

A moment later, from in front, there arose a succession of cheers for Doctor West.

Bruce came slowly down from behind the railing of Judge Kellog's desk and paused before Katherine. She was very white, her breath came with a tremulous irregularity, and she looked at him with wide, wondering, half-fearful eyes.

At first Bruce could not get out a word, such a choking was there in his throat, such a throbbing and whirling through all his being. He dizzily supported himself with a hand upon the back of a bench, and stood and gazed at her.

It was she that broke the silence.

"Mr. Hollingsworth did not tell me — you were here. I'd better go." And she started for the door.

"No — no — don't!" he said. He drew a step nearer her. "I've just read" — holding up the two papers — "what you have done."

"Mr. Harper has — has exaggerated it very much," she returned. Her voice seemed to come with as great a difficulty as his own.

"And I have read," he continued, "how much I owe you."

"It's — it's ——" She did not finish in words, but a gesture disclaimed all credit.

"It has made me. And I want to thank you, and I do thank you. And I do thank you," he repeated lamely.