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passed, and I was getting desperate, for ye ken I had had nothing to eat the whole day. So I just went and had a last look as the dusk was coming on and I found that there was no sign of either of them to be seen. They must have gone into the cave in front of which their fire had been built. But I did not wait to find what had become of them. I just swam across to the *Conqueror*, and, cutting her adrift, I towed her to the entrance before starting her engines. I had to get a light for that to see what I was doing, but there were matches and a lamp aboard, so that I found no difficulty in doing so. I suppose I must have betrayed myself to the pirates, for as I was on the bank lifting the door I heard them shout out, and I knew that they had discovered that the *Conqueror* had disappeared. I didn't hang about then, as you may guess, but I jumped aboard as soon as the shutter was high enough to let the boat pass under, and setting her going as fast as I could, I steered for the open."

Sanders had just reached the conclusion of the narrative of his adventures as we once more approached the pool, and I had no time to express to the engineer my appreciation of the pluck and endurance which had brought us so near to the goal at which we aimed. Though there was still twilight outside, the darkness of night had already settled on the rock-encircled waters of the pool into which the boats cautiously steered. Yet even as we entered, the darkness was broken by a ruddy glow issuing from the mouth of