ter passage out here as a sailor-boy, and have come into that cane-trake and saved you two?" said Mary, sharply; and as Hartist etaring at her with dilated eyes once more, the least down after gazing at Dinny, with steeping soundly, and laid her hand with a firm grip on her brother's shoulder. He started into wakefulness on the instant, and gazed without recognition in the face leaning over him.

""Don't you know me, Abel?" said Mary, Don't you know me, Abet ?" said Mary,

You, Mary & Aroused like this !" He started up angelly, his face flushing as here had flushed, and his look darkened into

"What else could I do?" she said, repeating her defence as she had pleaded to hart. Then, as if her spirit rebelled against his anger, her eyes flashed with indignation, and she exclaimed hoursely, "Well, I have here done with me saved you, and if you have done with me-

"Hust you dressed as a boy!" said Abel.
"Hust! Do you want that man to know?"
whispered Mary, hoursely. "My brother was unjustly punished and sent out here to die in prison, while I, a helpless girl, might have starved at home, or been hunted down by that could be on alled himself a man.
What could I do?"

"The you worked your passage out here as a satter?" whispered Abel.
"Ay, and she could do it, too as good a eather as ever took in sail; and, Mary, lass, I asks your parden for laughing; and if I wasn't such a hig ugly chap, I could lie down

there and cry.

He held out his great coarse hand, in which Mary placed here to return his honest class, and her eyes smiled for a moment into his, while Abel set from hig and biting his tips as he stanced at Plany,

I don't know what to do," he said, heste entingly. "It seems \_ "
"Heigh ha to! (th, dear me!" orient Dinny, opening his eyes suddenly, making Mary start and Abel mutter a curse.

There was only one of the two equal to the emergency, and that was fart, who gave his knee a scinding slap and eried aloud that, both, my lad, you've behaved like a trump, and get us away eplendid. I on'y wish, Abel, I had such a brother, Halle, books, whose should shall walch you shore? so ger, where shall we let you ashere?"

oling at Mary; " what for gir "What for " what far " "In go back."
"I'm not going back," said the frishman, illing: "Sure, I want a change,"

wouldn't behave so direly as to send

ind tack ?"

"Thit we're escaping," said fart.

"Sure, and I'll escape, too," said Dinny,
smiling. "It's moighty dull work stopping that you're a soldler," said Abel.

"To be sure I am a sowldier of fortune." a You'll be a deserter if you stop with us," growled there.

The divil a lit! Yo made me a prishner, and I couldn't help meself."
"Why, I wanted you to go back last

night, growled Bart. To be nely bastes of dogs ! Think yo kindly, sor, I'd rather Dinny looked at Mary and gave her a

the flint jagged the edge of the blade all along into a rough kind of saw.

"Hard?" said Mary, shortly.

"There!" he said: "that will do. That Hard " said Mary, shortly,
"Ay coorse. Phey knocked me down and
took away me muchket and bases and, there they are in the bottom of the boat.

Then they made me get over the gate and esheape wid om ; and, now they're safe, they want to put me ashore. We can't take you with us," said Abet.

" Alsy, now ! Think about it, sor, Yo're going for a holiday, sure ; and under the offe cumstances I'd like one too. There! I see what you're a thinking that I'd bethray ye, Kure, and I'm a Kelly, and ye never knew a "Look at that, now!" said Dinny, trinm-Kelly do a dirthy thrick to anyone. Did I phantly, and with an air of satisfaction that shout for help last night when you tould me

"You were afraid," growled Hark.
"Afraid! incutraid! Pid ye ever hear of a Kelly who was afraid? No, sor : I said to moself, 'The poor boys are making a run for it, and I'll let them go.' Sure, and I did

"He would not be wise to go near the shore now," said Mary, in a whisper to her brother. "You have nothing to fear from Abot glanced at the happy, contented face before him, and then turned to Hark.

"What do you say?" he asked.
"There's no harm in him, said Hart, with a suspicious look at the Irishman.
"Sure, and you'll find me very useful," said Dinny. "I was at say before I listed, so I can steer and haul a rope."
"('an you keep faith with those who trust you's said Mury, quickly.
"An' is it a Kolly who can keep faith, me had? Sure, an, we're the faithfullest people there is anywhere. And, bedad! but you're kendstone boy, and have a way wid you What do you say ?" he asked.

a handsome boy, and have a way wid you as'll make some hearts ache hefere ye've

Mary started, and turned of a deep dark red, which showed through her sun browne od skin, as she flushed an angry look upon

the speaker.

