From the St. Louis Times.

The venerable old gentleman to whom we are indebted for the narrative which follows, still lives to look back upon the scenes of danger and difficulty through which he passed when young, and to receive the grateful thanks of a generation, who owe to him and his compatriots that they were born children and heirs of Liberty. For ourselves, whenever we behold one of these time-worn veterans of the revolution, bowed down upon his staff, and listen to him as he relates with all the simplicity, and it may be the prolixity, of old age, the daring heroism, the patient sufferings, and finally, the glorious triumphs of himself and his comrades, most of whom are now sleeping beneath the sod they so nobly defended,—our heart swells within us, and involuntarily we bend in token of reverence to this surviving representative of a band of heroes, to which all history can furnish no parallel.

Mr. Hempstead was in fort Griswold at the time of its assault and the massacre of its garrison by the British in 1781. Here his left arm was mangled and broken in a shocking manner, several of his ribs were broken, and he received besides, a severe wound in the side from a bayonet. In this condition, after lying on the ground till his limbs became stiff from wounds and coagulated blood, he, along with others, was thrown into a wagon, and pushed down the side of the steep hill on which the fort stood. The wagon after having acquired great velocity came in contact with an apple-tree; and the concussion he describes as having caused an agony of suffering exquisite beyond conception. Here he was found by his friends in a state of insensibility, and when he awoke to consciousness, it was to learn that the wanton cruelty of the enemy had rendered him houseless and homeless. For many days his recovery was deemed impossible, but contrary to all fears he survived—He survived to behold his country become free, happy and prosperous beyond example, while his heart glowed with the blessed consciousness that all this was, in part, the work of his hands. He still survives far distant from the scene of his sufferings, to witness the benign influence of those principles for which he bled, in extending the blessings of civilization and religion over a territory even more extensive than that of the confederated colonies. His days that remain are but few, but these will be cheered with the reflection that upon his tomb will be shed the tears both of the Patriot and the Coristian.

ANECDOTE OF THE REVOLUTION.

Attempt to burn the British Frigates in the North River in July, 1776.

Messrs Lovejoy & Miller—I send you for insertion in your paper a correct account of the desperate attempt to destroy by means of fire-ships, the vessels of the enemy in the Hudson, in July '76. Having seen in the Worcester Magazine, a narrative of that expedition in the main correct, but inaccurate and defective in many particulars, I am induced to correct that statement by sending you a detailed account of the whole affair. The narrative in the Worcester Magazine appears to have been compiled from the verbal statement made by Mr. Joseph Bass, who I know was attached to the expedition. I presume that the inaccuracies admitted into that article arose from a wrong recollection of the facts. Being one of the small party engaged in that desperate undertaking, all the circumstances are indelibly impressed upon my memory, and I can give you them, as I think, without addition or omission.

The fire vessels were an Albany sloop of about 90 tons burden, and a schooner of about 60 tons. Under the superintendence of Commodore Tupper, they were fitted for the expedition at New York in the following manner:—The holds of the vessels were filled with empty hogsheads, to prevent them from sinking, in case the enemy's shot should strike their hulls. Two troughs were then placed the whole length of the deck, one on each side, one end of which went through the bulk head of the cabin, at which end the train was to be fired. An opening was made in the stern of each vessels thro' which the man who fired the train might escape into the whale-boat that was to be in attendance for that purpose.

The troughs were about 6 inches wide, 10 deep, and as I said before, extended from the bows to the cabin. In each trough was laid a train of mealed powder, half an inch or more in depth, which was then covered with wheat straw about 12 inches long dipped in brimstone. The trough was then filled with straight black birch twigs, made into small faggots 12 or 18 inches in length, and dipped into melted rosin. By the side of each trough were placed a number of empty barrels each of which was then filled with pitch pine faggots, split fine and covered with melted rosin. Two more barrels filled with the same materials were placed each side of the mast, and then the whole deck was closely stowed up to the gunwale, with birch twigs dipped in rosin. Strips of canvass 6 or 8 inches in width, dipped in spirits of turpentine covered all the standing rigging from the deck to the mast head.

