected the articles that were stored of the sea, another figure appeared. Then it was spent, and only the unquiet waves away in secret lockers aboard the sloop he both were lost to view. might have called them by the new almost | There was no sign of excitement in Crad- night. obsolete term, smugglers. Ostensibly, how- dock's face or manner. He turned with de- A strange unrest abode with Thor, the ever, the sloop was nothing more than a liberation, passed around the jutting rock Norwegian. Many times he drew near to

(Copyrighted, 1900, by F. V. R. Dey.) some sailors who found it possible to

days, lashing the sea into a fury of fram creased in violence, and so mighty were the and termoil, as that part of the North sea seas which swept before it that not inwhere it washes against the western coast [frequently clouds of spray and masses of of the peninsula of Denmark. At such water leaped over the summit of the rock, times the air is frost-laten and benumbing, to skein fall into the sea many fathoms to even in mid-summer. The water itself is leeward. The rushing of the wind, split in of an ominous, leaden tint, like a battleship twain by the barrier which sheltered them with her war paint on. Even the foam came together again beyond the Devil's Nose

After they had disposed of their coffee he

contains the unwritten epitaphs of thousands Deep-sea sailors dread this who have perished here. It has other covered, and will show you. Do you think born Dane love it as a savage loves the if we climb to the summit youder that you can keep your held upon the slippery rock against the gale?"

Craddock shrugged his shoulders, and, without reply, turned toward the dingey which had already been launched and was moored on the port side of the gloop. They with an unpronounceable Danish name, sculled it quickly to the head of the bay, and which, being translated into English, means soon began the precarious ascent of the the summit they came upon a level space no bigger than a dining table, which in the enter was cleft apart, leaving a space not more than two feet wide, and as dark as midnight within; and into this forbidding place the big man, without explanation or hesitation, dropped. Craddock followed, and a mement later they stood in a natural cavern that was created when the rock was

"I doubt," said the leader, "if there lives another man today who knows of the existence of this cavern. Hark! Do you hear that whistling moan? It is like the vibration of a hundred acclian harps. I have a tern here; wait till I strike a light and l will show you something grander than you ever saw before." Then, presently, he led the way up the slippery rock, and as they advanced the weird moaning and whistling became louder and shriller until it seemed as if there were living things hovering around them and shricking in their ears it was the voice of the gale as it rushed through an opening in the rock high over their heads; and after they had mounted to it Craddock saw his friend put the lantern down; then his arm was seized in a firm grasp and he was led around a jutting oulder into the light of day.

The wind struck them like a blow, and or a moment forced them back again, but they held their ground and presently stood upon a ledge formed by an indentation which Nature had left in the mighty mass. with the summit of the Devil's carce three fathoms above their heads.

The The view was grand and awful. storm was at its height. Black clouds ushed toward them and above them like hargers of a Hadean host. Seas, mountains high, plume-crested, with white foam shattered against the rock on which they stood, which of itself did not even tremble. Craddock loved such scenes with not less passion than his friend, and while he stood entranced his arm was seized again with crushing force and the voice of his friend.

"Look yonder, Crad! Look there!" and with his disengaged hand he pointed

but faintly heard above the tempest, shouted

them with the speed of a locomotive was a hooner vacht under bare poles, rolling and pitching and tossing, now half subnerged beneath torrents of water that fell pon her from the pursuing waves and again opearing like a helpless chip upon the sumnit of an angry sea.

She scemed to be making straight for the Devil's Nose. Upon her deck a dozen forms vere visible, lashed to their places to prevent being swept away by wind and water. As she drove onward nearer and nearer. 'reddock's companion again shouted in his

"I know her, Crad. It is the favorite acht of the Princess Charlotte of Denmark ied grant that she may not be aboard it She loves the sea as we love it 'rad, and-look, for God's sake, look!" cointed with his disengaged hand, and Cradlock saw the figure of a woman wrapped in a cork tacket, lashed to the binnacle of the beleaguered yacht which was now not nore than thirty fathoms from the rock. At the very instant that the two men disovered her a mighty wave rolled up over be stern and broke in mid air, overwhelm ing the yatch with a flood of water tha rushed and made a wreck of her before

For two seconds they gazed spellbound



APPROACHING THE "DEVIL'S NOSE."

