

of a well-trained intellect; and where there is mind, and where there is cultivation, the combination cannot fail to show itself in the countenance and actions of the possessor. This time that theory aided my decision. I put aside the consideration of the old link that bound me to the two ignorant French peasants. I thought, if this man can help me, he will do so without any explanations. I said to him in English, 'You are an Englishman, I an Englishwoman. I am in trouble. Will you help me, even if you do not quite understand why your help is needed? My name is Eleanor Charters.'

"I am most ready to give you any help that may be in my power, Miss Charters," he answered.

"I had not made a mistake. He, without a glance expressive of surprise, with a delightfully well-bred ignoring of any necessity for detail, would help me, would exert all the intellect that gave the clear, steady light to his deep blue eyes, all the refinement that toned his voice and manner to help me. Not a word of that to him, of course, merely: 'Thank you, I was on the way to Paris and took the wrong train most stupidly. That man, who has just come into the room, and is looking at me talking, has followed me from Paris to my room up-stairs. He has seized a casket containing a number of valuable jewels and, what is of more consequence, some important papers. My jewels he identifies with the notorious Desmerets' collection, me with Mlle. Laintaine. I know that the moment my papers are read by the Préfet, I will be acquitted; but to prevent the opening of those papers, which merely refer to painful family matters, I would sacrifice anything. A great part of my childhood was spent here in this very inn, and I feel certain that I could soon make Céleste and Baptiste recognise me. I was about appealing to them when I saw you. I have spoken to you because I know that all they might say would have but little effect, whereas with you it may be different; besides, I wish to avoid, if possible, unnecessary explanations. That I should reach Paris to-morrow, that I should take my papers with me, is a matter of more than life or death. Remember, my jewels are almost identical with Mme. Desmerets, that I might easily pass for Mlle. Laintaine, and then help me, if you will, if you can.'

"While I spoke in English, he, the Englishman, listened attentively; Céleste and Baptiste stared politely at the fire; the detective never once took his eyes from us; but they were not of