

changed. I found him with the regiment, when I joined, and was delighted to do so, for he was a most agreeable man, and none of the bad points of his character had become apparent during our first short acquaintance. I found him very much changed, however. He was fond of gambling and the turf, had a good deal of the braggadocia about him; and though still showing great abilities, and a heart that was generous and noble by fits and starts, I did not feel that a man of such very loose principles was one of whom I could make my friend. I believe he was piqued by a certain degree of reserve which he remarked in my manner; but he took no notice, and we remained upon civil and kindly terms. One night he was boasting that such was his luck, as he called it, at cards, that he could feel sure of dealing himself a certain number of honours upon the average every time the cards were dealt for ten times. The thing struck me as ridiculous, and, excited by the conversation, I exclaimed, 'Nonsense, Harrington. I will bet you a hundred pounds you do not.' He instantly said, 'Done.' I could not retract, and the next night the trial took place in his rooms, before a num-