Theny hurst into a hearty laugh.

"Look at him," he said, "coloring up like a girl. There, don't look at me, boy, as if ye were going to hite. I like to see it in a lad. It shows his heart's in the right place, and that he's honest and true. There, take a grip o' me hand, for I like you as much for your handsome face as for the way you've stood thrue to your brother and his mate. And did we come all the way from your own counthry to thry and save them?

Mary nodded.
"Ind ye, now? Then ye're a brave lad's and there ar n't many men who would have watched night after night in that ugly bit of wood among the shnakes and reptiles. wouldn't for the best brother fiver had. and there's foice of 'em, and all sisters."

Mary smitingly laid her hand in Dinny's, and gazed in the morry, frank face before

"And yo shari's ropent it, me lad, for regive done no harm, and were niver a prishner. And now, as we are talking Edition to know what yere brother and number motners sixth and to be sint out of the

minety sivin did to be shit out of the country. It wasn't murther, or they'd have hung 'em, Was its helping verselves?"

"My hother and his old friend Bart Wrister were transported to the plantate than for booting and half killing, they said, the scanndrof who had insulted and ill-used his sister?" eried Mary, with flashing eyes and flaming cheeks, as she stood up proudly in the boot, and looked from one to the

"With a shrick in said Dinny, subling his cheek as he poered engerly into Mary's

that, now? Why, I sent Larry Higgins to the hospital for sivin weeks wance for just such a thing. An' it was a contimptible thin shkull he'd got, just like a bad ogg, and it cracked directly I felt it wid the shtick. And what did you do?" he added sharply, as he turned to Mary. "Where was your shtick?"

If struck him with my hand," said Mary, shtick in it at the time. Sint ye both out to ate, here for a thing like that! (limitemen, I'm proud of ye. Why didn't ye tell me be. "Ye

He held out his hands to both, and, intruder as he was, it seemed impossible to resist his frank, friendly way, and the escaped prisoners shook hands with him

said Dinny, eagerly, "We don't know yet," said Abel, rather

"That's jist me case," said Dinny. the of sogering and walking up and down wid a mushket kaping guard over a lot of poor divils chained like wild bastes. I take the shilling bekase I'd been in a skrimmage, and the bowld sergeant said there'd be plinty of foighting; and the divil a bit there's been but setting up to shoot prishners. and I didn't want that. Now, ye'll tak me wid ye, only I must get rid o' these seger clothes, and look here, what are ye going to do wid thim chains ?"

"Het rid of them," said Abel, "when we can find a file. "I did not think of a file," said Mary,

with a disappointed look.

"There's plinty of strange plants out in these parts," said Dinny, laughing, "but I never see one that grew files. Only there's more ways of killing a cat than hanging him, as the praste said when he minded his own owld brogues wid a gine pot, Come

He took off his flannel jacket, folded it, and laid it in the bottom of the boat, but looked up directly,
"Ye've got a bit o' sail," he said, "and there's a nice wind. Where are you going

Mary looked at her brother, and Abel Manced at Bart.

Dinny, "so look here. About twenty after out yander to the west there's a bis of an island where the overseer and two officers wint one day to shute wild pig and there's wint one day to shine wild pig and likels, and I went wid 'em. Why not go there till ye make up yer minds! It's a meighty purty place, and ye're not overlooked by the neighbors' cabins, for there's nobody lives there at all, at all, and we an have it our own way.

Wild pigs there?" said Abet, eagerly.
"Hedad, yis, sor; nice swate bacon running about on four legs all over the place, and fruit on the trees, and fish in the say for the catching. (th, an' it's a meighty

party little estate !" And how could we find it?" oried Mary. city list setting a sail, and kaping about four miles from the shore till yours it lying the a bit o' cloud off to the south. Sure, we could hang our hammocks there before night, and the mushket here all ready to

shoot a pig."
"Yes," said Mary in response to a glance from her brother. "Then I'll heist the sail," said Hart.

