

Now then hist ! Master Tench, once, twice three--

Enter Douglas Cameron.

Hold ! I have here a writ from the governor,
Granting pardon to one, Frank Dardanus.

Hands the writ to sheriff Dickson, who reads it.

S. D. "His Excellency, the Governor General,
To Frederick Dickson, Esquire, Sheriff of
The County of Lynden, Oronto, sends greeting.
Now know ye, that whereas one Frank Dardanus,
Having been charged before our court of assize,
Within your Shrievalty, with the murder of one
John Fisher, whom he cast into the deep river,
Of Niagara, whose surging waters rush on,
Until through lake and river they reach the ocean.
And for which crime Dardanus hath been tried,
Convicted, and sentenced to be hanged. And
Since which time it hath been to me presented,
That the said John Fisher was not then killed,
But by his own act did jump down the bank
Of the river, catching to crag and bramble,
As he went, until alighting in a crevice
Of the rock, and there secreted himself until
The storm had blown over, and now appears again
Alive, and without any injury to him.
Hence, the said Dardanus hath not been guilty,
Of the crime, for which he lately hath been condemned.
Now, therefore we command you, hang not Dardanus,