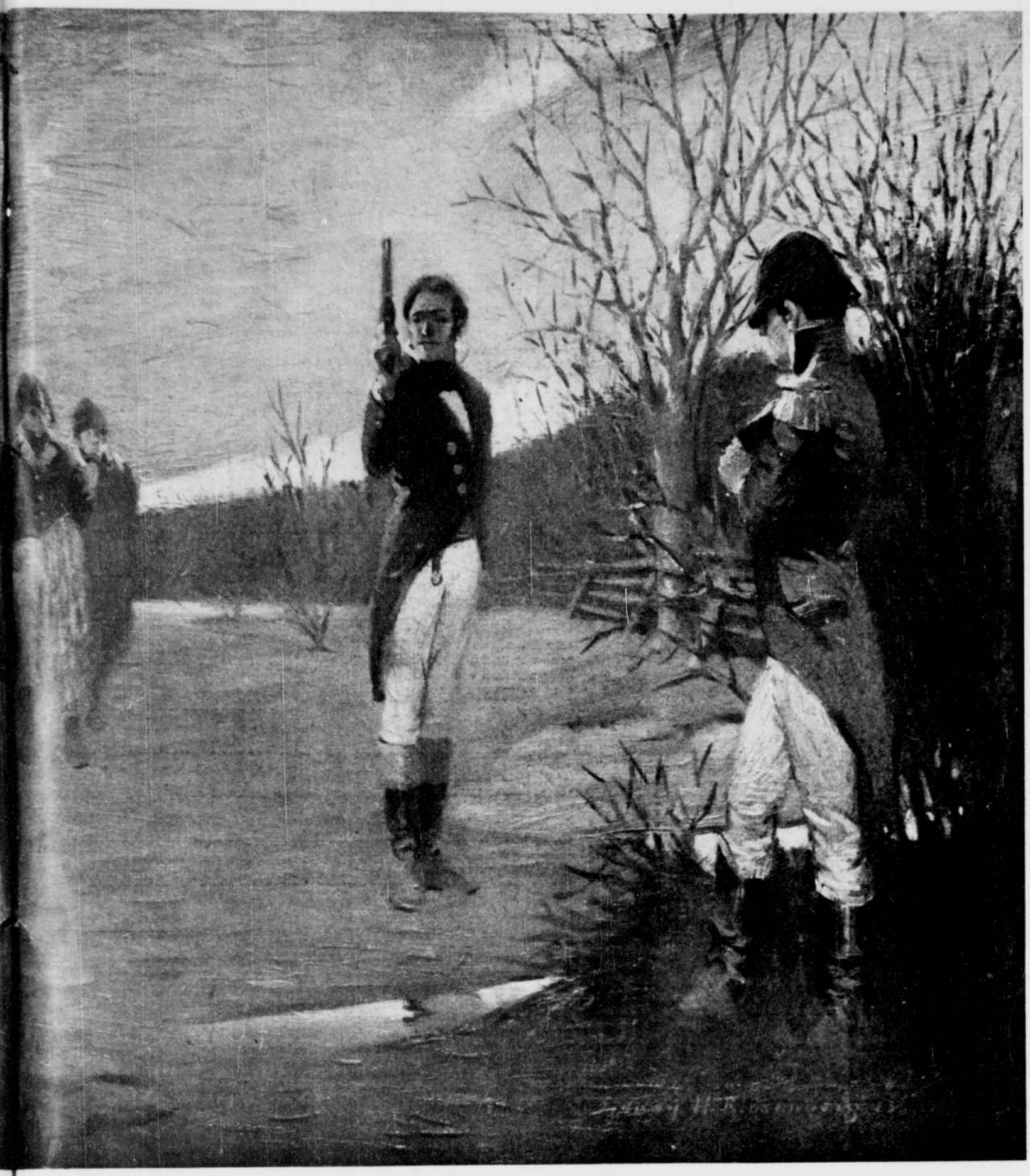

[illegible] would be better friends when they met in the next world. [illegible] have never been your enemy, Sir," answered Decatur [illegible]kly.

[illegible] seconds then handed each a loaded pistol and ex[illegible] the terms. The word "Present!" would be called out [illegible] Bainbridge, and each should take his aim. Bainbridge [illegible] then count "One! Two! Three!" The men were not to [illegible] before the word "One!" nor after the word "Three!"

[illegible] The splendid control that navy discipline had given both [illegible] showed itself in what followed. Both fired at the word [illegible] and so nearly at the same instant that only one re[illegible] was heard. Barron sank in a heap, with a bullet through [illegible] hip—which was exactly where Decatur had said he [illegible] put it, as he did not wish to kill.

[illegible] As the report died away Decatur was still erect. A [illegible] later the pistol dropped from his grasp and he [illegible] his hand to his right side; then he fell. Bainbridge and his surgeon stepped quickly to him, tore open his uniform, and found a ghastly wound through the abdomen.

"I am mortally wounded—at least I think so," said Decatur, "and I wish that I had fallen in defense of my country."

He was gently lifted and half carried toward his carriage; but sank to the ground again near where Barron lay bleeding. Captain Elliott, Barron's second, had taken fright at the result of the duel and deserted his friend; but Commodore Porter stopped him and brought him back.

As Decatur was being driven home his chief thought was of his wife. Not wishing her to see him suffer, he directed that she be taken upstairs before he was carried in. He had previously written to her father, asking him to come and be with her in the event that anything happened.

Barron's bullet had torn its vicious way through the intestines, and the resulting inflammation caused him the most intense agony that a gunshot wound can give; but he died game. His suffering was so great that he would not allow his wife to remain in his bedroom; but he set his firm lips together and would not let them make any outcry. The merciful end came at ten-thirty that night—and the young republic lost the only man in the navy who ranks with John Paul Jones, Oliver Hazard Perry, David Farragut, and George Dewey.

And so died the man who rose up one night and first proposed this famous toast, "Our country—may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong!"

The grief of the nation over the sudden loss of one of its heroes has seldom been more conspicuously shown than in this instance. When the House of Representatives was called to order the next morning up rose John Randolph of Roanoke, Virginia, who was himself to meet Henry Clay

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