"Nay, let the boy do it," said Pinny, soon show you a thing as would make the sergeant stare."
Dinny drew a large knife from his pocket.

droll cook of the eye, which made her frown and a flint and steel. The latter he returne ed, and, taking the ffint, he laid his open Surs, Misther Jack," he said, coolly, knife on the thwart of the boat, and with

iron's us soft as choose."
This last was a slight Hibernian exageration; but as Mary hoisted sail, and Abel ration; but as Mary noisted sail, and Aber put out an oar to steer, while the little vessel glided rapidly over the saulit sea. Dinny began to operate upon the ring round one of lart's ankles, sawing away steadily, and with such good effect that at the end of an hour he had cut half through, when, by hammering the ring together with the butt of the musket, the half-severed iron save way, and one leg was free.

"Took at that, now!" said Dinny, trium-phantly, and with an air of satisfaction that Now, thin, up wid that other purty foot !" toward the west, he sawed away again, with intervals of re-jagging at the knife edge, and soon made a rut in the second ring. "Keep her a little farther away from the shore, Abel," said Mary, in a warning tone

as the boat sped westward.
"Yo needn't mind," said Dinny, sawing away: "the inhabitants all along here are a moighty decent sort of folk, and won't tell where we're gone. They're not handt some, and they're got into a habit o' wearing little tails wid a moighty convanien-

ing little tails wid a meighty convanient crock in 'on to take howld of a tree.'

"Monkeys?" said Mary, eagerly.

"Masther Jack, monkeys; and then there's the shmiling crockydills, and a few shnakes like ships' masts, and some shpotted cats. There's nebody else lives here for hundreds o' miles."

hundreds o' miles."

"Then you are safe, Ahet," said Mary, with the tears standing in her eyes,

"Yes, Mn-yes, Jack," cried Abet, checking himself; and then meaningly, as he glanced at liart, "you're a brother of whom a man may well be proud."

"Ay," cried liart, excitedly, "a brother of whom a man may well he arend."

of whom a man may well be proud."
"Happen!" cried Dinny. "Howle still, "Harron!" gried Dinny. "He my lad, and I'll soon be through." And the boat sped onward toward the

The island was found just as the Irishman had forefold, and as evening approached without having even sighted a sail on their way, the little heat began coasting along, its occupants engerly scanning the low, rock-reefed shore, above which waved a luxuriant tropic growth, but for some time no landing-place was found, while, though the sea was culm, there was a heavy swell to curl up and break upon the various reefs in a way that would have swamped their craft had they attempted to land.

The last fetter had been laboriously sawn

through, Pinny having persisted in continuing the task, and he now sat resting and watching the shore with a critical eye. All at once, upon sailing round a jagged point to which they had to give a wide berth on account of the fierce race which swept

on account of the heree race which swept and eddied among the rocks, a pleasantly wooded little bay opened out before them, with a smooth sandy shore where the waves just creamed and glistened in the sun.

"Look at that, now," said Dinny, "That's where we landed; but I was ashleep after pulling a long time at the oar, and I disremembered all about where we went ashore,"

"How beautiful!" said Jack, gasing thoughtfully at the plorious scene, and asking herself whether that was to be her future home.

ing herself whether that was to be not find home.

"An' d' yer coal that beautiful?" said hims, contemptuously, "Young man, did ye iver see Dublin Hay!"

"No." said Jack, smiling in the carnest face before him.

"Nor the Hill of Howth?"

"Nor the Hill of Howth?"

"Then don't said Dinny.

"Puts me in mind of Black Pool," said hart, thoughtfully.

Puts me in mind of Black Pool," said hart, thoughtfully.

"Puts me in mind of Black Pool," said hart, thoughtfully.

Further conversation was checked by the interest of landing, the boat being run up on the shore and haden among the rocks, not that it was likely that it would be seen, but the position of the fugitives and the dread of being retaken made thom dontry cantious, fart even going so far as to obliterate their footprints on the sand.

"Now, then," said Dinny, "you've got the mushket and the bagnet, and those two make one; but if I was you I'd out down one of them bamboos and shtick the bagnet an that, which would make two of it, and it an that, which would make two of it, and it would be a moighty purty tool to kill a pig."

The hint was taken, Bart soon cutting down a long, straight lance shaft and forcing it into the socket of the bayonet.

"Then next," said Dinny, "if I was captain I should say let's see about something.

