The Last Chapter of the Vir ginius Massacre.

Arrival of the Juniata with 102 Survivors.

THE CAPTURE ON THE HIGH SEAS.

The American Flag Hauled Down and Trampled On.

The Virginius Plundered by Spanish Soldiers-- A Night of Robbery and Debauch.

THE MOCK TRIALS.

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Timely Arrival of the Men-of-War-How the Carnival of Blood Was Stopped-Burriel's Flight and Fury.

DEATH BY SLOW TORTURE IN JAIL.

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The Survivors' History of Themselves.

ON BOARD THE U. S. SLOOP-OF-WAR JUNIATA, )
OFF STATEN ISLAND, Dec. 28, 1878. After a rough and tedious passage the Juniata arrived here this afternoon from Santiago de Cuba, having on board the survivors of the Virginius mas sacre, in all 102 souls. I have already telegraphed you full details of their surrender to the Commander of this vessel by the United States steam despatch boat Pinta, having left the port of Key West on the evening of the 18th inst. But the tragic tale has not yet been half told; and there can be little doubt that, nad the American people been placed in possession of all the startling facts relative to the trial and execution of the captiveswhich, however, the Cuban authorities well managed to distort or conceal—the wicked agents of injustice, inhumanity and crueity would long before this have met with that stern and summary vengeance their crime entails. Furnished from time to time only with meagre scraps of information concerinng one of the most appalling butcheries on record, it can readily be understood how the public mind, partly overlooking the terrible crueities incident to the slaughter of 53 human beings and the barbarous treatment of nearly double as many more, burned with indignation flag, the main features of the deed having been carefully withheld. Perhaps the affair is at an end; the crime may pass unatoned and the murderers may go at large; but no strokes of diplomacy, however brilliant or ingenious; no concesns, however liberal or munificent; no excuse, however plausible; no contrition on the part of the distracted parent Spain, can wipe out the everlasting stigma which now defiles her degraded and wolfish representatives in the blood-stained island they so well misgovern and pollute. Doubtless the law of capital punishment is to be suspended simply because the accused are

OFFICIAL CUTTHEOATS. yet you will shortly see that a more flendish or de liberate murder has not shocked the community for years. Whatever may be the issue of any ding negotiations, the fact remains that, unless some steps be taken to punish the offenders in a manner commensurate with the cutrage perpetrated, the culprits may go abroad defiant in their villany and a living reproach to the callousness of the American nation. There can be no doubt about this, and if an example be not made of the prin cipals, however late in the day, the life of an American in Cubs will henceforth be something frightful to contemplate.

THE DAWN OF TRUTH It is needless at this stage to dilate upon the various complexities of the case, it being universally conceded that, whatever the character of the Virginius may have been, her capture on the high sea was an outrageous violation of the law, while the subsequent disposition of the captured does not for a moment admit of discussion. It may, however, be interesting to set forth a true parrative of events as they eccurred. Hitherto the accounts published have been more or less garbled, the chief sources of information having been carefully cut off, so that, between hearsay and speculation, it is hardly possible that a correct stement of the facts in connection with the capture of the ill-starred steamer and the subsequent proceedings could have been made known. But the recent release and surrender of the prisoners to this vessel unveil the mystery in which th dramatic story has heretofore been shrouded. In another part of this letter the rescued men speak for themselves without fear, since they are now beyond the clutches of the oppressors and have little to gain by alisrepresentation. It will be seen that the; deny any intention of aiding or abetting the Cuban insurgents or that the Virginius carried arms or ammunition, and they assert, moreover, that they were bound to Port Limon, in the ordinary pursuit of their various vocations, when captured by the Tornado. However ambiguous these statements may appear, taking into account the character that sel had previously borne, the fact that over 70 of those on board had left New York together in the steamer Atlas, and that the Virginius was heading for the coast of Cuba when the chase commenced-for we cannot overlook the truth in any one particular-it is very clear that, provided with the proper papers, the destination of the steamer and the object of those on board are altegether foreign to the question at issue'so long as they kept

THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW. While for reasons of their own they may desire to

bearing upon the issue at stake, the fearful disclosures which they make will, nevertheless, possess a sad interest, and be none the less truthful on that account. Howbeit, 155 souls left Kingston, Jam., in the steamer Virginius, on the 23d of October last, bound, according to advertisement, to Port Limon. It seems that the vessel was in a wretched condition, and, after putting out to sea, sprung aleak. Proceeding to Jerremie, a small Hayllah port, for repairs, she subsequently touched at Port-au-Prince and Caymites. It was in the afternoon of the 31st of October, when resuming her voyage, that she sighted a Spanish war vessel, and, perceiving that the latter was heading directly towards her, doubtless with the object of capture, changed the course toward Jamaica, and the chase began. From all accounts it was a spirited one, the Spaniard, however, gaining all the time from two till six o'clock, at which hour the Virginius made