There were square sail and spritsail yards to both vessels, and a grappling iron fastened to the end of each yard, the flying jib boom, and to the gaff and main boom, with chains that led down and were bolted to the main deck.

The vessels being in readiness, the command of the sloop was given to Thomas Uplike Fosdick, of New London, Ct. then an ensign in the company of the brave but unfortunate Captain Nathan Hale, and of the regiment of Col. Cha's. Willis' continental troops. Ensigh Fosdick's crew consisted of Gideon Beebe and myself of the same company and regiment as above, and Joseph Bass who was appointed by Commodore Tupper steersman of the whale boat in which we were to make our escape. His company and regiment I do not recollect. The remaining five of our crew were from Webb's regiment—the crew of each vessel consisting of nine men. The schooner was given to Lieut. Thomas, a native of Rhode Island, whose christian name I never knew. I do not even know to what regiment he belonged; some of his men were from Wyly's regiment.

Every thing being now in readiness, we started from New York up the North River, with a light and variable wind. Our progress was very slow, as we could not make sail to advantage on account of the grappling irons and chains, which, as I have said, were affixed to the yards of the vessels. The weather at this time was rainy and drizzling. The next day after we left New York, we got up the river as far as Spiking Devil Creek, where were lying three row gallies, which had received orders from Gen. Washington to take us in tow and proceed immediately up the river that night as far as it would be safe for them to venture. The night was dark, foggy and rainy; and when we left Spiking Devil Creek in search of the enemy's ships, we could not discern any object at the distance of fifty yards. We steered, however, for their ships according to the best of our judgment, and while we were under full headway, a stroke from the bell of their frigate, the Phœnix, apprised the gallies of their danger. They immediately cast us off, bid us good bye and God speed, and made the best of their way down the river. After they left us we steered our course by the sound of the ship's bell, and the sentinel's cry of 'All's well.'

The orders of Commodore Tupper were, that Capt. Thomas with his schooner; should keep about 100 yards ahead of Capt. Fosdick's sloop, and grapple the bow of the Phœnix, while Capt. Fosdick should come up and fasten to her stern. But as it happened, Capt. Thomas being in advance came first in contact with a tender that was moored in a direct line ahead of the Phœnix. The darkness of the night prevented him from knowing what vessel it was, and he was obliged to grapple her and fire his train, by which means the tender was soon consumed. The flames of these two vessels made it as light as day, and the enemy's ships commenced a tremendous fire of cannon and small arms upon our vessel; many of their shot struck our hull without doing much injury. We kept our course and succeeded in grappling the bows of the Phœnix, amidst the roar of cannon and the volleys of small arms from the mariners. We fired our train, and the sloop remained grappled to the Phœnix burning with great fury for the space of twenty minutes. At length the enemy succeeded in clearing their ship, by cutting their bow cable, and letting the ships drift with the tide, and then bringing up with their stern anchor, by which means the force of the tide separated the two vessels—the fire ship drifted to the shore and burnt to the water's edge. We came off in our boat in safety—not a man of us was hurt, nor was the boat damaged in the least by the tremendous fire from the ships of volley after volley, and broadside after broadside. We had, indeed, a hair breadth escape from death, for which we were indebted to the kind Providence of God, who vouchsafed us a safe return to New York, where with joy and mutual rejoicing we joined our regiment.

The next day after our arrival in New York, it came out in general orders, that those brave men who went up the Hudson in the fire ships, should appear at Head Quarters at 10 o'clock in the morning. At the appointed hour we were there, when Gen. Washington coming out of his room, congratulated us on our escape, thanked us for our services and bravery, although we were not fortunate enough to burn their ships; and as a reward of our gallantry, gave us each an order on the Paymaster for forty dollars. This sum was thankfully received, and going to our tents, we spent the evening with our friends and fellow-soldiers, in drinking the health of Gen. Washington and success to the Independence of America!

