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and they ate it heartily, after which my husband led the way to the out-house where we sometimes stabled a traveller's horse when the need arose.

It is nice and dry, and always full with warm, fresh straw. The entrance into it directly faces the road-the corporal declared that nothing would suit him and his men better.

They retired to rest, apparently; but we noticed that two men remained on the watch just inside the entrance, whilst the other two curled up in the straw.

Hercule put out the lights in the coffee-room, and then he and I went upstairs-not to bed, mind you, but to have a quiet talk together over the events of the past

The result of our talk was that ten minutes later my man quietly stole downstairs and out of the house. He did not, however, go out by the front door, but through a back way, which, leading through a cabbage patch and then across a field, cuts into the main road some two hundred metres higher up.

Hercule and I had decided that he would walk the three leagues into Calais, despite the cold which was intense and the blizzard which was nearly blinding. and that he would call at the post of gendarmerie at the city gates. and there see the officer in com-mand, and tell him the exact state of the case. It would then be for that officer to decide what was to be done-our responsibility as loyal citizens would be completely covered.

Hercule, you must know, had just emerged from the cabbagepatch on to the field when he was suddenly challenged:

"Oui va la?"

He gave his name. His certificate of citizenship was in his pocket-he had nothing to fear.

Through the darkness and the veil of snow he had discerned a small group of men wearing the uniform of the 9th Regiment of

"Four men," said the foremost of these, speaking quickly and commandingly, "wearing the same uniform that I and my men are wearing - have you seen them?"

'Yes!" said Hercule, hurriedly.

"Where are they?"

"In the outhouse close by." The other suppressed a cry of

triumph. "At them, my men," he said in whisper; "and you, citizen, thank your stars that we have not come too late."

"These men?" whispered Hercule. "I had my suspicions-

"Aristocrats, citizen," rejoined the commander of the little party, "and one of them is that cursed

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