

When Captain Howard reached the the maintopsail was well cut up. thore where his boat was, he found a second boat there, in which there were bur men, the fifth one of her men being | Ha! there goes her fore yard-and around spon the beach. This latter man How-

CHAPTER III.

ird recognized as a sergeant of one of that starboard broadside. In with the the companies stationed at Matamoras, grape-let her come. whose name was Beecher. "Come," cried the captain, "let us go

m board and have some supper, and most at the same moment the brig did then we'll do our business.'

In a few minutes more the party were frew.

sou bring from Matamoras?"

"The colonel sent me up, sir," returned up. the sergeant, "to inform you that that notorious Mexican pirate was in our watso I leave you contra. his

"Ha!" uttered Howard, dropping mife, "do you mean Tudel?"

"Yes, sir. It must have been him. He rave chase to a brig that came from New Drieans to bring us stores. There is mother brig due from New Orleans with and we'll make quick work of the bloodprovisions and clothing for our forts on | thirsty dogs!" the Rio Grande, and we have feared that the pirate may overhaul her. The colonel mid he believed you had full power to go tones. n pursuit."

"Of course I have. I have a right to mke any Mexican vessel I can find-just ts much right as any other vessel of war n the United States service."

"It would be a blessing to our people," resumed Beecher, "if you could capture that villain. But mind you-he is not a sel handsomely up under the pirate's privateer-not by any means; he is a pirate of the blackest dye."

"I know him," returned the captain, er's bows were stopped directly beneath "and I have had my attention turned to the brig's main chains. im more than once before. I'll hunt im up if possible, you may be assured." On the following morning all hands were called as soon as the day broke, and having informed them of the purpose he had in hand, the captain ordered the inchors up and sail made. The wind was moderate from the southward, and Howard laid his course to the eastward, inending for a while to keep the track of ressels from New Orleans to Matamoras. death was sure to follow, and ere long Thus he stood on until near night, and ust as the sun was going down, a sail was discovered, which at length proved to e a brig standing in toward the coast. Howard found her to be the store brig which was expected at Matamoras,

Then Howard squared away and stood n. During the night a strict watch was ept up, but nothing was seen. On the By the cross, the first man who flinches next morning, however, just as the men shall fall by my own hand! Now, senor were getting up from their breakfast, the capitan, you have found me." ookout at the foretopmast cross-tree reported a sail right ahead. In half an

thorities at Galvesten," was Howard's Man the cutter, sir, at once, and I will

"But there is no military station there." "There is enough for our purpose." "But look ye, senor-give me my liberty, and I swear to you that three Americans shall be given up to you in exchange.

"But why should I set you at liberty more than the rest of my prisoners?" "For a very good reason, senor. I am

rich enough now to live without more labor, so if I give you my promise that I will not trouble your countrymen any more, circumstances will not force me to break my word. And there is another reason, senor, which, if you are a reasonable man and possess a kind heart, will move you. In the city of my home there is a fair maiden who is waiting anxiously the return of her lover. She asks even now for the husband whom you would keep from her."

"Ah, senor," uttered Clarence, with a strangely fluttering heart, "and are you sure the maiden waits for you?"

"I am, senor capitan." "Is she a young girl, or have your af fections fallen upon one near your own age?" asked Clarence, lightly.

"In our land we do not force the cooler matrons of advanced years into the silken bonds. No, senor-she is not only a young girl, but one of the most lovely in Vera Cruz. Perhaps you may have heard of the Senor Antonio St. Marc?"

"I have heard of him," was Clarence's reply, given in a calm, low tone, for he would not reveal his own feelings in the matter. "He is a very wealthy man, if inches in diameter, and weighs seventy-

"Yes, senor-not only wealthy, but of much influence. If you will set me free, you shall have three American prisoners in exchange.

"You cannot fail to understand me," resumed the young captain, unmoved. "Surely your past life has not been one to attract respect."

to be angry at this, but he quickly overcame the emotion, and assuming a smile. he said

our impulsive, warm-hearted girls. If a man is brave and true, they seldom ask whether he stained his sword on the field.

exchange mel" "Where?"