"Hear that, Abel ?" said Bart.
"Yes. I was thinking of how we could get down some cocoa-nuts. There are plenty

of bananas." Put in Dinny; "and there's a cabbage growing in the heart of ivery one of thim bundles of leaves on, top of a shtick as they call palms; but thim's only vegetables, captain, dear, and me shtomach is asking for

"Can we easily shoot a pig—you say there are some?" said Abel.

"And is it aisily shoot a pig?" said Dinny.
"Here, give me the mushket."

He held out his hand for the piece, and Abel, who bore it, hesitated for a moment or two, and glanced at Jack, who nodded shortly, and the loaded weapon was passed to the Irishman.

"Ye doubted me," he said laughing ; "hat niver mind, it's quite nat'ral. Come along: I won't shoot any of ye unless I'm very hungry and can't get a pig."

He led the way through an opening in the rough cliff, and they climbed along a narrow ravine for some few hundred yards, the roar of the sea being hushed and the overleing ing trees which held on among the rifts of int at times it was quite dust rocky barrier was com passed, on natural park spread botons

and the passy showing if Lands at that no

as Put Muleahy's pig was whispered, setting the example. ing behind a piece of rock.
The others hid at once, and a low gr ing which bad suddenly been board in distance increased loudly ; and directly ter a herd of quite two localice! pigs c tearing down through a narrow opening a the rocky jungle and made straight for the

They were of all sieus, from little plump fellows, half the weight of ordinary porkers, to their seniors the largest of promotion, which was not more than half the dimen-

sions of an English pige.

They trotted down to the water-side, where they drank and rolled and wallowed. fate which awaited one of their number, and passing so near the hidden group that Dinny had an easy shot at a well-fed specimen which rolled over, the rest dashing off through the trees squealing as if every one came back in happy unconsciousness of the through the trees squealing as if every one had been injured by the shot.

"We shan't starve here," said Dinny, with a grin of satisfaction, and before many minutes had passed a fire was kindled in a sheltered nook, where the flame was not likely to be seen from the sea, and as soon as it was glowing, pieces of the pig, cut in a let's manner which would have disgusted a lish.' butcher, were frizzling in the embers.

CHAPTER XIV.

They had been a month on the island. eading a dreamy kind of existence, and had begun to sleep of a night deeply and well without starting up half a dozen times bath-ed in sweat, and believing that the authorities from Plantation Settlement were on their track and about to take them by sur-The question had been debated over nd over again. What were they to de? but

Dinny generally had the last word.
"Why, who wants to do anything? Unless a man was in Ireland, where could he be better than he is here, with iverything a man could wish for but some more powder and a wife. Eh! Master Jack, ye handsome young rascal, that's what ye're always thinking about.

"Jack" gave him an angry look, and "Look at him !" cried Dinny. "There's tell-tales. Nivir mind, lad, it's human na-

ture and we're all full of it, and a good thing, for the powder's growing very low and we shall have to take to pig-hunting instead of

shooting when it's done."
"Jack" hesitated, and then, as if suddenly making up his mind, accompanied the Irishman to the nearest grove where the oroa palms grew close down to the sea-Here binny rolled up the sleeves of his coarse and ragged shirt, and climbed one tree as a lad does a pole; but the fruit when

he reached it was immature, and he threw only one of the great husks down.
"We don't want dhrink, but mate," said Dinny selecting another tree, and beginning o climb; but the day was hot, there was a

languid feeling induced by the moist atmosphere, and Dinny failed three times to reach the glorious green crown of leaves where the ants nestled, and slid down again, sore in body and in temper.

"A failure, Dinny?" said Jack.

"Failure! yes. Can't ye see it is?" said the Irishman sourly, as he bent down and softly rubbed the inner sides of his knees.

Here, I'm not going to do all the climbing. You have a turn. 'Jack" shook his head.

"Jack" shook his head.
"No skulking!" cried Dinny; "falr play's a jool, me lad, so up you go. Ye're younger and cleverer wid yer arms and legs than I am. Why, ye cught to go up that tree like a monkey."

"Jack" shook his head and frowned. "No," he said, "I'm no climber. Let's

"Widon't a unb, and ready to be laughed at? Not I, me lad. Now, then, I shall have to tak yo in hand and mak a man of yo. Up wid yo."