Capt. Thomas in his schooner, being, as I said before, ahead of our sloop, came down upon a tender that was moored just ahead of the Phœnix, and finding himself unable to get away; grappled her and fired his train. He and his crew were by no means, however, so fortunate in escaping as we were in Captain Fosdick's boat. The weather, as said before, having been wet and drizzly, Capt. Thomas had the troughs of his vessel primed anew for fear some dampness had been communicated to the powder: he also opened the ends of each of them at the bow, in order that the trains might be fired at both ends, thinking even in this case, those appointed to fire them might make their escape. Mistaken and unfortunate idea! In an instant both he and his men were enveloped in flames. Two of the crew, Thos. Harris of New London, Ct., and Mr. Burns, I think of Hartford, succeeded, with great difficulty, in getting into the boat, very badly burnt. Capt. Thomas and three of his men jumped into the river and were drowned. Three of his men were in the boat at the time of the firing of the train. The disaster which befel Capt. Thomas and his crew, was wholly owing to their imprudence, in firing the train at both ends.

Mr. Harriss, who was a townsman of mine (he is since dead) and myself, have often, when sitting under our vine and fig-tree, in our native town, talked over with swelling hearts, the dreadful dangers which surrounded that little band of 18 men, the most of whom are no more.

STEPHEN HEMPSTEAD, Sr.

DUMB AND DEAF, OR DEAF MUTES.

From Vol. IV. of the Ecyclopædia Americana.

DEAFNESS.—The sensation which we call *hearing* is produced by the vibrations of the air, striking on the tympanum or drum of the ear, and communicated to the auditory nerve, by means of a series of small bones connected in a very remarkable manner. When the tympanum becomes insensible to these impulses, a person is termed *deaf*; although the vibrations may still be communicated, in some cases, through the bones of the head, by means of a stick placed between the teeth, or as the Code of Justinian states to have been practised in the case of dying persons, by speaking with the mouth close to the top of the head. The Eustachain tube extends from the tympanum into the mouth; and sometimes sounds are better distinguished by opening the mouth, when the external opening, only, is obstructed. Hence the habit of 'listening with the mouth open.' Deafness occurs in every degree, from that which merely impairs the accuracy of the ear to distinguish faint or similar sounds, to that state in which there is no more sensation in this organ than in any other, and sound is felt in almost every part of the body, as a mere vibration.

ARTICULATION AND DUMBNESS.—Articulation is acquired by imitating the sounds which we hear uttered by others, and correcting the voice, by means of the ear, until the imitation is precise. Deafness, therefore, in every degree, effects the distinctness of articulation, and, if it is so great that the subject can no longer distinguish between articulate sounds, he is incapable of acquiring speech in the ordinary manner, and becomes dumb in consequence of his deafness. A case has occurred within the knowledge of the writer, in which entire deafness; taken place at the age of 18, so affected the articulation, that the individual was no longer intelligible, even to his friends. This result will not be prevented by any degree of hearing less than we have mentioned; for most deaf and dumb persons can hear some sounds; and some can distinguish the high from the low, who perceive no difference in articulations. Only a few mutes are found, who owe this defect to the feebleness of mind or to any imperfection in the organs of speech. The remarks show the fallacy of the idea, that the want of speech is owing to the want of mental capacity—a prejudice, which has been cherished by the usual name of *deaf* and *dumb*, which we hope, for this reason, as well as for euphony, will be changed to that of *deaf mute*, which may be employed both as a noun and an adjective.

NUMBER.—The number of deaf mutes varies materially in different countries, and situations, and classes of men. In the U. States partial examination leads to the belief that there is one deaf mute for every 2000 inhabitants. In some countries of Europe, there is one for every 1500 or 1700; in others, one for 1000; and in some locations, the proportion is three of four times as great as this. The proportion has has been found greatest in some districts or portion of cities remarkable for dampness and impurity of the air. The greatest number of these unfortunate persons is found among the poorer classes; and hence it has been supposed that the defect is frequently caused by the want of the necessary supplies and attentions during infancy or disease.