"Why-you have my word that three prisoners shall be released the moment I reach Vera Cruz." "I rather guess I shall leave that matter to be decided by our Supreme Court

"Eh? Your Supreme-Court? What

you regard be as such?"

sion from my government."

"Perhaps you have-and yet you are

below and see Nathans." Thus speaking-three muskets having been fired at the departing object-Captain Howard hastened below, going down by way of the main hatch. He had not got more than half way down before he discovered that there was no light upon the desk, the great lantern which

usually burned close by the hatchway having gone out. At the same moment, too, he was run into by some one who was coming up from below. "Who's this?" asked Howard.

"It's me, sir," uttered a frightened volce

'And who is me?"

"Jackson, sir. The lantern's gone out, and I was coming up to see what was the matter." "Then jump to the binnacle and get a

light at once and bring it down here. Nathans! Nathans! Nathans! Good heavens! where is the man? Make haste with that lantern! Come-bear a hand!" (To be continued.)

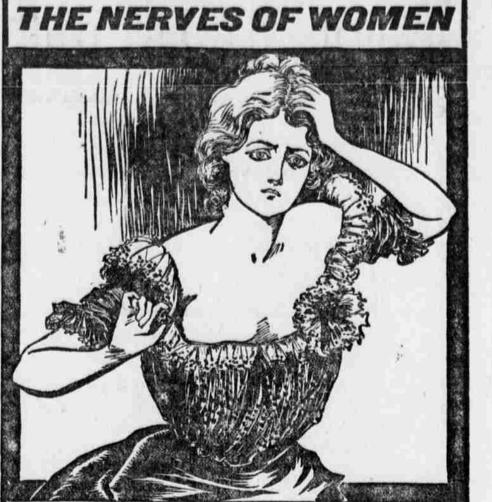
A Forty-Year Clock.

Three years ago a Chlcago jeweler calculated that he would in all probability live forty years. Then he decided to make a clock that would have to be wound but once in forty years. He spent his odd minutes at the task, and has succeeded in producing a wonderful piece of mechanism-the only one of its kind, he claims, in the world. This forty-year timeplece is fifteen five pounds. The movement is geared so that the barrel-wheel containing the mainspring revolves once in two and a half years. When this wheel has made fifty-six revolutions somebody will have to give the key seventeen turns. The clock will then be wound up for another forty years. The first wheel from the barrel moves round at the rate of one turn a year. The dial plate is six inches in diameter. The making of the work took most of the jeweler's leisure for

twenty-four months. The movement is fully jeweled. The clock has been put in a hermetically sealed glass case, and it works in a vacuum, thus lessening friction and preventing the oil from

Buildogs as Table Delicacies.

Here is an amusing episode in connection with Li Hung Chang's visit to Europe in 1896. The Chancellor, out of respect to General Gordon, had placed a wreath at the foot of his monument in Trafalgar Square. The Gordon family were much touched by this homage, and wished to find some means of reciprocating. In vain they cudgeled their brains for a suitable present, until a nephew of Gordon, a great lover of dogs, was suddenly struck with the idea of presenting to Li Hung Chang a remarkable prize bulldog of which he was the owner. It was sent to Ll Hung Chang just as he was embarking on his return to China. Some months later came the following acknowledgment: "I was much touched by the splendid present you have been good enough to



"I am so nervous and wretched." "I feel as if I should fly." How familiar these expressions are! Little things annoy you and make you irritable. You can't sleep, you are unfit for ordinary duties, and are subject to dizziness.

That bearing down sensation helps to make you feel miserable.

You have backache and pains low down in the side, pain in top of head, later on at the base of the brain.

Such a condition points unerringly to serious uterine trouble.

If you had written to Mrs. Pinkham when you first experienced impaired vitality, you would have been spared these hours of awful suffering.

Happiness will be gone out of your life forever, my sister, unless you act promptly. Procure Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound at once. It is absolutely sure to help you. Then write to Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., if there is anything about your case you do not understand.

You need not be afraid to tell her the things you could not explain to the doctor-your letter is seen only by women and is absolutely confidential. Mrs. Pinkham's vast experience with such troubles enables her to tell you just what is best for you, and she will charge you nothing for her advice.