upon the acene, and then without a word of warning or intention Craddock's companion leaped upward and outward and plunged headlong downward to the water,

to starboard until her deck was half sub- rock from which the wind seemed demerged in water and she came about like | termined to hurl him; and he gazed with the snapping of a whip. It was at that every faculty concentrated in his eyes upon true." And she reached out and took his the awful scene of wreckage and destruc- hand, raised it to her lips and kissed it While the storm raged on and daylight be- had been torn loose and swept away in the could not answer. Will you help me to find

were where they were, overtaken by a Then almost directly beneath the spot. The storm that had promised to invest furious gale in the most dangerous part of where he stood, on the crest of a wave, and that part of the world for three or four days the North sea, does not matter, but if a breasting it with the power of a giant, he began to bull as the day advanced, so that coast guard or a costoms officer could saw his friend. Beyond him, in the trough when the sun was at meridian the fury of

moment later he saw the form of his friend face.

until then there had been no word spoken. princers," "Madam," he said, pausing beneath the "No, R

head, and he added: "This is the only dry I wish that you had not taken me to the clothing I can offer you. There is brandy summit of the rock." clothing I can offer you. There is brandy summit of the rock.

on the table. If there is more that I can The broad shoulders of the Norwegian cess Carlotta. do, you have but to call through the hatch. gave expression to a shrug. He raised his He turned then to leave her, but she de- head proudly, and smiled at the clouds, the tained him by a gesture.

"Tell me," she demanded, with nervous | "I did not take you there, old chap," he

have ventured, by srtfully working his oar, fingers through the wavy, tawny masses of to you there. I know not how, nor when, he did not."

he held the little craft almost stationary, his hair, as if by doing so some obstacle but I will go. Until then, princess, I may while he, standing upright, shading his eyes to collected reflection might be dispelled not eny more than I have said."

For a more with his disengaged hand, gazed eagerly to Craddock also seemed distraught. He kept

windward. He seemed also to listen, his place at the bow and gazed, not at the locked and locked. She did not speak. Presently high above the roar of the wind sea, but upward, toward the summit of the there was no need. And while their soule and waters the strange, weird bar of a Devil's Nose, and there was anger to his cammuned together in silence. Craddock yodel song in minor key came to him. A eyes and menace in the expression of his leaped into the hatchway and called sloud; swimming toward him with powerful At last Thor drew near to him again.

Strokes, and clinging to his back, with her "I cannot help it Craddock," he said, as forehead of the princess with his lips, and arms around his neck, was the cork-jacketed if in continuation of a discussion between then he left her and hastened to the deck.

woman of the wreck.

them. 'I cannot belp it, my friend, I love Not three miles away to the eastward a her. Yes, and she loves me. It was her Danish cruiser was steaming toward them. White and wan and drenched, yet con- soul that cried aloud to me from the sea Craddock was at the stern of the sloop scious, with something infinitely pathetic in when I stood up there on the rock and heard wildry gesticulating to attract the attenher wonder and amazement, they assisted and answered and obeyed. What matter if tion of those upon the ship of war, and her sloop's deck to the little cabin, she is the daughter of a king? Do you from the starboard how there presently is-It was Craddock who entered with her, and know, Craddock, that since she came to us sued a puff of smoke followed by a distant from a locker he selected clothing of his I believe that I, too, am of royal blood? You report, and the cruiser glided into the loss own, which he laid out upon the berth; are angry because you know I love this tumultuous waves beneath the shelter of

hatch, "do you understand English" faced his friend. "I am not angry, that is and presently pulled under the stern of the She replied with an inclination of her not the word; but I have grave misgivings sloop.

sky, and the world around him.

He strode away without another word,

Again they faced each other in the shal-

remember. Have I spoken truth, princess?"

'Yes, God's truth." she murmured.

first one and then the other with his lips.

low cabin scarce higher than his stature.



ntensity, "who is the man who took me said. "She called to me, and I went, al-"He is a Norwegian, madam; by name, Blame destiny-not me. I am going to her Thorgensen.

"Well named," she murmured. "A Norwegian Thor. Tell him that he has saved paused at the hatchway, and said: the life of a daughter of the king of Den- 'May I enter, princess?" umbled onward in mad expostulation to be the life of a daughter of the king of Denmark.