HER LAST GREAT EFFORT, and for an hour or so continued to hold her way. But the game was up, for the gaping cracks just closed the day preceding now began to open with the strain, and a continuous stream of water poured into the forward hold. Five shots were fired at the disabled craft, the last one grazing the mokestack, and, finding escape unavailing, she hove to. The pursuing vessel proved to be the Spanish gunboat Tornado. The Virginius was promptly boarded by two officers and about 30 men, and when Captain Fry handed over his papers they were crumpled in the hands of the arrogant recipient, whose first official act was to haul down the American flag and hoist that of Spain in its place. Not the slightest effort at resistance was made, and within the space of 30 minutes all hands, with the exception of Captain Fry, the engineers and a few others were securely bound and transferred to the Tornado. And now ensued a scene which tends to place the capture in a somewhat different light to that already represented by the officers of the victorious craft. Before leaving the Virginius every person was thoroughly searched and transported to the Tornado just as he presented nimself. Many were shoeless and hatless; all were bereft of any article that could in the slightest degree contribute to their comfort. The chief engineer of the Tornado, James Mockabee-an American, by the way-super intended the working of the engines of the Virginius, and the two vessels headed for Santiago.

HOW THE PLAG WAS HONORED. In order to relieve the monotony of the passage the American dag was spread upon the deck, and occasionally, when the hilarity of the Spanish officers began to flag, their men cheerfully came forward and both tramped and spat upon it, which operation becoming tedious, they commenced to gut the ship. Trunks and boxes were burst open and rifled, many of them containing large sums of money, and it is said that hard words accompanied the distribution of the spoil. Locks and bolts were wrenched off and the staterooms plundered. Wine lockers were battered down, and to wind up in the most honored style of all good pirates the ruffians ended their midnight labors in a joyous carouse. From that day to this not a vestige of any of the stolen articles has been seen, nor have they been returned to the rightful claimants, for many of the prisoners afterwards beneld their best clothing adorn the limbs of the licensed robbers. But this was not all. On arriving at Santiago the following afternoon the larder of the Spanish gunboat was handsomely replenished from the Virginius, and, what with barrels of beer, liquors and cigars, the officers of the Tornado had all the elements for a first rate mutual admiration gathering. BLOODHOUNDS ON THE TRACK.

As when voracious wolves first cast eager eyes upon their prey and howl in anticipation of a coming feast, so did the fiends of Santiago, maddened with delignt at the approaching carnival of blood, shout with wild and unrestrained giee. If the de scriptions given me be at all truthful, Santiago was beside itself on the night of the 1st of November last. From end to end the city was illumined with brilliant lights. Bands of music marched to and fro in delirious triumph; friend embraced friend upon the street, almost, it seems, unable to utter the sentiments of his black and treacherous heart, while hireling volunteers were abroad the nvelong night, bellowing like demons at their master's bidding. "We'll soon have plenty of American steak" was, I am told, among the inhuman watchwords of that night of revelry. Woe betide the symathizer! His life was in his very looks; a word for justice and fair play and he was numbered among the dead. It was, indeed, a jubilee never to be forgotten. Had Fry and his companions just then been put ashore there would have been little need of the mock trial to legalize, as it were, the frightful carnage which ensued.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE. Two courts were constituted, one for the disposition of the crew and the other for those claiming to be passengers on the captured vessel. Of the trial of Ryan, Cespedes, Del Soi and Varona nothing is known. In vain did they appeal for outside aid. Thrice was American Consul Schmitt browbeaten, insulted and repulsed. Burriel, for whom the vocabulary fails to furnish a qualifying epithet-Burriel, who approved the deed on his own responsibility-was deaf to everything that fair play or humanity or reason could dictate, and when, on the morning of the 4th of November, the process sion marched past the Consulate a guard of soldiers was placed in front of it, lest by any chance the interference of the official therein might avail. How the victims met their fate I have previously endeavored to describe. But, if the proceedings which marked the trial of the so-called leaders are destined to remain a mystery. we have at least some insight into the manner in which poor Fry and his companions were hurried into eternity. All the prisoners were taken simply before this self-constituted Court of Marine, as it was called, and asked simply whether there were any arms or ammunition on board the Virginius. It will be seen by the subjoined statements that nearly all of them replied in the negative. They were then removed to their cells, but subsequently recalled, the question the second time being whether they had anything to say in their defence In some instances documents were placed before the accused setting forth that the ginius was a privateer and that she carried imniements of war to aid the Cuban insurgents. These they were at first requested to sign.

