

to escape this morning. The servants all know my rights, and have only been deterred from protecting and ascertaining them by fear of my uncle, who would stop at nothing to gain his ends. When I gained my liberty this morning I determined, if possible, to find some person who would protect and defend me against my uncle's conduct, and—you know the rest," she added, blushing as he clasped her to his bosom, and vowed to protect her, and defend her rights as he would his own.

She started from his embrace, and, begging him to be seated, rang the bell, and when a servant answered the summons, she told him to send all the servants up.—They soon appeared, when she addressed them:—

"You know my position in this house—that I am the owner and right-mistress of every thing here."

"We do," they responded, and she continued:—

"This Gentleman, Mr. Best, is my husband, and, as you value your places, you will obey him. Go now, remember what you have heard." The servants retired, respectfully bowing to the new married pair.

"And now sir," said she, addressing her husband, "you are convinced. Be what I know you are and can be, and maintain your rights." Ere she could say farther, the door was suddenly opened, and a coarse, hard featured man, of about fifty years of age, entered, and stood for some moments gazing upon the happy pair, who were seated on the sofa.

"What is your business here, and with that woman, sir?" he demanded

of Mr. Best in a stern voice, looking at the same time as though he would annihilate him:

Mr. Best made no immediate reply, but measured Mr. Chiffney (for he it was) from his feet to his head, leisurely and undauntedly. Mr. Chiffney then addressed Ellen.—"Pray Miss Sanctity, be pleased to explain what this man is doing here alone with you?"

"She need not take that trouble, sir," replied Charles, "and let me warn you to address her more respectfully, too. That lady is my wife, and by virtue of my authority as her husband, and master of this house, let me ask what business you have here?"

"Your wife! You master! Well! that is too very good!" and Mr. Chiffney laughed heartily and leud:

Mr. Best, curbing himself with difficulty, merely said:—

"Come, sir, your presence is disagreeable. If you wish to transact any business, be speedy, we wish to be alone."

"Why, you impertinent scoundrel!" was all he had time to utter, as Charles seized him by the collar, and shook the old ruffian till he gasped for breath. "Scoundrel, you would have said, you lying, old, cheating, old villain. If you were not so old, and utterly contemptible, I would not leave a whole bone in your carcass. I tell you again that lady is my wife,—this is her house, and in it or out of it I will maintain her rights. I know all your villany, and all your tricks. I give you one hour to depart, and if the next sees you in this house, I will drag you before the bar of justice, where you may be com-