

Castle Iron...  
 pathy of friends and reporter  
 and resolutely refusing to be  
 viewed.  
 One thing—so characteristic  
 —Adrien did at once. N  
 standing his own cares, he ren  
 ed his promise to Ada Lester  
 ball and instructed the solic  
 prepare a deed by which the  
 and the rights of the Casket  
 should be made over to her, and  
 on her at once; at the same tim  
 ering that the papers should b  
 ed to her personally, thus pi  
 against any mistakes or inter  
 on the part of Jasper.

This kindly thought con  
 turned the scale of Ada's grati  
 his favor. Rejoicing at the  
 which she knew this would be  
 Vermont, and in ignorance of  
 treachery to Adrien, she dete  
 to show him up in his true co  
 the first opportunity.

Meanwhile, as the day of tl  
 approached, Lord Barminste  
 Mortimer Shelton became mo  
 more anxious.  
 The solicitors had briefed th  
 and best known barristers for  
 fence; but one and all agreed t  
 less Adrien could prove an all  
 a miracle could save him from  
 tion.

On the actual day Adrien Le  
 his place in the dock, listening  
 the day with unwearying calm  
 long speeches made by the co  
 both sides.  
 Witness after witness was  
 but none could shake the evid  
 Harker's clerk, who swore to  
 Leroy actually sign the bill i  
 tion, on the twenty-second of  
 ceding month.

Towards the end of the cas  
 both judge, jury and counsel v  
 ed out by the conflicting state  
 note was sent to the barrister  
 defence by a veiled lady, who  
 in the back of the court du  
 whole day's proceedings.  
 He opened it carelessly, but  
 swift glance at the few lines  
 contained, his face brightene  
 suming his usual confident t  
 desired that a new witness  
 called, namely Lady Merivale

At the name Adrien sta  
 ward, but it was too late. A  
 black, pale but composed, ent  
 witness box and was duly  
 Calmly she gave her evidence  
 that she had visited her au  
 Rose Challoner, at Hampton  
 the twenty-second of the  
 months, and while there had  
 Adrien Leroy. - He had rowe  
 the river, and as an additiona  
 she could produce one of the  
 to whom she had spoken  
 Hampton, and who had watc  
 start.

After this there was little  
 be said. The miracle had in  
 p-ned. It was clearly a case  
 jury on the part of Harker's  
 whose arrest the judge ordere  
 rant to be issued.

On the delivery of the ve  
 Adrien's favor, Lady Merival  
 court. She did not glance  
 nor indeed anyone present, b  
 ed blindly out. She knew  
 only had she restored the man  
 ed to freedom and to honor, h  
 probability ruined her own so  
 tion. For Jasper Vermont  
 threats at the Barminster far  
 ball could not be ignored, and  
 she had deliberately gone con  
 his wishes in disclosing wher  
 had spent the fateful twenty-  
 May, she could not but doubt  
 mont would make use of the  
 ous power which he had h  
 held over her. What this po  
 she could only surmise, for,  
 she was in ignorance of Jasp  
 nection with "Harker's Ltd.,"  
 had an uncomfortable feeli  
 Adrien's freedom had been p  
 at considerable danger to her  
 the thought haunted Ler unpl

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**CHAPTER XXIV.**

Mr. Harker, having arrange  
 to his liking at Lawrence I  
 turned to Miss Lester and  
 her of her promise to assist