LIFE AND LIBERTY AND MONEY being held out as inducements. A refusal on the part of the prisoners to do so at once arogsed the illconcealed wrath of the officials, who, finding their plans of bribery unavailing, threatened their victims with instant death-the officers, in some instances, drawing their swords and pointing them at the accused. Paralyzed with fear and, doubtless, anticipating a prompt execution of such threats, some of the terror stricken people actually affixed their names to the papers, though afterwards repenting their action in the bitterest terms. It is hardly to be doubted that, out of so many, a few persons, under promise of immediate release, supplied such information, whether true or false, that gave some pretext for the slaughter which ensued. Yet it is unmistakably plain that it was the original intention of the officials to spare not a single life, and had it not been for

A MOST FORTUITOUS CIRCUMSTANCE it is more than probable that few, if any, of the prisoners would now be alive to tall the tale. It seems that Captain Fry and 35 of his companions were condemned to be snot on the 8th of November. Inteiligence reached Santiago, however, that the British war vessel Niobe would leave Kingston Jam., on the 6th, and if so would arrive at the form r port on the following day. Conscious of their wullt, though not yet satisfed with the blood of their victims, the authorities well knew that their brutal carnival must come to a sudden end upon the arrival of the English steamer-16 of the victims claimed English citizenship-and so the day of execution was changed until the 7th, when the 37 souls her doaly met their fate at the Slaughter House Forty-two persons were still on the list of the concemned, and the Niobe not arriving on the morning of the 8th, as was expected, 12 of that number were ma ched to the scene of death, it doubtless being the hatention of the murderers to finish the remainder to case the vessel did not put in an appearance. At | called the fact that death was welcome to them, noon of that day, however, she anchored in the harbor, and the stream of blood ceased to flow.

described at being thus suddenly robbed of their prey, and, in response to the protests made by the Commander of the Niobe, and subsequently by Commander Cushing, of the Wyoming-the telegram to the latter, when at Aspinwall, from the american Consul having been purposely detained by the authorities at Santiago-vented his rage in arrogant episties by way of justification for his

Meanwhile, the American nation had become thoroughly aroused, and, for the first time, the guilty wretches began in some measure to comprehend the enormity of their crime, as well as to foresee the effects of the portentous storm lower. ing over their heads. Burriel aed to Havans-for what purpose it can readily be surmised-nor did he venture to return until the forbearing hand of diplomacy had commenced its work of pacification. When the sloop-of-war Juniata arrived, matters were in an exceedingly complicated state. All the surroundings indicated war-sudden and decisive-although the proposed chastisement of the miscreants should scarcely be dignified by that name. Communication by telegraph was entirely out off, and to some extent we were at the mercy of the people whom we believed it our bounden punish. The absence of alinformation as to the actual situation of affairs was felt severely, and the mysterious operations of our supposed enemy— such as strengthening the forts all around the harbor, the drilling of large bodies of soldiers both day and night-led us to believe that the moment for action was close at hand. On our arrival Commander Braine, accompanied by Vice Consul Schmitt, Commander Cushing, Lieutenants De Long, Chipp, Hutchings and your correspondent, proceeded to the palace, where we were re-ceived by the Acting Governor, General Morales de los Rios, with whom

A VERY PORMAL INTERVIEW was held lasting over an hour. I have already forwarded you the substance of what took place on that occasion -of the request of Commander Braine to deliver to him the survivors and the refusal thereto; of the solemn promise made to him that in the event of any further executions he should be notified beforehand; also of our subsequent visit to the prisoners, or those of them claiming to be American citizens. I have endeavored to acquaint you of the deplorable condition in which we found them and of the assurance and broken pledge of the Governor to mitigate, if possible, the horrors of their situation by a proper supply of clothes-for the poor fellows were in rags-and improve the quality of their food, of which they bitterly complained. But in all intercourse with the Santiago officials their deportment was marked by a certain amount of arrogance and suspicion that betokened anything but peaceful solution of the grave question at issue. Add to this the utmost reticence on the part of the authorities as to any negotiations, and our disagreeable position can, perhaps, be the better appreciated. The bearing of the volunteers, moreover, was that of defiance, and their avowed de termination never to surrender the remainder of the prisoners tended to confirm the impression that hostilities were imminent. American officers, while not treated with any outward tokens of impoliteness-for their advent at Santiago proved a source of sterling benefit to many an impoverished shopkeeper-there was, nevertheless, an amount of respectful coolness displayed towards them plainly indicative of unfriendliness. True, the city was full of Cuban sympathizers, but their fears restrained them from expressing any opinion on the situation. There were