Mrs. Valentine Tells of Happy Results Accomplished by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINEHAM :- It is with pleasure that I add my testimony to your list, hoping it may induce others to avail themselves of the benefit of your valuable remedy. Before taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, I felt very bad.



MRS.W P. VALENTINE

×

"Never mind me," the noble fellow cried. "I know you will avenge my death, "Content, he would have said," shouted the boatswain, as he let the dead man's I mistake not." head back upon the deck, and then started to his feet. "Lay us alongside the

villain now, sir. Lay us alongside, cap'n, "I don't wish to pry into your secrets,

senor," returned Howard: "but still it "Shall we carry him by the board?" the captain asked, in quick, thrilling appears to me that the maiden has chosen rather strangely." "Eh ?" One simultaneous "yes" from the lips

of the crew burst upon the air, and on the next moment the order was given for bringing the schooner to the wind. The brig now lay stern-to, and consequently

For the moment Tudel seemed inclined could bring no guns to bear as the Yankees came up. Howard brought his vesquarter, and the graplings were thrown with such exact precision that the schoon-

"O, you don't understand the nature of drying.

It was but the work of a moment for chapparal, or on the sea. But you will the schooner's crew to gain the deck of of the brig, and when once there they went into the work with a power of pur-

at Galveston." do you mean by that?"

"Simply that we are not in the habit of reckoning pirates exactly in the same light that we do prisoners of war." "Pirates, senor!" gasped the wretch, turning pale. "You do not mean that

"Upon my soul, Jilok Tudel, I cannot regard you as anything else." "But-but-I have a regular commis-

it a pirate, after all

he saw this, "she's ours, and no mistake. she goes into the wind! He ready with Howard bade his gunner to fire quickly as possible, and he did so; and al-

the same thing. There was a crashing sound on board the schooner, for a round m the schooner's deck. Supper was shot had struck the starboard cathead, mady, and the captain invited Beecher and had knocked it to splinters. And b his cabin, while the other men, who there was a deep groan, too-for a man vere privates, went forward with the lay upon the forecastle weltering in his blood, and dying. The men gazed upon "Now," said Howard, "what news do him-he was a brave and true manwhile one of his courrades held his head

| brig's foreyard was carried away, and

"By the mass, boys!" cried Howard, as

our more it was made out to be a brig standing to the southward. All sail was put upon the schooner, and at the end of an hour the stranger was found to be vessel of war of some description, as her ports could be plainly seen.

"She's a Mexican. There's no mistake about that," said Lofton, who had been examining the stranger through his glass. "And if shre's a Mexican, she must be the pirate," added Howard.

The schooner was kept on, and in fifteen minutes more the brig wore about and stood directly for her. The guns of the schooner were masked by sliding ports, though they were all ready to Tub out at a moment's notive. "She don't take, I guess," remarked

Lofton, as he noticed the movement of the Mexican.

"But she hopes to take us, without soubt," returned Howard, with a smile. "However, let her work awhile; we'll be sure who she is before we make any decided movement."

The schooner was now standing due past, and the brig was nearly abreast of her. Thus matters rested for half an bour more, and then the brig was not over a mile distant. She hoisted the Mexican flag and fired a gun.

"Isn't that rather cool?" said Hart. "Rather," returned Howard. "But if he knew who he'd fallen afoul of I'm thinking he'd feel not quite so cool. He takes us for one of the small transports on our way home. Mr. French, you may open the armchest and distribute the ammunition, and then open the magazine. Mr. Lofton, have all hands called, and prepare for action."

The captain took his glass and exammed the brig once more; and as he turn ed again to his officers, his face wore an pager, gratified expression.

"It is Tudel's vessel!" he sold, "Mind rou-there's no mistake about this. And I he's not our's before the sun sets, then am very much mistaken as to our power. Stand by now!"

By this time the brig was within half a mile, and had fallen upon the schooner's guarter; all the men of the latter vessel ad armed themselves, and were by the guns, ready for the command of the moment. Howard ordered the flag to be run sp, and in a moment after the Stars and Stripes fluttered out to the breeze, the brig fired another gun, this time sending a round shot ploughing up the water under the schooner's stern.

"I think our shot will reach her well pow," said Howard, turning towards French, the gunner.

