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Charles Dickens had a very narrow escape from death at the catastrophe on the Southeastern railway, recently. The carriage in which he was sitting toppled over the edge of the embankment, and hung there for a while, giving him an opportunity to scramble through the window on to the platform, where he found himself without scratch or bruise, greatly to his own amusement. When the dead bodies of the victims were laid out for recognition, one over zealous gentleman, knowing that Mr. Dickens was in the train, recognized one corpse as his, which statement was at first credited. The novelist was returning to his country seat from a short continental trip when the accident occurred.