SPIES IN ALL DIRECTIONS. Nothing escaped the vigilance of the city officials, and the visit of our commanding officer ashore gave rise to the most conflicting rumors. Meanwhile the men-of-war in the harbor had increased to the number of six-three American, two British and one French-each having more or less an interest in the fate of the people in prison so that, for the time, little apprehension was entertained as to the result of any inimical movement that might be made. The crew of the Juniata were drilled night and day, and the same watchfulness that would mark the discipline of a well regulated vessel in war times was strictly maintained. Every day brought its quota of news. Now the volunteers were to attack us in a body, and, if possible, capture our vessel. Again, it was rumored that torpedoes were sunk all over the harbor, and all hopes of exit were cut off. But so rous and conflicting did these reports become that, while we did not relax our vigilance. they finally gained little or no credence whatever. ANOTHER CARNIVAL IN PROSPECT.

At length came the startling announcement that another batch of victims had been selected to folseemed to confirm the impression was the fact that all the prisoners save these confined to the hospital were secretly removed to the Morro Castle, a distance from the prison of some six or seven miles. Imagine our consternation when, on the morning of the 4th of December, news reached us from the American Consulate that on the midnight preceding the prisoners-03 in number-had been taken from the castle, placed on the gunboat Bazan and transported to Havana. And now, to ail appearances, their doom was sealed forever; for among other things, it was unnesitatingly as serted that the volunteers were loudly clamoring for their blood. Of their memorable trip to Cien fuegos, the grounding of the gunboat near that place and their transfer to the mail steamer bound for Santiago—despatches had arrived to take them back; of the sufferings which they underwent I leave to the prisoners to describe. It seems impossible that human nature could become so far degraded as to descend to such revolting means to maitreat their fellows as were practised by the cowardly officials in charge, as well as by the officers of the steamer. Nothing that

HATRED AND HARD-BRARTEDNESS could suggest was left untried to complete the horrors of the situation, and when the dying people now almost courting death, were sanded at the wharf they were scarcely able to crawl back to their loathsome dens in jail. No sooner had Com mander Braine learned of the removal of the pris oners than he forthwith proceeded to the palace in no even frame of mind, and the Acting Governor was led to understand that the secref and illicit manner in which the unfortunate victims had been taken away was a violation of the pledge alread; given and an explanation was promptly demanded With characteristic snavity and evasiveness the Acting Governor blandly stated that the prisoners had been removed to the Morro Castle simply for want of accommodation in the jail, that sanitary measures alone demanded the change and that the order for their transportation to Havana had been received by him only a few hours before their transfer to the gunboat Bazan. The amount of veracity to be at tached to this statement will be appreciated when it is known that the forgetful General never received any order at all. But the Spaniards are an imaginative people and mistakes are sometimes likely to occur. When the brave General leaves this wicked world I am afraid the fountain of the good recording angel would be dried up in the effort to blot out his slight transgressions. The angel, however, may not try to shed a single tear.

IN THE HOSPITAL. Accompanied by about a score of hawk-eved of ficials we visited the hospital where were confined on wretched pallets nine of the prisoners captured on the Virginius, suffering from various diseases chiefly the result of privation and consequent debility. Strong guards were placed about the doors, though that seemed a needless precaution since it is very questionable whether one of the victims could have walked the length of the room. Nor were we allowed to question them at all. As on the occasion of our previous visit to the other prisoners, skulking officials were in attendance, whose intimidating looks warned the unfor tunates to beware. It was, therefore, an impossibility to learn anything of a definite character, though, by the way, I contrived in a somewhat glean some facts relative to the capture of the Virginius which, up to that time, were unknown to the outside world. None of them, however, conand, indeed, in some cases it seemed as if the dreaded yishtor were kindly coming to their relief. withhold some part of the history not directly | The fury of Burriel and his confederates cannot be | But cheerful words were whispered to them and

their fast-enbing hopes of freedom began to return What with the few luxuries supplied them by the Commander of the Juntata the condition of the invalids was considerably ameliorated and the sufferers bade us adieu with grateful hearts.

A PAINFUL SITUATION.

