

CHAPTER II.

MY DEBUT AS A CANVASSER.

ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK—CANVASSING FOR A BOOK—ITS
CONSEQUENCES.

THERE were but few passengers, and, with the exception of myself and one other Irishman, they were all Americans. Considering the time of year, the voyage was a good one, and the weather was fine till we got off Sandy Hook, where the pilot and a heavy fall of snow reached us together. Nothing very interesting to relate occurred during the voyage. I was highly amused at the stories related by the Yankies about the "Boys of the Bowery," and I was duly initiated into the mysteries of "Euchre," greatly to the detriment of my finances.

On my arrival at the great American capital I took up my quarters at a cheap hotel, recommended by one of the passengers, where I remained for one week. As my means were limited, it was necessary for me to make every effort to obtain employment as quickly as possible; so every morning I went carefully over all the advertisements in the *New York Herald*; and, on the third day after my arrival, I saw one that I was in hopes might suit me. It read thus:—"Wanted a respectable gentlemanly young man, wages \$15 per week; apply at office 396 Broadway, of Messrs Hass & Davit."

Dressed in the very latest London fashion, and armed with