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PRINCIPLE BEFORE GOOD-NATURE.

PART I.

"WHAT is the matter, Robert?" asked Henry Manvers, as he met his cousin walking slowly and thoughtfully along a shady lane leading towards the village.

"I've had bad news from home, Harry. Lucy writes that my mother is dangerously ill, and I wish to send them a little money, as the doctor has ordered many expensive things. Do you think you could let me have the five pounds I lent you last quarter? I've been trying to see you alone all day to ask,"

"I'm sorry, Robert, I wish I had it to give you; but the truth is, I'm very hard up just now, and I didn't think you'd have wanted it so soon."

"Neither I would, but for mother's illness. Well, I was thinking if you couldn't pay, of asking an advance from your father; you know my quarter will be up in a week or so."

"I advise you to do no such thing. It's against the rules, and my father would never have a good opinion of you again for outrunning your pay: besides, you'd have to tell him that I had borrowed from you, which would get me into a fine scrape, for, now that he's ill, his temper is none of the best."

"That's all very true, but without troubling him. Mr. Bunker might let me have a few pounds till next week; he has the management of everything while your father is laid up."