

smile, but made no reply, while Eugenie said, gaily, " I will answer for it, that you will not know her in a week's time. See what a fine glow is now in her cheek !"

Caroline sighed deeply, and Burton turned away his head, but instantly replied, in a lively tone, as if he sought to conceal his passion for Eugenie from Caroline, and, at the same time, prevent the latter from being hurt by coldness—
" I leave her in your charge, fair novice. It is now after eight o'clock, and I have duties which will demand my presence before nine. I bid you both good-night, and will see you as early to-morrow as I can leave the field."

Without further ceremony he hastily left the room and house. While he received his horse from Zacharie, the latter said, in a low tone—
" There has been a horseman skulking about here, ever since you went through the gate."

" Did you recognise him, or learn his business?"

" No ; he looked like an officer, and rode in sight to yonder tree three times. I would have followed him, if I could have left the horses. The last time I saw him, which was not three