

law-papers, for fear it be to the injury of Betty Bodle."

"Betty Bodle!" said Gabriel Pitwinnoch eagerly; "she has been long dead."

"Ah!" said Walter, "that's a' ye ken about it. She's baith living and lifelike."

Mr Keelevin was startled and alarmed at this, but abstained from saying anything. Gabriel also said nothing, but looked significantly to his client, who interposed and put an end to the conversation.

"Having gone so far," said he, "I could, with no respect for my own character, allow the proceedings to be now arrested. It is, therefore, unnecessary either to consider your suggestion or to hold any further debate here on the subject."

Mr Keelevin made no reply to this, but said that, as he had something to communicate in private to his client, he would carry him to Glasgow for that night. To so reasonable and so professional a proposal no objection was made. Walter himself also at once acquiesced, on the express condition that he was not to be obliged to sign any law-papers.