Meanwhile the British men-of-war Niobe and Woodlark had left the harbor, the former for Havana and the latter for Kingston. On the same anchor and sailed for Key West. So that when the French vessel took her departure a few days afterwards there remained at Santiago only the Kansas and Juniata, Nor should I forget to mention that throughout the entire proceedings, throughout the several interviews at the palace the preparations for assault and defence, throughout the live long sultry days and often sleepless nights, and the hostile movements of the volunteers, whose threats and scornful utterances were hourly made known to us, we were kept in total darkness as to the turn affairs had taken. For all we knew about the situation we might just as well have been in China. Little did we dream, while ready at a moment's notice, to engage the enemy-and there was good reason to be on the alert-that negotiations were then pending whereby the problem might be peacefully solved. In vain had tidings been awaited. Mail after mail arrived from Havana, and still not a word for us. Left thus to our own resources and these were timited enough) there was nothing for it but patience. The gossipers of the town were busy, and it would seem that all our anticipations of an engagement were about to be fulfilled. Hundreds of men-some of them soldiers, most of them from the chaingang-were employed in all directions throwing up breastworks and mounting guns. The Morro Castle, and in its close vicinity the Estrella fort, commanding the entrance to the harbor, were strengthened, and indeed every prominent point near the city was strongly iortified, for what they lacked in the calibre of the guns they tried to make up in quantity. These preparatio ever, concerned us little, well knowing the ability of our available force to meet the emergency: rather was it the state of doubt and anxiety in which we were held that caused the tormenting uneasiness to which we had now become a prey. Hard, indeed, was it to bear the sneers of th ragged rogues ashore, whose audacity and concett were equalied only by their ignorance and ras-

cality. THE VOLUNTEERS. It was well known that the volunteers not only gloried in the foul deed that stained their city, but were determined at all hazards to complete their infamy by the butchery of the remaining prisoners. And thus the situation continued for days. Worried with fruitless expectation and harassed by all the rumors the occasion could suggest, we lay at anchor in front of the city, not knowing the moment that the welcome toscin of alarm would ring forth and afford an opportunity for that speedy punishment which the braggart volunteers had so long courted in vain. In view of the entire surroundings I cannot help thinking that the amount of forbearance, coolness and judgment displayed by the commanding officer of the Juniata contributed largely to the final satisfactory issue of events, for it will be seen that, backed by that baneful institution, the Casino Español, the more bloodthirsty portion of the inhabitants indignantly rebelled against any proposed surrender of the prisoners. Indeed, their demonstrations assumed the most threatening proportions, so that under the circumstances not a little caution was required. It must be borne in mind that no state of warfare existed and that any overt act on the part of the American men-of-war would only tend to increase the complications, however great the provocation. But if ever an enemy was spoiling for a thorough whipping it was assuredly the volunteers of Santiago. They held out the most tempting inducements, and it is matter forever to be deplored that the ragged warriors were not treated to their deserts.

THE AMERICAN CONSUL. The arrival of Mr. A. N. Young, the American Consul, who had left Santiago on leave some time before the capture of the Virginius, served to restore a feeling of confidence among the American residents, and the energetic manner in which he co-operated with Commander Braine, the prompt and trustworthy methods he adopted to carry out whatever might tend to serve the interests of the government in a situation the most perplexing, are entitled to creditable recognition. If pluck, tact, and discrimination have anything to do towards making our representatives efficient, Mr. Young possesses these qualifi-cations in an eminent degree. At all events, he because he hoisted the American flag on the hotel where he resided as a signal to the Juniata in the harbor, they sneaked off quite complacently on being informed of the immediate fate of the first man who dared to haul it down. Mr. Young is now the senior Consul on the island, and his promotion to the office of Vice Consul General of Cuba is very opportune, though it was rumored that one of the consular clerks had been recommended to the position. It is hardly possible, however, that the claims of Mr. Young will be wilfully overlooked. SHADOWS OF COMING EVENTS.

I now come to an eventful part of this narrative. Burriel had returned from Havana in the very steamer to which the shipwrecked yet securely bound prisoners had been transferred at Cientuegos, where the gunboat Bazan had run ashore. The reappearance of this master cutthroat at Santiago augured for the worse, for his temperament and preclivities were too well known to hope for mercy at his hands. His return infused a spirit into the minions that surrounded him, and, with beating hearts, they only awaited his nod to end the tragedy with a carnage more horrible than any preceding it. It was for us a time of mental anxiety, now fast becoming unendurable. At length, after days of waiting and uneasiness, the news arrived that negotiations had been concluded between the United States and Spain, whereby the captured steamer and the surviving prisoners were to be delivered up. This was virtually all. and I must say in all candor the announcement caused a general disappointment, for it was earnestly hoped that a wholesome lesson would have been administered to those whose wanton barbarity had called forth the exupon receipt of information from Consul General Hail at Havana, Consul Young processed to the Juniata and informed Commander Braine of the proposed settlement of the question at issue. A letter was at once despatched to Burriel requesting to know officially if such a state of facts existed, and that, in the event of any arrangement having been arrived at, the sloop of war Juniata was prepared to receive the prisoners at the earliest opportunity. But Burriel was sick-at least so said the answer sent by his aide-de-camp; and Commander Braine was further informed in the same epistle that on Tuesday, the 16th day of December, a conference would be held, whereat the means, time and place of the surrender would be determined upon. This was welcome news, elicited from the reluctant and reticent officials. for it was evidently their intention to thrust the prisoners upon us without heed or warning. riel's maiady was soon explained. When it became known in the city that the prisoners, who had already been sent to the Morro Castle, were to be delivered, the fury of the volunteers became unbounded. An indignation meeting was held, and all the city turned out in wrathful mood to protest against the movement. In vain was Burriel appealed to, entrested, implored to hold on to his prey. Much as he might have wished it, the flat had gone forth from Havana to surrender the living monuments of his cruelty. It was not surprising then, to know that Burriel was indisosed. But the clamorous and persistent demands of the volunteers at length so incensed him-well knowing that m's neck was in danger should he fail to comply with the peremptory order he had received from the capital—that he became positively ferocious, g.id prowling within the four walls of the palace like a caged hyena, swore he would carry out the order even if the volunteers should trample over his bo.'y in its execution. Crestfallen and disappointed, the se inhuman mendicants withdrew to their home ", and, for that