"Yes, sir-you may swear to that afore a justice," returned the old salt.

Then stand by. We'll give 'em a taste of our starboard battery first. Sheets, there, fore and aft. Stand by. Out with the guns."

This order was quickly obeyed, and as soon as the guns were run out and leveled, and the priming applied, the matchas were brought up, and the captain was informed that all was ready.

"Then aim as quickly as possible. Helm port-easy. Round in on the sheets. Bo-steady. Stand by!"

This movement brought the schooner directly across the brig's bows, and the three brass guns upon the starboard side, which were loaded with round shot and a stand of grape, were quickly aimed, the gunner having orders to fire as soon as he rk to level the guns, and then the thes were applied. As soon as the lifted, it could be seen that the

This had the effect of causing the faint ng pirates to come up to the work again As Tudel spoke that last sentence, he crossed swords with Clarence Howard; the pistols had all been fired, and the combat now was with cutlasses alone. At the first stroke Clarence knocked his antagonist's sword down, and would have

pose which was irresistible. The Mex-

cans were bold men, but they could not

withstand the strange, reckless bravery

which met them now. The noble men

of the Lone Star seemed almost like war-

riors inspired. Wherever their blows fell

From the first of the engagement How-

ard tried to find Jilok Tudel, and he suc-

ceeded at length in doing so, but ere they

could cross their swords, some of the

"Never!" shouted Tudel, in blind rage,

"Fight to the death, every man of you.

the enemy began to give way.

Mexicans cried out for quarter.

passed his own weapon through the vil lain's body, had not one of the Mexican men, who chanced to stand near, knock ed it down That moment would have been the young captain's last but for the faithful Peter. The boy's burning patriotism overcame all other considerations and seizing a pistol and cutlass, he leaped upon the pirate's deck just in time to see his commander's sword knocked down and of the point of the enemy's sword at his breast With a lightning-like motion, the boy raised his pistol and shot the Mexican dead. Howard, with a nod of gratitude to his boy, returned to the con-

flict. Tudel had regained his guard, and his next blow was a downward cut, aiming at his antagonist's head. Quick as thought Clarence sprang forward and caught the coming blow upon his left arm. reaching far enough in to take the hilt upon his arm instead of the blade. The movement was as unexpected as it was sudden, for the Mexican had never be-

fore thought of such a thing as warding a sword blow with the naked arm; the force of the blow staggered him, and with one smart blow of his pommel, Clarence felled him upon the deck.

This was the signal for a renewed cry for quarter, and at the word from the Yankee captain, the combat ceased. Tudel had only been stunned by the effects of the blow, and as soon as he could be secured. Howard turned his attention to the crew; the deck was all covered with blood, and the groans of the wounded and

dying were loud and agonizing. "Take them as they come." said Howard. "To those who suffer most, whether friend or foe, render the first assistance; the battle is ended, and we may find use for mercy now."

CHAPTER IV.

As soon as the dead could be buried the brig was rendered fit for sailing, and have ing put a crew on board sufficient to sail her. Captain Howard shaped his course for Galveston. The prisoners were all confined on board the schooner, where most of them spent their time in cursing their captors.

Jilok Tudel was a man not far from forty years of age, with a complexion almost as dark as an Indian's. He was a lepero by birth and education, and after many years of villainy upon the land, he betook himself to the waters of the gulf as a more extended and profitable field of labor. He was confined upon the after part of the berth-deck, and he might have been allowed the freedom of the schooner had he not made use of the most murderous threats when he was first confined.

Clarence Howard gazed upon this man, and wondered if it was possible that Anonio St Marc had agreed that his sweet child should marry with such a being, He had begun to doubt the truth of the wandering woman's assertions when new proof came from the man's own lips, One afternoon the young captain went lown upon the berth-deck to see how his prisoner came on, and after he had gazed awhile upon Tudel, and was upon the uld get loaded. It was but a moment's point of turning away, the latter spoke: "Senor capitan," he said, "what do you mean to do with me?" "I mean te deliver you up to the an-

only a pirate these six or seven years. We will place you in the keeping of the authorities at Galveston, and if you can make them believe that you are an honest man, you are at liberty to do so."

