

Master Manton Comes to Court

pale-faced and black-eyed; and had been a sizar in the College for nearly a year. Guy had taken pity on him, soon after his coming. He had found him tied under the pump one cold morning, and, in a kind of fury had released him and taken him upstairs to his own room. Guy's wrath on that occasion had caused laughter in the College; but he had spoken his mind and gone his way. He had presently attached the boy to himself, had become his tutor by backstairs' influence, and taken him to sleep in his room. Then he had discovered that Tom possessed an extraordinary contralto voice, and the boy had been set to sing in chapel—the fame of his voice had spread; but he had declined all offers, and refused to leave his master. Now Tom's reward had come, and he was to seek his fortune in London under the patronage of her Grace's new gentleman.

Guy made an enquiry or two about the horses, deputed him to go with the silversmith's money next morning, and finally asked him whether he had seen Master Stephen Brownrigg.

"I saw him coming out of chapel just now," said the boy.

Guy pondered.

"Well, go to bed," he said, "and go to sleep. I shall not be coming yet."

Ten minutes later Guy slipped on his doublet, and went out.

As he walked across the court in the summer darkness to Stephen's room he was wondering what he would say. He knew he would meet with reproaches and sullenness, and he was doubtful how to deal with them. He was tired of patience.

Stephen had come up to Gonville College as a sizar