night, Santiago was buried in gle om. Late on

Wednesday afternoon came the announcement that on the following morning, the 18th inst., at six A. M., the surviving prisoners would be sur-rendered from the Morro Castle, and, to facilitate matters, Commander Braine was requested to anchor the Juniata in the vicinity of the fort. Despite all this seeming acquiescence we were prepared for every surprise. From all our dealings
with the officials we had learned to be suspicious of we would not have been taken aback. At four o'clock on the afternoon of the 17th the Juniata weighed anchor and steamed slowly to the place lesignated, all the necessary preparations having been made for the reception of the prisoners. The utmost vigilance was kept up the entire night, for the city was rull of rumors to the effect that the volunteers intended to storm the Morro Castle on their own account, seize the victims and slaughter them in cold blood. Howbelt, we patiently awaited

THE SURRENDER. The quarter deck of the Juniata, usually remarkble for its trim appearance—remarkable, too, at all times for the absence of everything that does not by rule and regulation belong to it-presented on this occasion a spectacle which might well provoke the ire of a naval disciplinarian, were he unamiliar with the cause. Not on the brightest market day of the brightest town in Christendom could a more wonderful assortment of things in general have been spread out to charm the gaze of the rustic passer-by. Here on the very place where the gile mariners not 12 hours before had practised all the arts of naval warfare—here, displayed in tempting form, were most of the elements that go to make life happy, and if not costly, or shaped to please the frolics of a fickle dame called Fashion, they were none the less suggestive of comfort and contentment. In other words, the stores of the Juniata had been thrown open at daylight, and when the sun threw his genial rays on the port side of the hospitable craft there loomed up in bold array huge piles of clothing, rows of glistening pans and ons, henceforth destined to do signal service in the work of recuperation; bundles of hosiery, baskets of shoes, handkerchiels whose colors with the rainbow in point of variety, stacks of towels, scores of the whitest nammocks, the handiwork of the Juniata's nen the day before. Ranged in the vicinity of the port gangway was a friendly battalion of dumpy little water buckets, each mounted with a stalwart block of soap, the peaceful preserver of rich and poor. All these things and a great many more, which neither time nor recollection will allow me to describe, appeared in view somewhere about the time our visitors were expected.

THE FIRST SIGHT. Now, it should be borne in mind that our confilence in the statements of the Santiago officials was just about as great as the pleasure expressed by the veteran sportsman who preferred first the hare before he gave his opinion of the soup; so that the non-appearance of the prisoners on that memorable morning would not have created much surprise. Like so many Thomases we crowded on the poop deck, and were soon convinced by ocular demonstration. There could be no mistaking the huge launch that now for the first time appeared in view-hitherto hidden by a curve facing the fort. "They are coming," passed fore and aft like wildfire, and over a mile away there hove in sight a tiny row-bont, dragging, een a coal barge laden to the water's edge, but rather like, on nearer approach, a heavily freighted scow consigned to a ragpicker. A look through the telescope, however, and all apprehen-sions were removed—we knew the prisoners were at hand. Never did oarsmen seem so tedious. How long must it have seemed to the poor fellows in the launch, who, packed so tightly together, had little trouble in embracing each other with joy, providing they felt so disposed. Leaving them to make the best of their way to the ship, we will take a final look at the Morro Castle, to which that morning they bade goodby forever.