He caught the youth by the arm, and

drew him, half-resisting, toward the tree. "No, no, Dinny. Nonsense! I could not "Hedad, and ye've got to climb it !" cried Dinny. "Now, thin, take howld toightly. "Loose my arm," said Jask, speaking in low voice, full of suppressed anger.
"Divil a bit. Ye've get to climb that

"Ye've got to clime that three, I tell ye, boy. Now, thin, no skutking. Up wid ye."

"Jack" hung back, with the color deepening in his cheeks, and a dark look in his eyes, which Dinny could not interpret; and, half in anger at the boy's opposition, half in playful determination, he grasped the youth living, and forced him toward the tree.

In an instant Jack flung himself round, with his eyes flashing, and before the Irishman could realize what was coming he went-staggering back from the fierce blow he received in his chest, caught his heels against the husk of an overgrown nut; and came down heavily on the sand.

Dinny was an Irishman, and he had received a blow. "Ye've got to clime that three, I tell ye,

with interest, and the only way out of the difficulty was to run, and he scorned to do

that.

Quick as lightning he snatched a knife from his pocket, threw open the blade, and held it across his chest, half turning from his assailant, but with the point so directed that, if Dinny had closed, it could only have been at the expense of an ugfy wound.

"Look at that now t" cried Diuny, pausing with hands raised to grip his adversary; "and me widout a bit o' shtick in me fist. Ye'd shting, would ye, ye little varmint! Put down yer knoife and fight like a man. Bah t" he cried contemptuously, as his anger evaporated as rapidly as it had flashed up, "ye're only a boy, and it's no disbgrace to have been hit by one o' yer size. I could nearly blow ye away. There, put away yer knoife and shake hands."

A nail from the cluster of trees which they made their camp, and Bart and Abel came into sight.

Jack closed his knife with a sigh of relief, and dropped it into his pocket.
"An' ye won't shake hands!" said Dinny,

ly, homony out his hand; "and I'm sorry I "That's handsome, me lad," cried the Irishmen, gripping it tightly. "I'm not sorry, for it don't hart now, and I'm glad yo've got so much fight in ye. Ye're a brave lack and there's Irish blood in ye somewhere, though o' ignerant of the fact. Hallo,

captain what ye're going to go?" Abel strone up with Bartat his side, looking curiously from one to the other. I want to have a talk with you two, said Abel, throwing himself on the sand

" Did he see ?" said dack to himself, as he took his place a little on one side.
"Atalk, and widout a bit o' tobacky !" said 'inny, with a sigh, "What is it, cap-" Part and I have been thinking over our

position here," said Abel, "and we have dotermined to go." why, where said Dinny, "Why, where would ye foind a bether place?"
"That has to be seen," said Abel; "but

we can't stay here, and we want to know where is the nearest port to which we could sail and then get ship for home." "Clet ship for the prison, ye mane !" cried inny, indignantly, "They'd send the lot Dinny, indignantly, "They'd send the lot of us back, and in less than a month you and Burt there would be hoeing among the bushes, young Jack here would be thried and punished for helping ye to escape, and as for me well," he added, with a comical grin, "I don't know what they'd do with me, but I'm sure they wouldn't give me my

But we shall starve if we stay here, said Abel, sternly. "And is it shtarve wid you two such fishermen! Cet out wid ye! Let's build a at the edge for a few moments, and then hut before the rainy time comes, and settle down. Here's as foine an estate as a gentle-

> more could a boy wish for then, ch, Masther Jack? What do you say, Bart?"
> "That we must go," said Bart, gruffly.
> "Let's think it over first," said Dinny.
> "At all events ye can't go for months to come; for ye'd be taken for escaped prisoners at wanst; so, as we've got no vittles, let's take the boat and go out and eatch some

Abel frowned, and seemed disposed to continue the discussion; but everyone else was silent, and he rose slowly, ready enough, from old associations, to obey a commi So the little party walked slowly down toward where the boat lay hidden, ready to row it out to the edge of one of the weedhung reefs, where tish were plentiful; and in spite of the roughness of their hooks and ines a pretty good dish could always be se-

They had reached the end of the ravine, where the trees and bushes grew thickly, and Jack who was first, was in the act of passing out on to the sands of the little bay, then a great hand seized him by the shoul-

and he was dragged back. His hand went to his pocket again in the instinct of self defence, for it seemed to be a epetition of Dinny's attack; but, turning sharply he found that it was Bart who had dragged him back among the trees, and stood pointing seaward, where the solution of their difficulty appeared in, as it were, a warning to escape; for at about half a mile from the shore a white-winged after was coming rapidly toward the little bay; and as she careened over they could see that she was occupied by at least a dozen men.

