COURTY SOUTHWARD—THE LUNATI SATUM—A MERTING OF PRIERDS SATUM—HATTAN "horst out George sything wrong at Ardgovan." Ha ing happened to Lilias."

Any do you ask such a question as

that?

You did meet them then, said Harry
with a look of agony.

But what led you to suppose so?
saided George.

"Brit what lied you to suppose no?" street George!

"Because when the cry was raised in the morning by Matthew, Greigeon, that on had not returned, he and I fracked our footsteps in the show, and these led alone. There we saw two other footsteps, there is recognised. You may imagine he rest—horror, the grief, the agony I moured all the day."

But did you not get my note in the morning?" cried George hastily.

"Not till night was it delivered. Imathe then our state, especially with the issovery, we had made."

"How unfortunite that the letter hould have been delivered to such a nessenger. The landlord of the imasured me that he was faithful. Had a been prompt likewise, your anxiety and sorrow would have been spared."

"At "added Harry, "and perhaps on wish to add that a suspicion of, the orrible truth would not have risen in my nind. Skill, George, you have not an wered my question."

"But at what does that question point, han?" said George, very gravely.

"At the truth," was the reply, in a tone lmost hoarse.

"The fruth, as you infer it, from the

almost hoarse.

"The truth, as you infer it, from the testprints and the spot to which they sed? Nay, my dear Harry, press that upestion, no further. Have you not its answer in my presence here safe and sound?"

answer in my presence here safe and sound?"

"No," replied Harry. "I am puzzled, certainly, and brought to confront the incrplicable. I cannot understand how you are safe and unhurt, though to find you so, litted from my soul a load of wee which would speedily have crushed me to the dust. George, George, tell me all!"
"Hush Harry! For my sake—for all our sakes—let the matter rest."
"Manby, you will tell me," cried Harry appealing with passionate vehemenee to the doctor. "He has revealed the truth to you! I know."
"And if he has," answered the latter, "no one knows better than you how the confidence must be respected. My dear boy," he added, laying his handa affectionately on Harry's shoulders, "if there is anything painful to think of, why seek to aggravate it by either putting your question or insisting on an answer? George says truly when he asks for all our sakes that the matter may rest under silence."
"Confirmed — confirmed." groaned

"Confirmed — confirmed." groaned Harry, "and yet the confirmation was not needed. Their guilt was stamped on

them and charged them with the crime they..." What! you did this?" interrupted George, with startled energy. "I did. Why should I not? nay, how could I refrain, sessing that I had such proof for the suspicion?" "You...you charged them with......"

with ""
" With having murdered you," said

"And they?" questioned George, with faltering eagerness.
"Their tongues denied it, but their blanched faces were confusion enough for me. I told them in their teeth they did, and left them, proclaiming my intention to bring them both to justice. And by the heaven above us, George, I solemnly sware that this I would have done, my father though he be."
"Well, well," said George, with a grateful lock, in token of his appreciation of Harry friendship, "put all these thoughts from your mind now, since you see me safe. But tell me, did Lilias share your suspicion?"
"She never knew of your absence. I

Two days passed, during which Walley continued in the same low, unconscious state, but shortly after dawn on the morning of the third the doctor burst into the double bedded room in which George and Harry slept, and roused them with the intimation that the looked-for change had suddenly come, and that every moment its expected the crisis to arrivo. Instantly the two friends rose and dressed and proceeded to the room whre the manica lay. The doctor was by the bedside, and the nurse was busy preparing something on the fire.

On their entrance the doctor looked up, and laid his finger on his lip, to indicate that silence must be kept.

That a change had come was apparent to George at the first glance, for Walley no longer lay pale and quiet. He was restlessly, his face was flushed, and his breathing was loud and rapid.

A few minutes passed thus, during which this violence of action increased, and then they bent eagerly over him, waiting for the moment when he should

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