

turned to leave the apartment; just then his eye caught sight of a letter that stood on the mantel-piece, and on taking it up he found it was from Kate, and addressed to himself; hastily breaking the seal, he read as follows:—

“When you receive this I shall be on my way to New York; my companion, I need hardly say, will be the Marquis Guadagni. I shall be united to him this night before we leave, according to the forms of his church, and according to the forms of the Church of England as soon as we reach New York. In taking this step I have felt that my happiness depended on it. I would rather have married with your consent, but as you thought fit to refuse it, you must not blame me if I have consulted not only my own happiness