ORIGIN.—A large number of deaf mutes are born deaf; but it appears from the reports of the American asylum, that more than half the pupils of that institution lost their hearing by accidents or diseases, chiefly fevers and diseases of children.

CAUSES AND CURE.—The immediate causes of ordinary dumbness are known to be various. In some few cases, it is owing to an imperfection or injury of some part of the organs of speech, and, of course, is irremediable. In other cases it seems to arise from obstructions in the external or internal passage of the ear.—Cures have sometimes been effected by removing these obstructions by means of instruments or injections, especially, of late, by doctors Itard and Deleau, of Paris, who throw injections into the Eustachain passage, by means of a flexible tube passed through the nostrils.—Doctor Deleau is reported, by a committee of the French institute to have relieved or cured several deaf persons, by injections of air, long continued; but he does not estimate the probable number of cures in deaf mutes at more than one in ten. Perforation of the tympanum it sometimes useful in rendering it more easy to remove obstruction which may be discovered; and for this purpose, it is deemed important to perform it by means of circular dises, closing with a spring, which remove a portion of the membrane, and leave a permanent opening.

In other cases, and in the usual mode, this operation often produces great suffering, and has not been generally useful. In 81 cases of perforation at Groningen, in Holland, only three were permanently relieved, and these in a very partial degree. In the greater proportion of deaf mutes no defect is visible, and no application appears to be useful. In a number of anatomical examinations of deceased deaf mutes, at Paris the ear was found perfect in all its parts—The inference has therefore been made, that the disease consist in a sparalysis of the auditory nerve—a conclusion which seems to be satisfied by the fact, that in some cases, a cure has been effected by actual cautery on the back of the head, and that galvanism has sometimes given temporary relief. According to the estimates we have mentioned, the number of deaf mutes in the United States is about 6000, and in Europe not less than 140,000; all of whom, by their deafness (which we see is usually beyond the reach of remedies,) are shut out from the intercourse of society, and the ordinary means of acquiring knowledge. The situation and character of such a large class of unfortunate persons are subjects of deep interest.

From the Baltimore American.

Extract of a letter to a gentleman of Baltimore, dated CINCINNATI, Nov. 1, 1830.

In your last letter you say 'that the granting of a sum of money by the Bank of the United States to a road in Ohio has caused no little sensation, and it is asked what right the Bank had to apply the money of the institution to such an object; will you do me the favour to inquire and inform me what was the inducement? And on what ground such an appropriation was made?'—I have made the inquiry and think that the Bank has acted wisely for its interest and without injury to any one. I am not a director, nor do I own a single share of the stock, and have no interest for or against it.

I am informed that there were debts due to the Bank by our citizens to an amount exceeding two and a half millions of dollars, and that the probable loss, as reported by the agent was expected to be more than $800,000. The Bank received lots in this city and lands in this state as payment or security for those debts which they have held until lately, but have now commenced selling, and it is believed here that their proceeds, when sold will ultimately pay the whole debts without the loss of a dollar This you will say is good management. It is so, and will be a credit to the board of directors. In that state of things it became the duty of the Bank to do every thing in its power to make those lots and lands valuable. A company had been formed to make a road from Cincinnati to Columbus, and they applied to the Bank stating 'that the immense amount of real estate held by the Bank in Cincinnati would be much enhanced in value by the work, and that the line of the road passes through much of the property transferred to the Bank;' and, on that account, requested aid from the Bank. This application, I am informed, was countenanced by the agent of the Bank, who reported that he had no doubt the property of the Bank in the vincinity of the contemplated road will be enenhanced in value by its completion, and that the immediate benefit resulting from that road when completed would probably be greater to the Bank than to any individual or company that has subscribed to the stock, and the amount granted would at no distant period be returned to the Bank manifold in the increased value of the property. The Bank influenced by its interest, in which the government is one-fifth proprietor, did (as I understand) subscribe $1500 to the stock; and would it not have been an extraordinary and painful conduct on its part, if it had not? I was originally opposed to the institution on constitutional grounds, but I consider that question as settled by Congress having granted the last charter; and by the signature thereto of Mr. Madison, its most powerful opponent on constitutional grounds. His reasoning has been conclusive with

Your obedient servant.'