The captive pirate chieftain uttered ome dreadful threats as his captor turn ed away, but they were not noticed. Galveston Island had been reported, and before dark the schooner was safely anchored in the bay, with her prize alongside; and as soon as it became known on shore that the notorious pirate had been captured, the water's edge was ined with enthusiastic men, women and children, who came down to make known their opinion in the matter, by shouting and throwing up hats and kerchlefs, and other demonstrations. Captain Howard went on shore and reported his success, and then returned to his schooner. He went down upon the berth-deck and saw that Tudel was safe, and having been assured that the rest of the prisoners were likewise safe, and having given orders for the keeping up of a strict guard during the night, he retired to his cabin, The schooner was anchored about half mile from the shore, and the sentinels had strict orders to keep all boats off during the night. It was near midnight, and yet the young captain sat at his table engaged in reading the newspapers. There was much of exciting news that interested him, and he thought not of his bed. He sat thus, just finishing a long article on the subject of the war, when he thought he heard a dipping sound close under the stern He arose and went to the after part of the cabin, and opened one of the windows and looked out; the moon was hidden behind a dark mass of clouds, and the water was dark; though an object of any respectable size

could have been seen at some distance. He looked carefully about upon the surface of the water, but he could see nothing.

There was a banging lamp in the cabin, and having lowered this so that the flame gave but a faint glimmer, the cap tain turned in He had hardly placed his head upon his pillow when he was startled by hearing another unusual sound in the water under the stern. He knew this could be no ripple of the waves, and quickly leaping from his berth he sprang to the window and looked out again, Howard could plainly see a dim object moving away from the vessel. He spraug back to his berth and seized his pistols, but before he could regain the window, the lookout hailed the suspicious object. However, the captain hastened to the window and cried out himself; he was sure now that it was a man swimming away.

"Stop! stop!" he cried. "Stop, or I'll shoot you!"

But the object did not stop. On the contrary, it moved off with increased speed so that there was no more doubt about its identity. The captain fired both his pistols, but without seeming effect. Howard now rushed on deck to find what was the matter, and found some halfdozen of the watch gazing over the taff rail.

'What is it?" the captain cried, as he came up. "Fire! fire!-down into the cutter and bring it alongside-quick! Mr. Hart, are your prisoners all safe ?" "Yes, sir-every one of them."

"And where is Tudel? Is he, too, safe?" "Nathans is with him, sir," returned

Hart. mebody is leaving the schooner.

make me; the beast was magnificent. Unfortunately, my digestion is not equal to such a delicacy, but my suite enjoyed it very much."-Messager de Bruxelles.

As Alike as Dutch Dolls.

Such little innocents Dutch children look, but in reality they are the most mischlevous little rascals in the world. They would wait in swarms outside my hotel in Holland, and follow me to my workshop clamoring for coppers, which they generally managed to get. Some of them would get tipped twice overthey are so much allke in their general "get up" that it is difficult to distinguish them. I once had a little model posing for me all day, and the next she did not turn up, so my friend went round for the reason, and he was surprised to hear from the indignant mother that I had only given her daughter about twopence. I discovered afterward that this was the case-but I had given 5 shillings to another little girl who had been standing in my light all day .- Magazine of Art.

A Good Word for the Harem.

A lady who has been a governess for two years in a harem in Cairo, which brought her into contact with the ladies of the court, speaks very highly of the harem as an institution. She says: "I do not mean to assert that there are no evils in the lot of the Eastern female. but I do assert that she commiserates her Western sister, who has not that "sanctity" guaranteed through the exclusiveness of the barem. Where the most abject hut is the sole shelter of the family, woman is sacred from the intrusion of men who are not her kindered; her vel! serves all the purposes of the harem in protecting her from insult when abroad; no man dare attempt

to lift a woman's veil." A Prevolution in Automobiles. A new automobile has been invented has discovered a new system of locomotion based on the use of a certain kind of salt, the composition of which is as yet his secret. Two pounds of this salt placed in the box of the automobile, and subjected to a certain heat, forms a gas which puts a cylinder in movement. The automobiles that were tried in Moscow produced the best results, The Emperor of Russia, who takes great interest in this invention, intends to send Serky to Paris to make known his secret. The Russian press is of opinion that it will cause a great revolution in the trade.-Lisbon O Dia.

