

early days. Until that time comes, think of me now and then. Good-bye.'

'I am waiting,' said Brother Bawkwell, taking his hat in his hand.

Amelius answered with an effort. 'Thank her kindly in my name,' he said: 'that is all.' His head dropped while he spoke; he fell into thought as if he had been alone in the room.

But the emissary from Tadmor, warned by the minute-hand on the watch, recalled his attention to passing events. 'You would do me a kindness,' said Brother Bawkwell, producing a list of names and addresses, 'if you could put me in the way of finding the person named, eight from the top. It's getting on towards twenty minutes to three.'

The address thus pointed out was at no great distance, on the northern side of the Regent's Park. Amelius, still silent and thoughtful, acted willingly as a guide. 'Please thank the Council for their kindness to me,' he said, when they reached their destination. Brother Bawkwell looked at Friend Amelius with a calm inquiring eye. 'I think you'll end in coming back to us,' he said. 'I'll take the opportunity when I see you at Tadmor, of making a few needful remarks on the value of time.'

Amelius went back to the cottage, to see if Toff had returned, in his absence, before he paid his daily visit to Surgeon Pinfold. He called down the kitchen stairs, 'Are you there Toff?' And Toff answered briskly, 'At your service, sir.'

The sky had become cloudy, and threatened rain. Not finding his umbrella in the hall, Amelius went into the library to look for it. As he closed the door behind him, Toff and his boy appeared on the kitchen stairs; both walking on tiptoe, and both evidently on the watch for something.

Amelius found his umbrella. But it was characteristic of the melancholy change in him that he dropped languidly into the nearest chair, instead of going out at once with the easy activity of happier days. Sally was in his mind again; he was rousing his resolution to set the doctor's commands at defiance, and to insist on seeing her, come what might of it.

He suddenly looked up. A slight sound had startled him.