TRIPOLI AND TUNIS.

It has been already stated that the Regencies of Tripoli and Tunis had made treaties with France. From a letter addressed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Chamber of Commerce of Marseilles, from which we make the following extract, we learn what were the conditions of the treaty with Tripoli, and that a Consul General and Charge d'Affairs is to be appointed by the King of France to represent him at that regency:

'As soon as the conquest of Algiers was certain, Rear Admiral Rosamel was ordered to proceed to Tripoli, with a division of our naval force, to demand satisfaction for its causes of complaint against the Pacha and to obtain it by arms, if the Tripolitan Government should refuse to subscribe to the terms which were to be imposed upon it, and in the sum of which the French Government had endeavored to combine the redress of its own grievances with the satisfaction which the general interests of Christendom also required.

This mission has been attended with complete success. The Pacha of Tripoli, without our being obliged to compel him by force, signed on the 11th of last month, a treaty, by which, expressly disavowing the calumnies of which the Consul of France had been the subject, he was engaged to write to the King a letter of apology with regard to the circumstances which led to the retirement of that agent, and to pay the sum of 800,000 francs, to make good the demands which the French had against the Regency of Tripoli. These two conditions have been already fulfilled; the letter of excuse, conceived in the most explicit terms, was immediately delivered to Admiral Rosamel; and the Pacha at the same time placed in his hands the half of the stipulated 800,000 francs, as well as a bond for 400,000, payable on the 20th of December next.

By other articles of the treaty, the Pacha formally renounces, for himself and his successors, the right of sending out cruisers against any Christian Power which, being at war with the Regency, should, on its part, abstain from the exercise of this right against Tripolitan merchantmen. He renounces, no less expressly, any augmentation of the actual number of his ships of war, a list of which has been delivered to us. He abolishes in his dominions the slavery of the Christians; the tributes, presents, or dues, under whatsoever name imposed, on European Governments, and the monopoly of commerce. He binds himself not only to give to foreign vessels which may be wrecked on the coasts of the Regency the necessary assistance and succour, but also to make good the value of the effects or merchandise which may have been pillaged, and pay fines, as a reparation, for the murders which have been committed on persons belonging to the crews of those ships.

The Bey of Tunis, by a treaty signed on the 8th Aug. had contracted engagements absolutely identical with the above, and this double event has worthily completed the results which the expedition had already enabled us to obtain in the interests of humanity and civilization.

I have thought it my duty, gentlemen, to acquaint you with these two treaties which the King has entirely approved, and one of which, by renewing our relations with the Regency of Tripoli, has the advantage of putting an end to the uncertainties and fears which the French merchants might still feel respecting the dispositions of that Regency.

The King will very shortly appoint the Consul General and Charge d'Affaires who is to represent him at Tripoli, and to protect there the interests of France.'

From the Montreal Gazette.

ORIGINAL NAVAL SCRAPS.

