

had killed. A sharp scuffle ensued in which the smuggler fell, and was completely in the officer's power. He held him, but dared not let him rise, and shouted at the top of his voice for help to secure him. Thus matters remained for a short time, when steps were heard hastily approaching; and looking round, to his dismay, he saw more smugglers coming to the rescue. No time was to be lost; there was hardly an instant for reflection; in a few moments they would be on him, and he knew what mercy to expect. So he drew his sword, ran the man through, and fled. A yell arose as they saw what he had done. The smugglers hardly halted, for they saw at a glance that their comrade was dead. And a race for life or death commenced. Urged on, the one by fear, the others by a thirst for revenge, it seemed uncertain what would be the result. The pursued, however, at length reached a solitary house, the residence of a country gentleman. Bursting in he exclaimed, "the bloodhounds are upon me, bar the door, secure the windows." Quick as thought the owner slipped his son, who was quite a lad, out of a back window, telling him to run with all speed to the town, a military station more than a mile distant, for help. The shrubbery around the house, and the shades of evening which were fast falling, concealed the flight of the boy: and, to make a long story short, a detachment of soldiers arrived in time to prevent mischief. But from that day the lieutenant was a marked man, and the result has already been told.

Strange to say, not one of the fourteen shots fired was mortal. For several hours the wounded man lay insensible from loss of blood, he then came to himself, and contrived to crawl on his hands and knees to a martello-tower not far distant, where he was taken in, and his wounds were attended to as speedily as possible. By degrees he recovered; and, as soon as his strength was sufficient to bear the journey, he was removed to London for medical advice. There he remained for a year, at the end of which time he announced his intention of returning to his old post, notwithstanding the advice of his superior, and the entreaties of his friends. Promotion had followed immediately upon the circumstances of his case being known; and his first act on arriving at his old station was to appear at the theatre in full captain's uniform, to the horror of those who had exulted over his death, and to the surprise of nearly every one, for it had been considered expedient to keep secret the fact of his miraculous escape. The more ignorant declared that they had seen his ghost: and so strongly impressed were the smugglers afterwards that his was a charmed life, that no more attempts were made upon it.

I will now say farewell to my readers, with one or two pieces of advice; write your name in your books, and carve it on your umbrellas; look over your library every now and then, and return what does not belong to you to the owner; and, if you take a trip over the line or across the water, do not fill your pockets with all sorts of nice little things which ought to be charged with duty.

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