

One looked at it, the less one was likely to like it.

Hand over hand, foot over foot, now on a loaden gutter, now on a stone gargoyle, I mounted slowly but surely. I was safe upon the broad flat roof. The mighty bell hung motionless and dumb before me. There was rope enough, and more than enough, for I could not bring what was still left up from the floor below, but it was not so easy to set a bell ringing of that giant size. With so insufficient a purchase, I confess I never thought of holding its tongue (to use an Hibornianism) and so making it speak, and for several minutes I effected nothing except to gently swing it to and fro; but presently, as the pendulous movement increased, it began to pour fourth such tremendous sounds as it is impossible for one who has never been in a cathedral belfry on Christmas Eve to imagine. I knew that every note was precious as one from the Bank of England, and I pulled with the vigor of despair. Looking towards the direction of the police barracks, I saw lights gleaming from many a window, and doubtless, if I could have heard anything but that bell, the drums were already beating to arms. But in the meantime, the Fenians, goaded to frenzy by the knowledge that relief was at hand, had already burst into the house. No shots were fired: there was no necessity for that, since all opposition had been rendered powerless; but I pictured to myself my venerable host with his white hair dabbled in gore, while his sons, so full of youth and strength a few hours before, presented, in vain, revolvers from which Patrick had drawn the charge. The archtraitor himself, followed by a brutal band, would even now be rushing up the stairs to silence the honest bell and its faithful guardian. Yes, I heard the key turn in the little door close beside me, and another moment I was confronted by Patrick's fiendish face.

When I came to myself, I was lying in my own bed, with Eleanor leaning over me, and her father standing by her side with a grand smile.

"Do you feel better now, my darling said she tenderly, as I opened my eyes.

"Yes, love, now I see that I have preserved you and your dear father," answered I faintly. "But the struggle yet continued I hear them calling and fighting, still, below."

"They are not fighting, my dear girl; they are only drinking," rejoined the Rev. Theophilus cheerfully. "It's the military and the police who are being entertained in as hospitable a manner as can be expected at four in the morning: that's all. You see you invited them rather early."

"But in time, sir, I trust?" cried I, clasping my hands. "Oh, tell me that it was in time? Nobody is killed? The villain Patrick is in custody?"

"Well, my dear, he's in the cellar drawing corks. Where would you have him be?"

"Why, you surely have not forgiven him that," exclaimed I, "for cutting the— Why who has mended the bell rope?"

"She is still off her head," murmured my host. "If the doctor don't come soon, I must bleed her myself. My good girl," added he tenderly, "you have been dreaming, and in your nightmare, done a thing no woman would have ventured upon in her senses. You have got out of window, and climbed up to the roof of the house."

"I know it," said I; "I did it to save your lives. Patrick cut the bell rope, for I heard it fall."

"Nay, you knocked down your bonnet

and shawl from the chair, my girl, and *though* it was the rope," said the old gentleman. "Your only real peril was the feat of which I have spoken."

"My good sir," said I, "I saw the Fenians crouching on the lawn."

"Yes, dressed in green: those were the laurels."

"Nay, but I saw, their leader with his waving plume."

"Stuff and nonsense!"

"Dear papa," said Eleanor: "it was that prickley tree which the boys call the puzzle monkey."

The Rev. Theophilus sat down and roared with laughter.

"I am a poor man, my dear young friend," said he, with tears in his eyes, and when he found breath to speak, "but I would not have missed all this for fifty pounds. You have roused the whole country-side: you have set all the telegraph wires in motion between this and London: nay, for all I know, they are flashing the news under the Atlantic that the Fenian insurrection is an accomplished fact. There is no woman in the world who is making so much noise as you, or, at least, who was half an hour ago. Gad, how you did pull that bell! There are twenty soldiers and ten policemen drinking your health down-stairs. Lieutenant Moriarity arrived, as he declares he promised, upon the wings of love, and you should really come down and thank him for his punctuality and despatch."