MAJOR BRUIN—*Qui capit habet.*—It was in the Autumn of the year 1796, a young naval officer seated himself in the Portsmouth Telegraph Night Post Coach for London. There was one other passenger, who happened to be a military officer just returned from Newfoundland. In the course of conversation it appeared, that the latter had brought home a beautiful white bear, and that he was actually a fellow passenger. This excited the curiosity of the sailor, who said 'Captain, where the devil have you stowed him?' 'Oh, he is in the basket, and under the care of the guard.' 'Why, are you not afraid of his jumping into the road?' 'He is slightly tied, but I depend principally on the vigilance of the guard.' 'What food do you give him?' 'Why the first place we stop after daylight, you shall see the fellow eat a famous breakfast of bread and milk.' The sailor, to whom a flaxen bear was a matter of curiosity, anxiously anticipated the approach of morning. After partaking of a hearty supper at Liphook, the soldier officer fell into a sound slumber; not so his companion, who being more in the habit of keeping night watch, was probably calculating the number of knots the coach had run, when about three in the morning, he was surprised at coachy suddenly pulling up. Seeing no house near, he began to look ahead for breakers! or the black flag of a pirate! when he heard the coachman suddenly call out to the guard 'There he goes, Bob, there he goes!—jump down Bob! twig him there running through the hedge!' As the sailor's head was full of nothing but the bear, he at once made up his mind that the animal had broke loose. Indeed the same impression might have been made on any one under similar circumstances. All this time his companion was asleep as sound as a church; his nose sending forth a variety of musical cadences not unlike the delectable tones of a young beginner practising on the trombone! or the 'Dead March in Saul' played upon six dozen Jew's harps! A violent shake silenced this tremendous bellows, which had more than once blown off the sailor's night cap from the opposite seat of the coach. 'Captain! Captain! by all that's lovely, the bear's overboard!' 'The devil he is!' cries the astonished Newfoundlander, who, making a sudden spring, his foot got entangled in the step of the door, and down he came upon a new made flinty road, and lacerated his face most ruefully. The alarm was altogether a false one, as it turned out to be a hedge hog or some such animal the coachman wanted to catch for his children. The officer re-seated himself evidently in dudgeon; but all would probably have passed off well, had not the sailor's confounded propensity to risibility brought on the storm. Whether it was the oddness of the mistake, or the ludicrous appearance of his companion's physiognomy tickled him, is uncertain, but he burst into a fit of laughter.—The merriment was ill-timed, and engendered a suspicion that did not exist before, of a premeditated hoax; upon his fellow traveller. A violent altercation now ensued, which threatened the most unpleasant consequences; however, as his passion cooled down, he at last felt satisfied of the sailor's serious belief, that the Bear was actually endeavoring to make the best of his way back to Newfoundland! A treaty of amity being thus happily concluded, the sailor proposed, in order to prevent the possibility of an accident, the anticipation of which had given rise to the dreadful misfortune and subsequent affray, that the Bear should be shifted from the basket into the coach. No proposition could have been more agreeable to the Captain, so in he came, and occupying a corner, conducted himself in a way that would have done honor to the best disciplined corps! The Fugleman sat directly opposite, while the sailor having screwed himself into the further opposite corner, kept a bright eye upon Bruin, and carefully looked out for squalls. On entering the town of Guildford, the Captain threw his cloak over the Bear, and placed his gold lace seal skin cap upon his head.

It was very early in the morning when the coach stopped, and out came the coach-master with the 'way bill' in his hand, uttering in a surly tone of voice as he opened the coach door,—'two insides, (looking in) ha! how's this? three inside and only two in the bill.' 'This gentleman (said the Captain, pointing to the bear) was an outside passenger, but being taken sick upon the road, was obliged to come in.' 'Well, he must come out, or be booked for an inside.'—'Major Bruin, (said the captain in a loud tone of voice) you must either pay an inside fare or alight.' 'Ah, (continued he) the Major will alight.' 'Landlord, lend a hand here, (cries the sailor) the old gentleman's timbers are a little crazy.' Mine host now thrust forward his hand, and the bear's paw was tightly squeezed into it. He instantly flew back as if he had received a powerful electric shock! 'Why, what's the matter?' 'The matter! you've got the devil in the coach.' 'Truly we have thought so for some time past (said the captain) there's been an infernal smell of brimstone!' 'Ah no doubt, (cried the ostler) if he be really the devil, he has got the itch!' 'Be it as it may, (said the captain) he swears if there is not a huge mess of bread and milk immediately prepared for him he'll soon make an example of some of you.—Quick, you sanctified looking rascals.' Major being led in all was turned to good humor. Having devoured the contents of an immense jorum, he licked his chops like a common Council man after gobbling the green fat of a turtle, while the innkeeper's wife, holding up her hand in astonishment, cried, 'Lord! what wonderful *things* are made for money!'

