

[Continued.] CHAPTER XII. A LONELY NIGHT.

liverance.

observation-I mean a small trap- melancholy thinking, if I am to perish hatch, no bigger than a manhole, with of cold, there's an end; it is preordain-a ring for lifting it, midway down the ed, and it is as easy as drowning, anylane. I suspected this to be the en- how, and better than hanging ; and both hands to the ring pulled the found it soft enough to cut, finding hatch up. I sniffed cautiously, fearing philosophy (which, as the French cynic foul air, and then sinking the lanthorn | says, triumphs over past and future ills) by the length of my arm I peered not so hard because somehow I did not down, and observed the outlines of myself then particularly feel the coldcasks, bales, cases of white wood, chests, I mean, I was not certainly suffering and so forth. I dropped through the here from that pain of frost which I had

then with the utmost caution stooped pint of punch, and, charging my pipe, and threw the lanthorn light around sat smoking with my feet against the me. But the casks were not powder-barrels, which perhaps a little reflection the watch I was wearing. The lanthorn might have led me to suspect, since it diffused but a small light, and the flickwas not to be supposed that any man | ering of the tire made a movement of | would stow his powder in the lazarette. shadows about me. I was separated As I was in the way of settling my from the great cabin where the figures misgivings touching the stock of food | were by the little arms-room only, and in the schooner, I resolved to push the passage to it ran there in blackness.

through with this ess at once, and | It strangely and importunately enterfetching the chopper went to work ed my head to conceive, that though upon these karrels and chests ; and those men were frozen and stirlesss very briefly I will tell you what I found. they were not dead as corpses are, but First, I dealt with a tierce that proved as a stream whose current, checked by 36 pp. and Cover, \$1.00 per Yea full of salt beet. There was a whole row ice, will flow when the ice is melted. of these tierces, and one sufficed to ex. Might not life in them be suspended by press the nature of the rest; there the cold, not ended? There is vitality were upwards of thirty barrels of pork ; in the seed though it lies a dead thing one canvas bale I ripped open was full in the haud. Those men are corpses to of hams, and of these bales I counted my eye; but said I to myself, they may half a score. The white cases held have the principles of life in them, biscuit. There were several sacks of which heat might call into being. pease, a number of barrels of flour, Putrefaction is a natural law, but it is cases of candles, cheeses, a quantity of balked by frost, and just as dccay is cobacco, not to mention a variety of hindered by cold, might not the pro jars of several shapes, some of which I perty of life be left unaffected in a afterwards found to contain marmalade body, though it should be numbed in a and succadoes of different kinds. On marble form for fifty years?

knocking the head off one cask I found This was a terrible fancy to possess it held a frozen body, that by the light man situated as I was, and it so work of the lanthorn looked as black as ink; I chipped off a bit, sucked it, and found it wine. I was so transported by the sight of

this wonderful plenty that I fell upon I should behold some form from the my knees in an outburst of gratitude forecastle, or one of those figures in the and gave hearty thanks to God for His cabin, stalking in, and coming to my mercy. There was no further need side and silently seating himself. I for me to dismally wonder whether I pshaw'd and pish'd, and querulously was to starve or no ; supposing the pro asked of myself what manner of Engvisions sweet, here was food enough to lish sailor was I to suffer such womanly last me three or four years. I was so terrors to visit me; but it would not do overjoyed and withal curious that I I could not smoke; a coldness of the forgot all about the time, and flourishing heart fell upon me, and set me trem the chopper made the round of the bling above any sort of shivers which lazarette, sampling its freight by indi- the frost of the air had chased through vidual instances, so that by the time 1 me; and presently a hollow creak sound was tired I had enlarged the list I have ing out of the hold, caused by some given, by discoveries of brandy, beer, movement of the bed of ice on which oatmeal, oil, lemons, tongues, vinegar, the vessel lay, I was seized with a panic rum, and eight or ten other matters, | terror and sprang to my feet, and, lanall stowed very bunglingly, and in so thorn in hand, made for the commany different kinds of casks, cases, panion-ladder, with a prayer in me for jars, and other vessels as disposed me the sight of a star !

to believe that several piratical ruma- I durst not look at the figures, but, gings must have gone to the creation of setting the light down at the foot of the this handsome and plentiful stock of ladder, squeezed through the companion-door on to the deck. My fear was good things. I replaced the hatch-cover, and hav- a fever in its way, and I did not feel

ing resolved upon the aftmost of the the cold. There was no star to be seen, four cabins as my bed-room, entered it but the whiteness of the ice was flund to see what kind of accommodation it out in a wild strange glare by the blackwould yield me. I hung up the ness of the sky, and made a light of its lanthorn and looked into the cot, that own. It was the most savage and terriwas slung athwart ships, and spied a ble picture of solitude the invention of couple of rugs or blankets, which I man could reach to, yet I blessed it for pulled out, having no fancy to lie under the relief it gave to my ghost-enkindled them. The deck was like an old clothes' imagination. No squall was then passshop, or the wardrobe of a travelling ing; the rocks rose up on either hand troop of actors. From the confusion in | in a ghastly glimmer to the ebony of this and the adjoining cabins, I con- the heavens; the gale swept overhead cluded that there had been a rush at in a wild, mad blending of whistlings. the last, a wild overhauling and flinging roarings, and cryings in many keys, about of clothes for articles of more falling on a sudden into a doletul wailvalue hidden amongst them. But just ing, then rising in a breath to the full as likely as not the disorder merely in- fury of its concert; the sea thundered dicated the slovenly indifference of like the cannonading of an electric dicated the slovenly indifference of like the cannonading of an electric of like the cannonading of an electric of like the storm, and you would have said that C. P. Curtis & Co., MEDICAL - - HALL the rending and crackling noises of the had overstocked them. The first garment I picked up was a ice were responses to the crashing blows cloak of a sort of silk material, richly of the balls of shadow-hidden ordnance. I was sure that if I sat here long, lisfurred and lined ; all the buttons but tening and thinking, fear would return. one had been cut off, and that which

remained was silver. 1 spread it in the A small fire still burned; I put a saucesoot, as it was a soft thing to lie upon. pan on it, and popped in a piece of the Then I picked up a coat of the fashion Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

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