I never did so, however. I remained in my room the next morning, utterly ashamed of myself, until it was time for the carriage to take me away. I begged to see nobody but Eleanor and my kind old host. It is due to him to say, that although he shook with inward laughter throughout his farewell, he never alluded to what had happened. That detestable Patrick grinned from ear to ear, though he said not a word. But nothing can stop the mouths of the populace, or those horrible newspapers. I heard nothing talked of all the way to Dublin, except the night-attack upon Castletower. I saw nothing when I got there but enormous placards with "Great News!" and "The Rising in the Golden Valley!" and once, which caused me to pull my veil down, and sink back in the close car which was taking me to the steamer, "Heroic Conduct of a Young Lady against Fenians!"

A SEVERE SENTENCE.

We learn by the last Indian mail that Captain Cunningham, Paymaster of the 88th Connaught Rangers, whose trial by general court-martial at Rawul, Pindjee, on charges connected with alleged defalcations in his cash accounts, was so protracted, has been found guilty, and sentenced to be cashiered, to undergo five years' penal servitude, and to make good the deficiencies in his accounts.

The following were the charges brought against Captain Cunningham:—First—With having, at Cawnpore, during the months of May and June, 1866, fraudulently misapplied the sum of 21,953-4-2 rs., or thereabouts, public money received by him as Paymaster of the 88th Regiment of Foot. Second—With scandalous conduct, unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, in having at Cawnpore, during the months of May and June, 1866, misappropriated the sum of 450-3-6 rs., or thereabouts, the property of Quartermaster Thomas Lawrence and Schoolmaster Patrick Ewart. Third—

With having broken his arrest. Fourth—With having deserted. Col. Priestley, of H. M.'s 42nd, was president of the Court, and Major Neil Boileau deputy judge advocate, general. Lieut. Col. W. T. Betts, of the prisoner's regiment, was prosecutor.

The severity of the sentence may perhaps be accounted for by the following description of the manner in which the prisoner's defence was conducted, which we published a few weeks since.

The document from which he (Capt. Cunningham) read his defence consisted of 80 pages of foolscap closely written, the reading of which occupied about five hours. The defence was both searching and elaborate—not to speak of the very objectionable manner in which the names of several gallant officers and honourable men were introduced—touching every point which had the most remote bearing on the facts of the case at issue, and lashing with unsparring severity every officer of the gallant 88th who was in any way connected with the prosecution. Nor did the Judge Advocate-General, who watched the proceedings, nor the prosecutor, escape their share of the ridicule and vituperation so freely indulged in. It is not too much to say that if the allegations contained in the defence be true, several officers will be seriously comprised, and the case of Capt. Cunningham will be as fruitful in sowing dragon's teeth as was, a year or two ago, the case of Paymaster Snales. It is said it is Capt. Cunningham's intention, immediately after the Court closes its proceedings to send a petition to Parliament against the illegality of the trial and, what he considers the unfairness of the proceedings.—*U. S. Gazette.*

WATERPROOF CLOTHING.—The issue of waterproof clothing will in future be governed by the following rules:—1. The waterproof garments will only be issued when the general or other officer commanding at the station certifies that this extra protection is absolutely required for the service, and the issue will be to the occupation and not the individual. 2. The following are the services to which waterproof clothing will be supplied, with the restriction stated in the first rule: Boats' crew, capes and leggings; orderlies to staff, departmental and regimental offices at home and abroad, capes and leggings; military train (25 per troop), capes; troops on board ship (one third of the number of troops embarked), capes and caps; military police, capes and leggings, warders of musketry ranges, capes and leggings; sergeants employed in making meteorological observations, capes and leggings. 3. The articles will be required to last at least two years, and at the end of that period they will be inspected by a board of officers, and (if condemned) handed over to the military store officer. 4. The military store officer will receive the unserviceable articles and issue others in exchange, reporting the issue to this office, and annexing to the issue note a copy of the proceedings of the board on the replaced articles. 5. The military store officer will keep a record of all such issue, and will make timely provision for the estimated quality of waterproof clothing that will be required within the year. The annual demand for this service will be forwarded separately, and will not be included in the general demand for stores.

The list of Belgian Volunteers who will visit England has closed; 2,161 have inscribed their names, and of this number 1,065 are from Brussels, 365 from Antwerp, and 295 from Ghent.