

CHAPTER IV.

THE WEDDING GIFTS.

"I RECEIVED a note from Hal Delancy this morning," said Mrs. Elliott to her daughter on the day of Hal's departure.

"Indeed!" returned Adelaide, calmly. "And what does Mr. Delancy have to say for himself?"

She was bitterly incensed at Hal's desertion, although not even to her mother would she have acknowledged her disappointment.

"Here is his letter, you can read it for yourself," and she held the epistle towards her.

"I must confess I am sadly disappointed in that young man. He has acted so differently from Alfred," and a complacent smile crept around the corners of her mouth.

Silently Adelaide took the letter and opened it. Any allusion to the worthy Alfred annoyed her exceedingly. When she mastered the contents she handed it back.