

was carelessly dressed in boating cap and jacket, but this only served to set off the air of distinction which marked him out from ordinary men. His face though not so boyish as at school, was fuller and handsomer; he looked healthier, but in the expression of it and in his manner there was just the slightest possible evidence of a change. I thought this was doubtless owing to my countrified appearance. Perhaps my clothes were not of the most fashionable cut. Perhaps, I thought again, it is only the natural bashfulness which affects boys, when they have not met for a long time. I must confess, for my part, to a full share of this feeling. By degrees, the strangeness, if I may call it so, wore away, and in an hour or two we were strolling along side by side and chatting freely together as of old.

He took me to his rooms, then over some of the colleges, to the High Street, Newman's, St. Mary's, and for a row on the river. I was in the seventh heaven of delight, and nothing could exceed the pride I felt, as I walked by his side and saw the looks of furtive admiration which he unconsciously elicited from the people we passed in the street.