TRACK OF THE STORM. By DORA RUSSELL,

Footprints in the Snow. Broken Seal," &c.

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OBAPTER XL .- (Continued.)

In a little while Lucy mastered her emotion.
"It's selfish of me," she said. "I must go back to him—he must not see me cry."
"Here is the money." said Luke Smith abruptly, and he pushed an envelope full of notes in Lucy's hand.

abruptly, and he pushed an eavelope full of notes in Lauy's hand.

"Thank you, you are very kind; and there is something I should ask you—but I can't is something I should ask you—but I can't is something but—Jaok, "altered Lauy, putting her hand to her forehead,

"Is it about—Effie!" said Luke, with a sudden gentienees in his voice.

"Yes, about Effie," repeated Lucy. "How is she, poor gir!"

"No better or very little, I am afraid. My sister is with us, you know."

"Yes; good-bys. I shall tell Jack about the money; he will thank you very much."

She left the room after this, and went back to Jack's bedidde, who opened his eyes, smiled, and held out his hand to her.

"I was evenaming about you, Lucy," he said, in a faint voice; "is it a dream still, or are you Locy—really Lucy,"

"I am really Lucy," she answered, trying to smile, kneeling down by the bedside, and taking his hand.
"And where am I?" he asked, looking round.

"You are in my rooms—I had you brought

"And where an I count of the way of the way of the word of the wor

"What will who say: "they say?"
But it is matter, Lucy, to me."
"Then you need not worry, Jack I told them you were my brother. The doctors, everyone, think you are my brother; and—you would rather have me near you, would you

everyone, think you are my brother; and—you would rother have me near you, would you not †."

Lucy's voice sank into a whisper as she uttered the last few words, and a faint colour crept into her pale cheeks; while Jack drew her hand up and laid it against his lips.

"Do you know what I prayed, Lucy, when I lay there bleeding to death?" he said in his faunt accents. "That I might see you again—see you before I died—and I believe that prayer was answered, for a moment or two later those two young fellows came, and I remember asking them to go for you—and seeing your face." "Yes, Jack."

"Then, it all grew dark. I can remember nothing else distinctly. I suppose then you brought me here—dear Lucy?"

"Yes, it came into my head quite suddenty in the here—dear Lucy?"

"Yes, it came into my head quite suddenty in the you word to thank you, Lucy."

"I have no words to thank you, Lucy."

"So you see," said Lucy, with some of her old liveliness, "not even our dear triand Mr.. Grundy can say anything. No one knows here who I am, and no one knows who you are, and I have called you my brother. For the present, you understand, you are Mr. King."

Jack smiled.
"And you are not to talk any more, or worry

recognised the handwriting, and with an eath he matched it up and tore spent the envirope. And as he read the lines it contained, his dister, who was watching him, started to her feet.

The started to her feet.

The started to her feet.

The started to her feet the started to her feet the signature of the letter as it the could not be history of the started to his feet, while a sent of ery burst form his lips. Could it be—his son—his son—his son for the letter as eading and has a started to his feet, while a send, and he slick the hand her sendench her young comine beart.

"The bad son of a bad father," hhe said, sternly, "Luis, there is no mistake; each what had breach her young comine beart.

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"The bad son of a bad father," hhe said, sternly, "Luis, there is no mistake; each watch the said of the said that the feet of the said of

special searcely believe his letter had ever reached her. She was so gentle, so awed, and so that the could scarcely believe his letter had ever reached her. She was so gentle, so awed, and so the search of the could she be so her with the deady limbes that he she would warry of her assumed indifference; and many and many a time he was deading the state of the could seen or sign of her, and he due not, of course, make any inquiries at the house. At last he determined to write again, it is shown that the state of the could seen osign of her, and he due not, of course, make any inquiries at the house. At last he determined to write again, it is shown that the state of the st

In married her, but Louis Carter deceived me—"
"Then," said Fred, with a gasp, as Sir William pansed, as if unable to proceed, "you were married before—this man is your son?"
"Oh! my boy, my boy, would that it were not so." cried Sir William, with something like a sob, now rising from his soat, and tottering towards Fred with outstretched hand. "Yes, it is true—it has broken my heart—I.—I would have spared you if I could—but I have saved for you, Fred—you—you will have—
He never completed his sentence, but fell heavily forward the next moment into Fred's arms, Luke also at once running to his assistance.
He had taken a second fit, and as his eldest son stood by and looked at his death-like face, a sort of pity crept into Luke's stern heart.
"Fruly." he thought bitterly, "his sin has found him out."
(To be continued.)

Melbourne Exhibition.

