

often pondered on the best means of leading Helen to reconsider her decision. After the receipt of the letter that partially excused her father's conduct, Helen had a long talk with her mother, which tended to soften somewhat her feelings towards her father, although she still seemed unwilling to give any satisfactory promise to Dick. How true it is that we do not rise or fall alone, but that our lives are so closely interwoven with those of others that we cannot commit a wrong without causing sorrow and suffering to many innocent lives!

Great was the astonishment that prevailed in Ortgeard when the citizens learned of the second divorce and expected arrival of Mr. Pierce. Had it not been for the tact of Mr. Hastings, whom all respected, and for the love and sympathy that all felt for Mrs. Pierce, the reception given to the offender on his arrival at Ortgeard Wharf would have been a very stormy one.

Philip Hastings kindly offered to meet Pierce at the wharf, so that the latter might not feel that he was altogether an outcast in Ortgeard.

"Welcome back to Ortgeard," were the kind words that greeted the wreck of the once handsome Guy Pierce as he landed on Ortgeard Wharf. Although five years younger than Philip, Guy looked now at least ten years older, so much had sickness and remorse aged him. They had also humbled him, or he would not have returned to meet the scornful looks of those who he feared would either quietly ignore him or publicly insult him. He was greatly relieved when he saw his acquaintance of former years with a