"Quick, the boat!" cried Abel, excitedly.
"Are ye mad!" cried Dinny. "They could see us, and would be here before we ould get round the point."

"Right," growled Bart.
"It's the cutter from the settlement," said Dinny, watching the coming vessel.
"She sails like the wind, and, bedad, it's wind they've get of where we are, and they've come to fetch us. Now, thin, boys, the divil a bit will I go back, so who's for a

The sight of the cutter seemed to chase away all discontent with their position, ringing up, as it did, the recollection on the part of one of months of longing to give free. dom to brother and friend; on the part of the other three, of long periods of toilsome labor in chains, and of wearisome keeping guard over the wretched convicts, sickening in the tropic sun. The island suddenly assumed the aspect of a paradise, from which they were to be banished forever; and stealing silently back to their little camp, the fugitives hastily did what they could to destroy traces of their presence, and then turned to Abel to ask what next.
"The woods," he said. "We must hide while we can, and when they hunt us to bay

we must fight for it?"
"No," said Jack, quickly, "They will think we are in the woods, as being the most likely place for us to hide. We should be safer among the rocks on the cliff side, and should be able to watch the cutter as well.

"It's a born gin'ral ye are," said Dinny, enthusiastically.
"Right Abel, lad; Jack's right," growled Hart; and Abel acceded with a nod of his

"You are lightest," he said. "Go first, Jack. Steal down by the side of the cliff, and get a good way round."
"No," said Jack, "there is neither time nor need. We must stay where we are, and

wait and see which way they go. It will "Hark at him! Sure, and if I wasn't cortain that that there's Ofrish blood in his veins, I'd say his grandfather was the Juko o' Marlbrook." "Right," growled Bart; and they drew back among the rocks and waited, lying down so as to be well hidden, Jack climbing

a little way up the slope above them, a getting into a position which command the ravine leading down to the bay.

They had not long to wait before voice They had not long to wait before volvere heard coming up from the shore, and soon after the overseer made his appearance, in company with a young officer, both carrying pieces over their shoulders, and followed

When he drew himself slowly back a

companions, every mouth parted to ask 100 news; and anxiety, mingled with the stern determination painted in their faces, told of the stubborn resistance that their pursuers might expect before they had achieved their ends.

"They have gone right on into the woody

part."
"Yes, the gin'ral's right," said Dinny.
"But I have my doubts of their intentions," said Jack.
"And so have I—big doubts," said Dinny; "so I won't thrust them."
"I don't think they've come in search of

continued Jack. excitedly.

A shot rang out from the distance, followed immediately by another. "That proves it," said Jack. "It is

"Av course it is," cried Dinny, laughing.
"I could have told ye that, only I didn't think of it. It's the pigs they're after, and they're making free wid our flocks and

"What a relief!" said Abel, wiping the sweat from his brow. "What shall we do "Keep in hiding; but I'll climb up till I can see their cutter. It may be near our

"A born gin'ral," said Dinny, giving his head a roll and gazing approvingly at Jack. "There'll be two or three left in charge of their boat, and -- what would you do next?" Jack held up his hand, and softly retraced his course up the steep slope; and they could trace him from time to time by the waving of the leaves, but he went so cautiously that he was not seen once; and while they kept their eyes fixed upon one spot the bushes and leaves were seen to rustle softly some distance higher up.

Then they saw no more, but lay listening to the distant shouts and firing which reached their ears again and again, till, to the surprise of all three, Jack suddenly came

upon them from behind.
"Well?" said Abel, eagerly. Jack could not speak for a few moments, being breathless from exertion. "Three men left with the cutter and they are ashore, lying upon the sands."
"Abel," said Jack, after a long thoughtful silence, "we shall never be safe here with these people coming from time to

"No; that settles our plans. We must take the boat and go." "Why not take our enemy's vessel? We could sail where we liked then." "Didn't I say he was a born gin'ral!" cried Dinny, enthusiastically.