The Australasian of the 9th instant remarks: Though, from a financial point of view, the Centennial Exhibition has been a failure, it is understood to have served its purpose admirably. The Government, when recommending Parlisment to sanction the holding of the exhibition, estimated that the cost would not exceed £100,000, but it appears likely that the deficit will amount to three times as much. Yet the loss should not be grudged. The colony might just as well spend part of the great surplus on a magnificent advertisement as in any other way. There have been expressions of disappointment. Some think that the exhibition was too big, too shoppy, and too scantily supplied with movelties. The exhibition of 1880 was more of a surprise, because the taste of the community was then radimentary. On this occasion there were few things in the main building or the central annexe which are not to be seen in the Collins street shops, and a great deal of the machinery was uninteresting. For all that, the exhibition must have contained great attractions or it would not have been so largely visited. The music was a revelation, if nothing else was, and if the orchestral concert leave a permanent effect behind them, the £30,000 or £40,006 they have cost need not be repretted. At first they did not draw, partly because they were not understood, and partly because in the early spring weather, the concert hall was a likely place to catch cold in, but in time they got to be fully attended. The picture galleries were likewise a liberal education, and although there are good public collections of paintings in the leading Australian capitals, an international display videns our knowledge and improves our taste. In one important respect the Centennial Exhibition has far surpassed its predecessors in this colony. The management from first to leak has been abeolutely "square." This is saying a great deal. There has been no misspending of the public funds, there have been no trike played on the exhibitors, there have Melbourne Exhibition.

Control Form Warrier State of the Contro

the fi-reely burning shell of a building which was built only of wood and iron was terrifio, and one young fireman, who got too close, fainted, and narrowly escaped being buried by some of the falling timbers. He was instantly picked up by his comrades, and carried to a pleac of safety, where he recovered, and then returned to duty, amid applause. Another narrow eccape was noted, when a large beam fell from the ridge of the roof, and nearly struck another young volunteer fireman. The fitter's shop, where the fire is supposed to have occurred, is next to the office, which faces Lorimer street, and an effort was at once made to clear the office of its contents. The iron safe and most of the books were removed, but with great danger and difficulty. The 8th instant was pay day, and, therefore, the place was closed a little later than usual, the watchman, an elderly man named Patrick M'Carthy, having the keys, but, when applied to for information, his demeanour was, to say the least, extremely eccentric. When spoken to by a fellow-employee, he asked for an "onion" but for what purpose he did not explain. The fellow-employee seemed greatly exasperated at him, and made a threat of violence

Suicide in Evening Dress.

Death of Mr. T. H. Taafe.

On the 5th instant the Melbourne Telegraph reported a terrible suicide at East Melbourne, where an aged German shot himself on a balcony. He left a letter, in which he explicitly stated the reason for his deed. On the 9th is reported another terrible suicide by the same means, but under different circumstances. The deceased is Thomas Henry Taafe, aged about 48. manage to Mr. C. R. Martin, importer of gold and alver lace, and general warehouseman, 5 Flinders lane cast. Sometime during the 7th instant or very early next morning, Mr. Taafe shot himself through the right temple with a revolver whilst he was sitting in evening dress in an arm-chair in front of his deak in the front office, and although he has left a lettar, it is of a rather indefinite nature, and does not contain any substantial reason for taking his own life. For 20 years he had been employed by Mr. Martin, and was as well liked as he was well known about the lane. He lived at William street, South Yarra, where his widow and two young children are now. When he left business on the 7th instant his demeanour was as usual, but he remarked to Thomas Drummond) would find the keys, which Taafs usually carried with him, at the Duke of Rothsay Hotel, just round the corner in Elizabeth street. When Drummond did reach the office at the usual hour on the morning of the 8th he found it closed, and in pursuance of his instructions received from Mr. Taafe on the previous evening, he went to the Duke of Rothsay, expecting to find the keys there. Instead he found a note in Taafe's writing, instructing him to go to Mr. Martin's house, at Malvern, and bring Mr. Taafe on the previous evening, he went to the Duke of Rothsay acqueding to find the keys there. Instead he found a note in Taafe's writing, instructions received from Mr. Taafe on the previous evening, he went to the Duke of Rothsay acqueding to find the keys there. Instead he found in the right temple had spurted blood, which had drenehed nearly the whole of this white shirt front Death of Mr. T. H. Tanfe.

line painted along the centre, and three 15-inoh disca, one at the emitre and one midway between the centre and soch end.

General Strange invited Mrs. Arthur Blackwood to fire the first shot, and the gun having been laid the lady took hold of the two handles at the breech and pressed upon the spring, with the result that in an instant 15 shots were fired, nine of which struck the bulleyes, has rest being centres. Miss Chirnside then fired 32 shots, of which 15 were bullseyes and 17 centres. But it was when the aweeping fire was tried that the terrible effects the weapon would have upon a body of man was conclusively proved. The gun was made to aweep the iron turret from end to end, and without any manipulation save the pressure upon the spring, it rained upon the target a perfect storm of bullets, in the face of which no column could live. In 14 sees 167 shots were fired, 114 of which struck the thin black line which ran along the centre of the target. The running man was then fired at, the traversing gear being taken off, which rendered the gun far more difficult to handle. Yet, out of 23 shots fired 7 struck the moving target.

