

THAT NORWARD BUSINESS ROMANCE

"You know, sir, that the enterprise is now as much yours as it is mine, and it must be pleasant for you to learn that you have not misplaced your confidence in any way."

Mr. Langton, however, only grunted in his characteristic way so well known to every one who had ever done business with him, and remarked that it was not always easy to say how matters were going to turn out with very many undertakings of the Norward kind.

"But this one of ours has gone on swimmingly from the beginning, and everybody seems to be satisfied with the outlook."

"That is as it may be," replied the money-lender with a doubting smile, as if some new trestle-bridge were in sight.

"I came in," continued Mandeville, who had had to submit on many previous occasions to the old man's humours, "to have a conversation with you about a matter which concerns—yes, concerns you—that is both of us," and the senior member of the firm of Mandeville & Co. was at last in presence of the problem of his life that