

For two or three seconds there was no result. Was it all to be in vain? Then from Gandy's white lips came a gasping cry of "She gives!" and slowly, slowly at first, then with a sudden yielding which nearly threw the rescuers to the ground, that terrible hold gave way, and Gandy was jerked forward upon solid ground.

White and panting from the strain, they turned to free him from the rope. He had fainted and lay as if dead. The anguish of his wound and of his terror and the gigantic effort which he had just put forth had overcome him.

"Let's get the poor wretch down to the water," proposed Will.

"We'll take him right aboard the *Dido*, where we can see to his arm and fix him a place in the cuddy," said Reube. "The *Dido's* hard and fast now for another six hours, so we can take our time. But I wish we could get the chap to a doctor sooner than that."

So saying, he picked up Gandy's long form and walked with it easily down to