

that has been said by this M. de Verby, who avers that you are a half-rate lawyer! He has said the most frightful things about you, and I come now to beg that you will extricate me from this difficulty. I will give you whatever money you demand.

DUPRÉ

What I wish above all is that you promise to let your nephew marry whom he chooses, and give him the fortune you had designed for him, in case he married Mlle. de Verby.

MME. DU BROCARD

One moment; you said, whom he pleased?

DUPRÉ

Give me your answer!

MME. DU BROCARD

But I ought to know.

DUPRÉ

Very well then, you must extricate yourself without my assistance.

MME. DU BROCARD

You are taking advantage of my situation! Ah! some one is coming!

DUPRÉ (*looking towards the newcomers*)

It is some of your own family!

MME. DU BROCARD (*peering cautiously*)

It is my brother-in-law Rousseau—What is he up to now? He swore to me that he would keep quiet!

DUPRÉ

You also took an oath. In fact, there has been a great deal of swearing in your family lately.