When Craddock returned to the deck he ound his friend stretched at full length at fixed upon the coursing clouds, and there hands in his. "I am a Norwegian waif, and He seemed to have forgotten that he was royal blood, yet I love you. It is somebedraggied and wet and that his tawny hair thing that our souls have done without our Scarcely a mile away and driving toward big blue eyes upon his friend and said "Who is she, Craddock?"

"to tell you that you had saved the life of a daughter of the king of Denmark." The Norwegian did not immediately re spond. There was a dreamy, faraway look in his eyes and presently he neurmured: The daughter of a king. I am glad of

that. The daughter of a king. Yes, I am glad of that." He ceased speaking, rose slowly to his feet, and, standing before his friend, said it that same half-dreamy tone:

"Shall I tell you how it happened, Crad? seemed when I stood up there on the rock and saw that wave hang over her, ready to fall and crush, as though I beard her ry aloud to me to save her, and I leaped How I found her I do not know, but when I came to the surface she was near to me and seemed to leap through the water, impelled by greater strongth than I ever possessed before. Then-why, then it seemed as if there was no danger and I remember that I laughed aloud and told her to put her arms around my neck, and somehow, Crad. it seemed as if she felt the same as I, that the wind and the waves and the fury of the storm could not, dared not, harm us; that the water could not drown us, and I swam around the rock, knowing that you would be waiting for us. And all that time she did not speak. I have not heard the sound of her voice. A daughter of a king, you eav out only a woman after all. A woman with heart-aye, two hearts-for now, by heaven, she possesses mine. The daughter of a king, but only a woman, Crad, only a

An hour later she called to them from the batchway, and it was Thor who answered her. She had made no change in her apparel and seemed to be as unconscious of the wet as her Norwegian savior. It seemed, too, as if they had known each other always, he towering over her like a god, and she gazing up into his eyes in silent amaze-

'Princess," he said, "it has pleased God o let me take you from the sea. Tell me did you call aloud from the deck of the schooner before the mountain of water fel ipon you, and did you call my name?" "No," she said, "I could not call your

name. I did not know any one was near. your name. Your friend has told me that. Who are you?" "Yesterday if you had asked me that,

eplied Thor, "I could have answered. Now I do not know. There was a man upon th rock when your yacht floundered in the That man leaped into the sea but the man who swam out of the sca with you upon his back is not the same. You madam, are a princess of royal blood. am a man who never knew his father, and yet there is between us, belonging to both Craddock did not move. He stord as if a divinity of love. It is stronger than I o

she did not resent the salutation. "Thor!" she said, dreamily, "Yes, it is The yacht careened over, half filled then she turned back into the cabin and

The Norwegian did not change his atti-

wheel and all the after-rigging of the yacht who I am. She asked the question and I vortex, and with them had disappeared the cut who I am? The daughter of a king.

told what it had been through the preceding

mere pleasure boat, and they two venture- into the cavern, found the ship's lantern Craddock and paused as if about to speak,

still burning there, made his way rapidly then silently withdrew. As many times he down and out through the cleft into the strode to the batchway and seemed to whose central our entities are as more can and we cold it for \$2.50 a bottle, but open air, thence hurriedly to the water's meditate upon entering the cabin, only to feathers in a gale, brought us through the we didn't get a blamed cant for the birtyedge, and in a moment more he was in the turn away and stand gazing across the water tempest, face to face, and you, Carlotta | nine gailone, more or less, of water that dingey, sculling rapidly past the sloop to- toward the coast of Denmark. His strong you see I know your name—and you and filled the rest of the barrel. It wasn't a to-ward the open sea.

When he had reached a certain point be- troopection which could not be confounded hour. Renceforth. Some day when you are near it that we would have lynched the felwould which it would have been folly to with anxiety, and frequently he ran ble safe in the palace of your father I will go low if he had ever turned up again, which

She raised her eyes to his and looked and Jerial Extra Dry Champagne is the thing. It

the Devil's Nose. Davits swung outward, a "No, Ralph;" and Craddock turned and cutter dropped into the sea, was manned

The cruiser had been sent from Tyborou in search of the belated yacht of the Prin-

Twenty minutes later the princess had departed. The cruiser, with black smoke spouting from her funnels, was coursing with all speed for Denmark with the joyous news of the princess' safety; and Thor stood Heisters and safety no! That neighbor's silently leaning against the tiller of the pay brought back the umbreifa his mother sloop, with one hand shading his eyes, borrowed yesteria; sloop, with one hand shading his eyes, watching the war ship while she became smaller in the distance.