THE CROWNING ACT OF CRUELTY. It is a quaint old structure (the Morro) and bas many a canny nook and corner, many a dark dunts portals. Of its loathsome horrors the survivors speak in unmeasured terms, and they have reason to know what terrible punishments can be dispensed within its walls. At all events their last night there was an eventful one. Far from anticipating any relief the poor fellows had long since resigned themselves to fate, come what might, But of all the cruelties practised on the hapless lot, none appears so heartless and revolting as the last and final effort of their skilful persecutors. While most of the prisoners were asleep in their filthy den-all were huddled together in one with at less slumbers were disturbed and through the iron grating of the door were heard in harsh and mockng tones the words, "Prepare, for to-morrow you a time had they been similarly warned of approaching death, so that this fresh announcement failed of its terrors, and doubtless not a few wished for relief in eternal repose. No cheering word of comfort was imparted to them; in its stead a cold and malicious taunt, most wicked in its design. At five o'clock on the morning of the 18th they were again aroused and ordered to depart-to what place they knew not. What must have been their surprise, however, when their shackles were removed and some one more considerate than the rest informed them of their freedom ! They then marched down to the water's edge (many of them were only able to crawl), and stepping on board the lumbering launch were taken in tow by the

And now, as the launch approached the Juniata, the forms and features of its joyous occupants began to be distinguishable. Clad in the vilest ragsand a niggardly supply of these was apparentthe people looked towards the vessel with wonder-ment and delight, and when within 50 yards of the gangway gave three cheers as best they could, for hunger and privation are not apt to improve the lungs. Once alongside their joy was almost uncontrollable. Stepping briskly out of the rowboat a sour visaged man, with a hooked nose, appeared at the gangway and, saluting Commander Braine, said he was the Deputy Chief of Police, and, handing him a list of prisoners, grinned with complaisance. It seems that the Chief of Police had been ordered to deliver the prisoner in berson; out, strongly participating in the genthat elegant feeling of indignation, functionary had deputized his subordinate to perform the humiliating task. But he aid not fare as well as might have been expected for his patriotic turn of mind, tor Burriel, who is now all anxiety to to the blading of the Captain General, placed the disobedient policeman under arrest, and it is to be hoped that in the solitary confinement of his lonely cell he will be enabled to chew the cud of disappointment and ponder on the instability of numan affairs. Many of the prisoners had been supplied with rather questionable culinary implements, and on receiving an intimation that they would not be allowed on board for various reasons, were cast into the sea. Lieutenant De Long than called the list, and each individual, answering to his name, came up the gangway, radiant with smiles.

Simon Gratz, Charles A. Knight, Henry Knight, William Wilson, Edward Scott, Alfred Parker, Ricardo Trugillo, British.
William Cortis.
Samuel Hale.
Sidney R. Alcheson.
George Winters.
William Marshall.
Evan Piuto.
George Burke. Henry King.
Charies de Brosse
William Danton,
John Pothermont
J. de Esperitu Sa
Ramon Pardos,
Total, 14.

José Marin, Louis Martinez, Domingo Salazar, Pedro Pajarin, Manuel Padran, Alexander Estrad Felix Fernando nan Soto, Ianuel Perez,

Francis Gonzales,
Joseph Falsez,
Leonardo Alvarez,
Julio Arrango,
José Hernandez,
Nicholas Ramirez,
Ignacio O. Beliran,
Perfecto Bollo.

in all 102 persons

Patricio Martin Manuel Saumel

THE TRANSFORMATION.