"Take their boat!" said Abel. "They're three men, and we're three," said Bart, in a low growl. "Four!" cried Dinny, excitedly. "Ye never see how Masther Jack can foight." "Hush!" said the latter, sternly. men are lying about half asleep. waited, we might get on board, cut the anchor rope, and drift out with the tide per-

haps without rousing them." "And if it came to the worst we could fight," said Abel. "Are ye ready?" whispered Dinny. "See that your piece is well primed. My shtick's leaded, and I'm ready to fire it off."
"Hush!" said Jack, sternly. "I will climb up to where I can watch the men, and if they go to sleep I will wave a branch. Then creep up to me, and we may succeed

The proposal was agreed to at once, and a long, tedious time of waiting ensued, at the quenip, end of which Bart bared his arm. "We're strong enough for 'em," he whis-"Let's go at once and fight it out." At that moment, high above their heads, a branch was seen waving just as a shot rang out at no great distance, shouts were heard, and the grunting of a herd of the wild pigs rose from the wooded part on their left.

"Too late!" whispered Abel. "Right!" growled Bart.
"Then we'll foight for it," whispered Din-"Bedad, I believe they'll run as soon as they find us here, and small blame to

CHAPTER NV. The excitement seemed to bring Jack more and more to the front, and those who followed read in his actions why it was that he had been successful in freeing them from their pursuers at the time of the escape.

For, active as a goat, he crept from rock to rock, lowering himself down here, dropping there, and having from time to time to wait to give the rest an opportunity for keeping up. And all the while the parts of cliff side that were the most wooded, and which offered the best shelter, were selected, and discovery by the sleeping men avoided.

It was an arduous task; but the guide was equal to the emergency, and continuously and silently proceeding succeeded at length in dropping down to the sandy shore about fifty yards from where the men lay apparently asleep and sheltered by a huge

mass of weed-grown stone, while the cutter swung by its anchor a hundred yards further on beyond the sailors, and she rose and fell easily as the slight tide ran softly down. Jack grasped the situation clearly, and felt how little time there was to lose. At any moment the heads of the hunting party might appear as they came down the ravine to the bay, while, supposing these to be really asleep, the first shout would bring them to their feet, and then all chance of

escape would be gone.

The men had laid down close up under the cliff so as to be sheltered from the sun and from an instinctive desire to be beyond the reach of any venturesome wave, so that to reach the cutter the fugitives would have to pass her guardians between them and the

This brought the escaping party nearer to the cutter, but placed them full in the view of those who might be coming down the ra-vine at the head of the bay, and also shut them off from shelter and concealment should

Jack had played so prominent a part hitherto that the eyes of all were directed to him for further instructions, and for a moment he hesitated and pointed to Abel.
"No," whispered the latter, "you have

done so well; go on."

Jack hesitated for a moment or two more and then said in a low voice—

"All follow quickly and go to the far side of the bay, seize the boat, and we are safe."

"But there is no boat," said Bart.

Jack pointed to a mass of rock, some fifty

yards away, where a few inches of the stern of a boat were visible, but which had not or a boar work the others.

"Lead on," said Abel, abruptly; "and if
the men wake up Bart and I will tackle them while you and Dinny here get into the boat and row out. We'll swim to you, and you

"And d'ye think I'm going to run away like that?"whispered Dinny. "I'll sthay." "Dinny!" whispered Jack, fiercely. "Ah, well, I forgot I was a soldier, my

"Ah, well, I forgot I was a soldier, my lad. I'll obey orders."

Whereupon Abel examined the priming of his musket, and Bart tried the bayonet at the end of the bamboo shaft to see if it was firm, while Dinny whispered.

"Howld her tight to yer shoulther, lad, when ye fire, for she's a divil to kick."

Jack gave a glance round once more, and them, holding up a hand to command silence, he listened, but all was still save the lapping of the waves as the tide retired and then re-

His next proceeding was to steal out to where he could get a good look at the three

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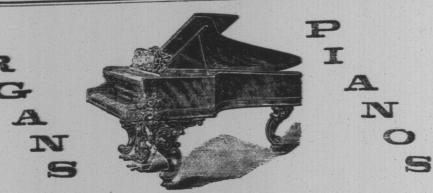
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