Presently he turned and motioned to Craddock to come nearer. Then, resting one hand upon the shoulder of his friend, he said, slowly: "The daughter of a king, Craddock, but

only a woman after all. I love her, and she loves me; and were she the daughter of a hundred kings, she were no less mine The daughter of a king, Craddock, but also the sweetheart of Thor, the Norwegian. SALTED WHISKY.

How a Liquor House Was Worked by

a Clever Swindle. "There are tricks in the whisky business as well as in others," sald the drummer for a large compounding house to the Washington Post reporter. "And I remember how the firm I was with got stuck. One day a man drove up in a one-horse wagon carrying one barrel of whisky, which he wanted to sell. He told us some kind of story about an old uncle dying and leaving it to him but, as he couldn't afford to use as good liquor as it was, he had concluded to sell it We took the barrel into the house and, prying out the bung, we slipped in the siphor and drew off a glace of it to sample. And it was fine. The barrel showed age and the liquor tasted it. It was worth \$10 a gallon if it was worth a cent, but we didn't give the man any such pointers. We knew by the weight that there were at least forty gallons of it and we made him an offer of though 1 did not know that she called \$150 for the barrel. He hazgled awhile, but took the money at last and drove away.

"In the course of a couple of weeks we concluded to put that whicky in bottles and sell it as case goods, so we set the siphon to work at the bung and began to draw I off. After the fourth bottle had been drawn the siphon refused to work and we examined "Princess," he said, and without being it to find what was wrong. We could not the bow, lying upon his back, with his eyes conscious of the act, he possessed both her get at it that way and, as the contents seemed to be all right, we set the barrel on was an indescribable smile upon his face. yet, you love me. You are a princess of end and bored another hole in it. Then the siphon worked, but the liquor was much paler, and one of the men tasted it. By and beard were matted and unkempt, and knowledge, perhaps in the unremembered George, it wasn't whisky at all. It was only as Craddock paused beside him he turned his past before these shells in which we live water, colored somewhat from the charred were made. They knew each other then i inside of the barrel. That scared us and we and, doubtices, loved. Today, mayhap after smashed the head in to see what was inside "She told me," said Craddock, calmly, in cycles of time which destiny cannot count, and we saw in a minute. The wily cuss had fitted a can filled with fine old whisky to the bung where we made the examination bef repurchasing and when that had been empties He bent over her white hands and touched the whole story had been told. He had

For a morning sip a bottle of Cook's Imwill make a winner of you.

An Early Morning Episode. An Early Morning Episode.

The gray light of the morning was steating through the windows of the Brown home, reports the Indianarolis Press. Someomic the Flock on the mantel chimed the sleepy hour of 5. Suditorly the deorbell clauged with a will, floree shrick. Again and again it resected to its wildly reverberating tremulousness. Then hurried footstein took their masy way over the sidewark to the back porch and a series of rold and irreverent knocks disturbed the solltude.

"Fire at the store," thought Brown, turn

ing pale. "A telegram saying that mother is it."
A telegram saying that mother is it.
thought Mrs. Brown, with a strange fear
tugging at her heart
Brown hurriedly dressed, in his excitsment not forgetting to upset a few chairs
ment not forgetting to the light, thus adding to Mown hurriedly dressed. In his excitement our forgetting to upset a few chairs and to blow out the light, thus adding to the fear of Mrs. Brown, who breathlessly awaited the return of her lord.

See heard him open the kitchen deer. Then a muffled exchamation reached her ears and the door shut with a bang. Then a volley of sounds which are generally described as making the air turn blue, feached her ears. The sounds came peaced the last step and stood outlined in the bedroom door.

room door.

"A telegram, John" inquired Mrs.

Proof: In a terrible suspense, as she clutched the covers and awaited the worst.

A what? roured Brown. "A what?

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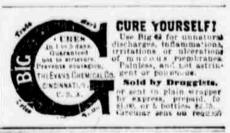
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