The foregoing were ranged in three rows on the starpoard side of the quarterdeck, and, the list having been found to be correct, the police officer took his leave, and, descending into his rowboat, started on a fishing excursion for the cast-away pans and ragged apparel, which in the reckless extravagance of the prisoners had been thrown to the winds. And now the joy of the survivors could hardly be restrained, but the strictest order was nevertheless preserved. Transferred to the ex-perienced hands of Surgeon Walton, every one of them underwent a thorough examination. Of the entire number about 12 were found to be subjects for the hospital, dysentery being the principal ail ment from which they suffered. The others, armed with a bucket of water, towel and soap, proceeded cheerfully to the forward part of the ship, where they gave thems a wholesome scrubbing. The services of the active barber were subsequently brought into requisition, and in the space of an hour performed some remarkable tonsorial feats. True, some of the more aristocratic of the patriots were inclined to offer objections to the spoliation of their romantic curis, but the surgeon, who evidently looks at life from a common sense point of view, and doubt less reasons on the principle that prevention is better than cure, had made up his mind that no passengers other than those set forth on the list should participate in the hospitalities of the ship. Whatever acquaintances, therefore, the survivors had contracted while in jail and other places, he was determined should remain behind. The rags of which the people divested themselves were thrown overboard, and, I have no doubt, found their way back to the Morro Castle, for they seemed to be suil of life and buoyancy. Paymaster Thompson and a score of assistants now commenced to discharge their hospitable functions, and in almost less time than it takes to tell it the people were clothed from head to foot and furnished with a wardrobe from which no necessary article was excluded. Such a complete transformation it has never been my lot to witness. I question, indeed, the power of the fairy's wand in the temporary possession of Mr. Fox to execute anything so handsomely even in the brightest days of "Humpty Dumpty." Out of five score forlorn human beings were turned out, ready made, a ship's crew of froilesome tars, who, without much ado, proceeded to give a "hitch to their trousers" with all the rollicking flourish of rakish men-of-warsmen. But it is hard to laugh on an empty stomach-indeed, a smile under such circumstances is generally hollow, and, if I am informed correctly, it is not until after his prospective victim had dined heartly that the chronic borrower pounces on his mellow prey. Be that as it may, the rosy-faced cooks, chubby fellows, who looked like good nature itself, came trooping aft, not groaning with the weight of luxuries, but displaying large blocks of benevolence in the shape of a substantial breakfast. If to see others enjoy themselves, knowing that you have contributed to the occasion, be any attribute of human happiness, then I believe the cooks of the funiata must have been the jolliest fellows alive. Thus placed on a solid footing the survivors-and they now looked as if they meant to survive for some time to come—were called together by Lieu-tenant De Long and kindly informed of some rules and regulations which the discipline of the ship required should be observed, and having been assigned to their various quarters, the reception came to a close. I may add that the British war vessel Niobe, from Havana, arrived in time to wit-

ness the surrender. Scarcely had the people been comfortably dis-posed of when there came steaming into the harbor the United States steamer Pinta, Lieutenaut Commander Garringe, with official despatches turn of the Juniata to New York with her living freight. This was a joyful announcement, the more so as there was nothing now to detain us. We had had enough of Santiago; enough anxiety. enough of preparation, plenty of provocation, but hardly sufficient satisfaction. Some famous agriculturist, whose name has not been transmitted to the present generation, informs us that the actual possession of a feathered songster is more highly prized by the human species than two or more timid warbiers in a distant grove. There is some truth in this, and, much as we might relish the prospect of caging Messieurs Burriel and Company as ornithological specimens for future scientific discussion, we were, nevertheless, gratified though for different reasons, at having on board so many of the victims of human crueity and hardheartedness. I need scarcely add that little time was lost in completing all the arrangements for an immediate departure. At five o'clock on the afternoon of the 18th the Juniata weighed anchor, leaving the United States steamship Kansas to answer the salute to the American flag on Christmas Day, and when at length she had put out to sea no happier crew or passengers ever left a port. THE SURVIVORS' HISTORY OF THEMSELVES.

I have previously made reference to the jealous care with which the prisoners were watched on the occasion of our several visits to the jai and to the hospital, lest perchance the mystery of the capture, trial and condemnation the victims might, in an unguarded moment, be unraveiled. I have also observed that they were not only cautioned against giving any information, but threatened with giver punishment in case they alimed to any-thing bearing on the subject. But they are now beyond the reach of tyrants, and the following startling disclosures made on board the Juniation on the passage home will, therefore, be read with unusual interest, since it is the first time a true history of the affair has appeared, the lips of th victims having heretofore been sealed. or not the people on the Virginius were bound on an illicit expedition at the time of the capture is hardly pertinent to the question. In reply to the interrogatories of Commander Braine, they disa-vowed all hostile intentions to Spain. But, however their veracity may be questioned on that ground-for the surroundings of the case cannot be divested of a certain amount of suspicion—the strange developments made in other respects, the manner of insult to the American flag, the robberies on the Virginius, the harrowing details of the wanton cruelty practised upon the helpless victims, the high-handed outrages committed long after the capture, the depths of suffering into which the survivors were heedlessly plunged, form a chapter which, in point of variety of incident, exceeds the liveliest picture that the imagination has yet conjured up in connection with the

and event.
THE STATEMENT OF SIMON GRATZ. This was one of the prisoners sent from prison to the hospital at Santiago, and, under the name of Samuel Gray, was among the number condemned to be shot. He said he resided, when at home, at Harrisburg. Pa., and was a carpenter by trade. On the 4th of October last he left New York in the steamer Atlas, bound for Kingston, Jam., where he arrived ten days later. He embarked on the 23d of the same month in the steamer Virginius for Port Limon, for which place she was advertised to sail, carrying freight and passengers. The vessel after putting out to sea spring aleak, bringing all hands to the pumps, and it was deemed prudent to put into Jerremie for repairs; but, finding no facilities at that place, she proceeded to Port-au-Prince. The Virginius partly repaired there, but on again resuming the