The three travellers re-embarked amidst the acclamations of a concourse of people assembled, and arrived in London in high spirits, where Major being introduced among the fashionables, he shortly became (to use a dandy phrase) *one of us*, and as he continued to move quite in the higher circles of the *beau monde*, he got at length so complete a dandy from drilling, that he become an immense favorite of the ladies, who delighted in being squeezed by his paws. Nor was his shaggy appearance in the least disadvantageous to him; on the contrary, he set the fashion of the *Bear-looking heads* of the gentlemen! and the beautiful *pointed nails* of the ladies were admired in proportion as they bore a strict resemblance to his claws! In fine, having divested himself of the rugged manners of the *Cubs of the Bush*, he became as the nature of the animal would admit of, quite an *accomplished Bear;* and if his great age does not operate as an impediment, is likely, according to the latest accounts, to be looking forward to the distinguished post of a *Bear Leader*.

SEDUCTION.—At a late sitting of the Supreme Court in Kent county, Del. the case of Elizabeth Johnson against John A. Collins, for the seduction of the Plantiff's drughter, was tried, and a verdict found for Plaintiff. The case was one of aggravated character, and the Jury gave exemplary damages—two thousand and eighty-three dollars—being the entire amount of the valuation of the defendant's estate, real and personal. This is as it should be. He that takes away life, can have a less fiendish motive in view, than he who deliberately tramples upon confidence or destroys happiness.

A FEARLESS SWIMMER.

A case has been in examination before the United States Dirtict Court, now in session here, which exhibits a recklessness of death and of danger but seldom equalled. James Riding, a seaman, between whom and his captain considerable difficulty had existed in consequence of certain mutinous conduct, formed a determination to leave the ship, which at the time, was in the porte of Trieste. He was prevented from deserting while in port, by being put in close confinement, and not placed on board till the moment of sailing. The ship went out of the harbor of Trieste towards evening; the next morning Rider was missing, and all conjecture as to his probable fate was unsatisfactory. He was known to have been a venturesome sailor, and an expert swimmer; but that he should voluntarily throw himself overboard in the night, when there was scarcely a possibility of his escaping immediate drowning, was a height of rashness, which it was supposed he would not venture. The Gulf of Venice, where the ship then was, is remarkable for a rapid and strong current against which it would be impossible for the most athletic powers long to hold out; and the impression became general among the crew, that they should see their messmate no more.

Nothing was heard of Riding, until some time after news came that a seaman floating down the Gulf on a spar, had been picked up on the morning above alluded to, by a Venetian coaster. He had survived nine hours in the water with nothing to sustain him but this slender spar. The case in Court was brought to recover his wages. [Boston Traveller.

From the Huntsville Advocate of October 16.

HOMICIDE.—Familiarized as we have become from their frequent occurrence, to deeds of blood and of lawless violence, it is no less repugnant to our feelings, to record another, by which a fellow-creature, in the prime of life, has been called at a moments warning, from time to eternity. Col. Gideon Northcut, lately a member elect to the legislature of the State from this county, was shot, and almost instantly killed, whilst in the act of addressing a multitude of people at a public muster-ground on Tuesday last by Mr. Logan T. Brandon of this place. The particulars of this melancholy transaction ought not at present to appear in the columns of a newspaper; we therefore suppress the most of them, although they are in our possession; inasmuch as it is to undergo a legal investigation before the proper judicial tribunal. Something, however, must be said to correct an erroneous statement of the transaction, which has already appeared in the *Democrat*, wherein this occurrence is termed an 'affray.' It is not true that there was an 'affray;' but the simple fact is, that the deceased was stopped in his harrangue by Mr. Brandon, and in the same moment shot and deprived of his life with a pistol, at the distance of eight or ten feet. Another man by the name of Ramsey was accidentally severely wounded by the same discharge, (who is said to be on terms perfectly friendly with Mr. Brandon,) whose life is despaired of. Some other persons were also slightly wounded. The occurrence happened at the Regimental muster, at Taylor's muster ground, about 13 miles north of this place.

