

herself, would probably be placed by an impartial judge at about six-and-forty. A slender gold watch guard reaching from throat to waist, a pair of gold-rimmed glasses with which she toyed, with more than one ring upon her plump fingers, evidenced a taste for jewellery. The other lady was a girl just grown to womanhood. Her face was oval in shape, her complexion light and clear; her eyes large and of hazel tint: her hair, of which she had a profusion, was dark brown. Her mouth denoted sweet temper and a loving disposition. Her figure, though at present enveloped in a shawl to protect her from the lake breeze, was evidently somewhat slender. The young man who sat by her side was obviously much engrossed by the contemplation of the younger lady. He helped her adjust the shawl more securely over her shoulder when it threatened to slip down, and endeavored in a dozen ways to minister to her comfort. He was a good-looking young fellow of twenty-five or thereabouts, blue-eyed and curly-haired, with an open and generous countenance and that appearance of youthful activity which gave promise of lasting into and even beyond middle age.

The fourth member of the group was a short stout gentleman of sixty or thereabouts, who sat upon a camp stool, a newspaper spread across his knees, and a dark travelling cap set somewhat jauntily on his head; in such a way, however, as to cover the balding portion and allow the grey locks, which remained in considerable profusion on the back and sides of his round head, to become the sport of the playful breeze. His beard was short and grizzled; his features irregular, the nose small and slightly tilted upward; mouth rather large, the under jaw protruding somewhat beyond its fellow, though perhaps not sufficiently to entitle him to be termed "under hung." His grey eyes twinkled at the elder lady, who sat facing him, evidently bent upon making herself agreeable—the young folks meanwhile taking advantage of the preoccupation of the elders with one another, to hang their heads over the bulwarks and indulge in a few tender side glances and a few whispered words. The water was so calm—