When the Sun Goes Down in Turkey. In Turkey the disappearance of the sun at night is accounted for by the periodical retirement of that pions luminary for prayers and religious reflection.

It very often happens that a man's commanding presence gets him no greater honors through life than to be marshal of the day at a county fair.

A fool always has plenty of fool admirers.

was terribly nervous and tired, had sick headaches, no appetite, gnawing pain in stomach, pain in my back and right side, and so weak I could scarcely stand. I was not able to do anything. Had sharp pains all through my body. Before I had taken half a bottle of your medicine. I found myself improving I continued its use until I had taken four bottles, and felt so well that I did not need to take any more. I am like a new person, and your medicine shall always have my praise."-MRS W. P. VALENTINE, 566 Ferry Avenue, Camden, N. J.



Owing to the fact that some skeptical people have from time to time questione the genuineness of the testimonial letter deposited with the National City Bank, of Lynn, Mass \$,000, which will be paid to any person who can show that the above testimonial is not genuine, or was published before blaining the writer's special permission.--LyDIA E. PINEHAM MEDICINE CO.

Invention of the Fan.

The following Chines legend accounts for the invention of the fan in a rather ingenious fashion: The beautiful Kan-Si, daughter of a powerful mandarin, was assisting at the feast of lanterns, when she became overpowered by the heat and was compelled to take off her mask. As it was against all rule and custom to expose her face, she held her mask before it and gently fluttered it to cool herself. The court ladies present noticed the movement, and in an instant 100 of them were waving their masks. From this incident, it issaid, came the birth of the fan, and today it takes the place of the mask in that country.

A Familiar Species.

Sporteem-"Is McQuick, the sprinter, an amateur?"

Knowem-"Yes-siree-a reg'lar professional amateur.

Desperate Remedies,

"Unless you pay us the ransom demanded, we will cut off your boy's hair," wrote the fierce kidnapers.

"Do your worst," wrote the father in reply. I've been trying to get that by a Russian named Hutal Serky. He | Fauntleroy idea out of my wife's head for ten years."-Baltimore American.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box, 25c.

Moral Censorship,

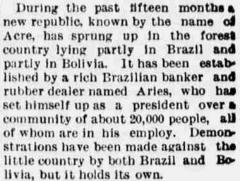
The censorship is a very real thing in China. There anyone who writes an immoral book is punished with 100 blows of the heavy bamboo and banishment for life. Anyone who reads it is also punished.

Northerner (in Kentucky saloon)-I presume you find the concocting of juleps a very lucrative vocation?" Bartender-Yes, suh; it's a reguluh

Won It.

"How do you regard your new Congressman, Mr. Miggs? Do you think he's fit for the office?"

Detroit Free Press.



A New Republic.

Still More Counterfeiting.

The Secret Service has unearthed another band of counterfeiters and secured a large quantity of bogus bills, which are so cleverly executed that the average person would never suspect them of being spurk ou ... Things of great value are always selected for im tation, notably Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which has many imitate ors, but few squals for disorders like indlg-scion, dyspepsia, constipation, nervousness and general debility. Always go to reliable druggists who have the reputation of giving what you ask for.

Didn't Want to be a GirL

"Papa," said small Tommy, "our Sunday school teacher read that we must all be born again." "Well?" queried the father." "But I don't want to be born again," said the little fellow. "Why not?" asked his father. "Because," answered Tommy, "I'm afraid 1 might be born a girL"

The Chinese think they occupy the middle of the earth, and that all other nations are merely dwelling on the edges. Their most respectful term to designate a foreigner is "the ocean

An Outbreak at Sing Sing.

Typhoid fever has broken out at Sing Sing, N. Y. Luckily, however, says the Chicago Times-Herald, the fever is all that has managed to break out there, and it can be caught without much trouble.

American Enterprise.

A wideawake American has erected steam pumps on the Jordan and is supplying churches all over Europe with genuine Jordan water.

Just So

mint -Judge.

"Yes, siree! He's fit hard for it."-

men."

A Chinese Concelt.I