It is said that there was great provocation for the commission of this deed, which we presume was the case. It was in testimony, in addition to other insults, that the deceased had publicly charged Mr. Brandon with having sworn to a lie before the Court Martial which last week cashiered Northcut.

On Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Brandon was examined before two justices of the peace, (Messrs. John C. Grayson and Thomas Cain,) and recognized to appear at the next (November) term of the circuit court, himself and three securities in the sum of five thousand dollars each. As no person appeared as prosecutor, this was done upon the exparte examination of a single witness, in relation to the transactions which produced the death, although more than a hundred persons were present at the commission of the deed, many of whom were then in view of the examining court.

A letter from an American gentleman at Paris, under date of September 18, says:—

'You would be astonished to witness the ignorance that prevails in Europe, with regard to our country, and its institutions. Its extent and resources are beyond their comprehension. Our government is a perfect puzzle; and they cannot understand how twenty-four sovereignties can form one, and yet each retain its own sovereignty. A surgeon in the British army, asked me what was the general language of the country. I replied that the *Mohawk* was the native language, but that those who were caught early, and tamed young, sometimes talked English. To another *Hnglishman*, who asked the same question, I replied we talked the American language—a kind of antique English, such as was written by Addison and Johnson, and spoken by Burke and Pitt, but which I could not recognize as the legitimate English which I heard in common use in England. A Yorkshireman, who was my fellow traveller on the top of a coach, upon learning I was an American, complimented me by saying, 'Yees talks ez gude Hinglish az hi duz.' 'Yees sur, hand hize cum to Yorkshire, said I, tu perfect my hedication.'

BRUTAL ASSAULT OF THE SIAMESE TWINS.

The Liverpool Journal of Sept. 25th, says—Yesterday evening a person in the dress of a gentleman, committed a most unprovoked assault on these boys, in the exhibition room. Although there was a crowd of visiters, the attendant, who is particularly obliging, took every pains to satisfy his numerous and very troublesome inquiries, but all did not satisfy him; and because they did not undress before ladies, he called them 'imposters.' The high sense of honor revolted at the foul charge, and they rushed from behind the table; and one of them, pulling out his purse, gave him a shilling, and desired him to quit the room. He refused and aimed at them an unmanly blow. One nothing loth, returned it with such effect, that it drew blood from the nose of the visiter, who instantly departed, threatening an action at law.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.

Julia Ann, aged three years, daughter of Josiah P. Graves, of Northampton, was burnt to death, 26th ult. by her clothes taking fire while playing about the stove at the village school, none but little children being present. Their screams attracted the attention of some workmen 15 or 20 rods distant, who saw her running, the blaze ascending above her head. Her clothes were chiefly woollen, but her arms and part of her body were burnt to a crisp. She died 12 hours after.

From the Indiana Statesman, Oct. 13.

SLANDERERS BEWARE!

At the late term of the Franklin Circuit, Court, Miss Catharine Bilbee obtained a judgment of $1000, against Mark Harper, in an action for slander; Daniel Curry obtained a judgment of $60 against Philip Jones, in a similar action; and Mrs. Elizabeth Doyle obtained a judgment of *one cent!* against Wm. Walker, for a character which was far from being purified in its passage through the fiery ordeal.

A young Irishman who had married when he was about nineteen years of age, complaining of the difficulties to which his early marriage had subjected him, said he would never marry so young again, if he lived to be as old as Methuselem.

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