pause:
"Well, Betty, then I shall have to go, and you must stay with Mrs. Austin. If Mr. Austin returns before I do, tell him I have gone by way of the tunnel," the added, putting on her hat and walking tacket.

added, putting on her hat and walking jacket.

"The saints deliver us! For hiven's sake, don't ye be goin' to the tunnel, Miss Alice!" exclaimed Betty, imploringly.

"Don't be frightened," replied Alice, smiling. "No train will pass for an hour, and it shortens my walk nearly a mile. It is just six o'clock new, and I shall be home a little after seven," and giving the girl some parting injunctions about her sister, Alice ran downstairs. Opening her brother's escritoire in the library she took from a private drawer a small pocket revolver, and opening the front door stepped out into the darkness.

It was a damp, cold night in November. The wind meaned dreartly through the leafless trees, and heavy clouds chased each other across the heavens, obscuring the moon. Crossing the road, Alice walked a short distance, and clambering over a stone wall found herself in the narrow beaten track through the trees, she soon reached the edge of the ravine, fifteen or twenty feet above the track. The path continued its windings down the side of the cut, but the way was stony and in many places dangerous. The darkness, too, prevented anything like rapid progress.

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—Mr. Jaceb D. Mi too, prevented anything like rapid pro-

she finally reached the bottom of the ravine, and had crossed to the right hand track, when a low sound among the bushes above her caused the cold drops to spring out on her forehead and almost stopped her heart's beating. Quickly crouching down under an overhanging rook she listened. Nothing was heard save the soughing of the wind and the faint ripple of a tiny rill running down among the bushes overhead were stirred, and a sone fell directly in frent of her. She acarcely dared to breathe, but crouched under the rock with her hand clasped tightly to her breast. The tunnel clasped tightly to her breast to the tightly to her bushes to the tightly to her breast to the tightly to her bushes t clasped tightly to her breast. The tunnel was but a few rods beyond her, but she

dared not move.

She heard the men step back some distance from the bushes, and then all was still. She walked a few minutes, and then, with the pistol grasped tightly in her hand, she crept stealthily out of her hiding place, and struck a narrow path which led to the top of the bluff. She knew the way and the darkness favored her ascent. Reaching the summit, she looked cautiously around. The clouds had parted, and the faint shimmer of mocolight through the trees enabled her to cheerve her surroundings distinctly. A few feet beyond were the two men stretched out on the ground, their figures partially few feet beyond were the two men stretched out on the ground, their figures partially concealed by the trunks of two large trees and a clump of bushes. Between them, Alice saw a little baby form with its golden head pillowed on the cold, damp grass.

Creeping along behind the bushes, she reached one of the trees, and, standing behind it she waited for some minutes.

Creeping along behind the busines, the reached one of the trees, and, standing behind it, she waited for some statements breathings of the mrn covered her tist fatigue had steeped where the men, standing behind the successful year. If the standing the reached one of the trees, and they would not readly white. If she should be successful year, the retained his not readly white. If she should be successful year, the retained his mental faculties until a few days before the true. It corrects all looseness of the tunnel, the down express trein, would follow but ten or fifteenies, but the factor of the tunnel, the down express trein, would follow but ten or fifteenies, to take the latter course, and with this decision made she prepared to carry out her plans. Passing swife the sleeping group. The stood of the tunnel, the own the patch is not course, and with this decision made she prepared to carry out her plans. Passing swife the sleeping group. The stood of the tunnel, the own the plans had countried to the prepared to carry out her plans. Passing swife the sleeping group. The stood of the tunnel, the own the plans had countried the prepared to carry out her plans, the propared t

and a secon reached the trunel.

"Bring me some water, and the salts from the bureau, Betty; she has only fainted," said Alice, kneeling beside the prostrate form.

In a few minutes Mrs. Austin opened her eyes, and said feebly:

"Has Edward come home yet? I feel to strangely sick!"

"We will send for the doctor presently, Margaret, when we get you to bed. Ned will be home soon, I hope;" and with some treat, and the slight sorm on the bed.

Three weeks before Eddie Austin, the horible truth flashed upon her.

"Three weeks before Eddie Austin, the horible truth flashed upon her.

"Three weeks before Eddie Austin, the horible truth flashed upon her.

will be home soon, I hope;" and with Betty's assistance Alice lifted the slight form on the bed.

Three weeks before Eddie Austin, the 2 year old idol of the household, had disappeared, and all search for him had proved fruitless. As the days passed on hope gave way to despair, and the heartbroken mother, weighed down by anxiety and the cruel torture caused by false reports of the discovery of her boy, sank into a state of apathy bordering on insanity. Daily was the cry heard through the streets of the little village of Fairfield, "Child lost! Child lost! Large rewards offered!" till all hearts sickened at the sound.

Mothers kept their little ones within doors, dreading far less the entrance of the Dark Angel than that fiends in human form should steal their household treasure to gratify a merciless passion of avarice.

"Betty, you will have to take one of the girls and go for the doctor;" whispered Alice, in alarm, as she noticed a gray pallor creeping ever the wan face on the right track? The roar of a Nisgara deafened her, and, with a shriek of despair, she fell senseless to the ground.

To be continued.

"The Slough of Despondency"—in which you are wallowing, on account of some of those diseases peculiar to you, madame, and which have robbed you of the rosy hue of health, and made life a burden to you, you can easily get out

Alice, in alarm, as she noticed a gray pallor creeping ever the wan face on the pillow.

"An' shure, Miss, none of 'em bes home but meself. And, oh, Miss Alice, I niver can walk alone to Fairfield this dark, dark dark night."

The girl looked so frightened at the bare prospect of going, that Alice said, after a pause:

"An' shure, Miss, none of 'em bes home but meself. And, oh, Miss Alice, I niver can walk alone to Fairfield this dark, dark dark night."

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"An' shure, Miss, none of 'em bes home but meself. And, oh, Miss Alice, I niver can be used to you, madame, and which have rooped you of the rosy hue of health, and made life a burden to you, you can easily get out of. Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" will free you from all such troubles, and soon recall the rose-tint of health to your steps. It is a most perfect specifie for all the weakness and irregularities peculiar to your sex. It sures ulceration, displacements, displacements, and soon recall the rose-tint of health, and made life a burden to you, you can easily get out of. Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" will free you from all such troubles, and soon recall the rose-tint of health to your steps. It is a most perfect specifie for all the weakness and irregularities peculiar to your sex. It sures ulceration, displacements, and made to you you can easily get out of. Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" will free you from all such troubles, and soon recall the rose-tint of health to your steps. It is a most perfect specifie for all the weakness and irregularities peculiar to your sex. It sures ulceration, displacements, and the rose-tint of health to your steps. It is a most perfect specifie for all the weakness and irregularities peculiar to your sex. It sures ulceration, displacements, and the provided the provided to your sex and the provided to your sex and the provided to your sex and the lasticity to your sex and the lasticity to your sex and you for

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"Why did yer enter into the bargain if yer goin' to back out so soon?" muttered another map, with an oath.

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father's rich, an' it's twinty thousand dollars; or the mother'll niver see her swate darlin' agin."

A brutal laugh grated upon the girl's ears; then the first speaker whispered:

"I reckon she'll niver know her boy in this little bag of bones, though me arms is wore out wid carrin' him the last three hones"

"I season.

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