a side-view of the most villainous-looking countenance it was ever my fortune to behold. If I could without slarming her get my cousin to retrace her steps about ten yards, we should have turned a corner, and then I could tell her enough to hurry her onwards. I knew she was nervous-more so, perhaps, than myself; but I knew we were in imminent peril while in such close proximity to this desperate and, from his escape, doubly desperate man.
"Susan," I said—my voice seemed so hard and dry and strange!—" you

have passed all the best forms here."

"O no; I haven't," said Susan joyously, approaching two steps nearer

the crouching convict.

"Am I to throw these away ?" I continued, holding out one of her best specimens, and, as carelessly and indifferently as I could, moving one, two, three steps nearer the corner.

"No; of course not," she exclaimed, hurrying towards me now. "Why

Helen, what are you thinking of ?"

I moved a few steps on; and in a few more, Susan and I would both be out of eight of that fallen tree.

out of sight of that faffen tree.

"There is a much better one here," I said, keepingmy face well averted, for I felt if she looked at me she would see its ashy paleness.

"Where?" she asked. "Wait a minute, and I'll come for it." To my horror, she retraced her steps towards her heap of ferns, and carefully counted them, whilst I waited in a state of terror words cannot describe. But she came at last, and I tottered with her round the fateful corner.

"Den't be frightned" I said. "but come with the said of the said." "Don't be frightned," I said, "but come quickly, ask no question.

Do as I tell you, Susan."

She paused, affrighted. "Good gracious, Helen, have you seen a wild

heast 9' "Worse," I murmured. "Do not run, but lose no time."

I ventured to glance behind. Nothing was visible; but every moment was precious; we must reach the pony-trap and Tom. Once all together, the convict would surely not venture to attack us, and I knew that being on the high-road alone would in itself insure our safety. But we had not reached it yet; a long rough narrow path had to he traversed. If the man suspected we had seen him, nothing would be easier than for him to overtake us and make short work of us. I thought of Jack, of Rose, of my happy life. Everything seemed to float through my mind as I half led, half dragged Susan after me. We had gone perhaps a shade more than half-way, when I once more turned round. In the distance, on the path over which we had just passed, to my unutterable consternation, I beheld the convict hurrying towards us.
"Run, Susan!" I panted—" run for your life."

Another twist in the road hid us momentarily from his sight, but 1 knew he was after us, running now as fast as, or perhaps a good deal faster than we were, though we were now both of us flying along at a pace which

only the peril we were in could have enabled us to sustain.

"For your life!" I repeated. "Run, Susan!"

I held her hand. Narrow as was the path, we managed to struggle on wards together and to keep ahead of our pursuer. Mercifully we had had a good etart; and it had only been on second thoughts, some minutes after we had disappeared, that the man had elected to follow us. I felt if I once let Susan's hand go, she would be lost. Ever and anon she stumbled, once she nearly fell; but she recovered herself well, and though panting terribly showed no signs of succumbing.

But he was overtaking us; I heard him coming faster and faster, nearer

and nearer. I heard him breathing behind us, and I felt another instant

and he must be upon us.

"Holp!" I shrieked.
"Help!" echoed poor exhausted Susan, in a still shriller treble.

I heard an oath, awful in its profanity, hurled at us; but the steps

seemed to pause.

"Help! help!" I shicked again.

We plunged forwards. I heard as in the distance the sound of horses' feet galloping towards us. Another moment and we were on the high-road; Susan speechless, her dress half torn off her with our terrible race, her hat gone, and otherwise in a dishevelled condition; I feeling faint and sick-but -thank God ! both of us quite safe—with not only Tom, seated in the shandrydan, staring in mute amazement at us, but with three stalwart mounted warders, who were even then in quest of the convict.

They captured him an hour afterwards, after a terrific struggle, which was made all the more terrible from the fact of his having possessed himself

of a knife, with which he attempted to stat the warders.

Jack came back the next day; and as his partner's illness had assumed a rather serious aspect, he told me he must give up Morleigh Cottage, and we could finish our holiday at Eastbourne or some place nearer town. "I never could leave you here again, my darling," he said; "after such an escape, I can't risk another." So we all, Cousin Susan included, returned to our cosy house in Seymour Street, and afterwards proceeded to the seaside, where in due time Susan and I both fully recovered from the shock we had in that Devonshire ravine.

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