The gun was then moved back to 400 yards, and Major French and other officers laid and fired it. In a conversation with our representative, Major French expressed himself highly pleased with the performance of the weapon, which he said he would not have believed if he had not seen. He suggested some minor alterations in the carriage, &c., but said that the principle of the gun claimed his admiration. This opinion was cchoed by every military authority present. At 800 yards the gun proved itself equally efficient as at shorter ranges.

Major-general Bland, after the trials, invited a number of gentlemen present to join him in refreshments, and in proposing "Success to the Maxim gun," said that so long as men would arm and prepare for strife, it behoved Britain, as a rich nation, to be ready to goard ther own. Such weapons as the Maxim gun prevented war by rendering it a very serious pr

Shot and Shell in the South Seas.

Two warships, H.M.S. Opal and the French cruiser Fabert, have according to published accounts (remarks the Choineid Mittins; Quantits, published in Sydney) been engaged in the conversion of the poor South See Islanders by means of shot and shell. How such a thing as this is tolerated in the insteemth century is indeed amazing. If Englishmen and Frenchmen insist on going whither they have no business to go, they should be allowed to take all the consequences on their own shoulders. Some of these who make journeys to the islande for the ostensible purpose of trading with the natives are in toe many instances overreached, cheated, and ill-used, and their women subjected to horrible indignities. One and again a white trader (in what?) is killed, perhaps not nearly so many as deserve such a fate; and with a view to avenging the so-called murders of those precious whites, down goes a man-of-war to give the "murderers" a taste of her guas. Let us take this late partnership to the submit to any sentence her captain might pronounce on them, the natives declined to do anything of the kind, offering "one man and two pigs." in reparation, and further offering to surrender the actual murderer on the morrow, however, brought forth no natives at all; they evidently understood the adage that discretion is the better part of valour, and had cleared to the bush. Thereupon the Opal opened fire. She "bombarided with great accuracy the whole premonery, a measure which will, it is to be hoped, have a great moral effect on the native mid." That is just what we not so done, "It is a pity," continues the published account, "that he heavy surprevented the boats from landing to fire the hut, but the punishment was complete." If complete, where does the "pity" came in?

Secondly, the Opal and the Fabert met at Port Sandwich. Their captains came to an understanding whereby captains came to an understanding whereby and the fabert "parties landed from the British and French ships. The whole will appear to the solution of the she was a for th

Hurricane at Fiji.

Rough Experience for the Steamer

group.

The Rockton fell in with the hurricane on her voyage from Havannah harbour to Fiji, and had an exceedingly trying time of it. A passenger thus describes the encounter: "On Sunday morning, 27th instant, there was a very decided change in the weather. The breeze had increased, and so had the sea. The clouds overhead and all around had that dull, gray, stormy appearance which often preocdes a hurricane; the atmosphere was close, heavy, and oppressive, and when we learned that the baronester was falling slowly we began to think that we were in for something in the shape of a blow. Drizzing rain fell throughout the morning and continued throughout the day.

"If anything were needed to confirm us in our opinion that 'semething' was coming, we soon had it when the seamen proceeded to secure everything alow and aloft as if we were going to be visited by 10,000 waterspouts, together with half a dozen of cyclence rolled into one. The sails were lashed and frapped to yarda and booma, and the boats were lashed and crosslashed as though they were never to be used again. Everything movable was secured forward and aft, ports were screwed up, awnings were taken in. the skylights were shut down, canvas covers were put on, lashed and crosslashed, thus shutting out all ventilation. By 5 a.m. the burrometer had fallen to 23-80, and it was blowing a fierce gale, with a sea running like a mountain. It was deemed advisable to detath the gear from the steam-steering appearance, and to chip the ordinary hand-steering gear, steering by the wheel aft. Relieving tackles were also rove and hooked on, so that we were prepared for any emergency. At 6 p.m. the visited that the sea of the steering should be weath unricane force, with a tremendous sea running, and the glass falling rapidly. The wind continued to increase until and after midnight. At about 2 a m. on Monday, 28th instant, the hurricane force, with a tremendous sea running, and the glass had beyond the steering apaparatus. Meanwhile the wind believe to the steering apapara

Execution of Prado.

Execution of Prado.

The Paris correspondent of the Baily New telegraphed as follows on December 28: Paris breakfasted on horrors this morning, as the papers were full of the execution of Prado. The taste for gallows literature seems to be growing in France. The Committee on Petitions, having read Prado's appeal and stated the case in an unfavourable light to President Carnot, he took their view, and wrote in the margin the one word vise', by which it is signified that the President has read the document and can find in it no reason to mitigate the penalty of death. The time fixed was 7 o'clock this morning; but long before midnight a crowd had been gathering in the Place de la Roquette. The new had leaked out in spite of precoutions; it had been whispered in the Chamber, and even appeared in two evening prints. The night was

It is rumoured in Paris that M. Gouned, the omposer, is losing his mind.