"That may be; but he may not approve of an engagement between us, while my future prospects are so unvisit Gertrude here, when she is at certain. I want to have a frank talk with him and know just where I stand," Ned replied; and Gertrude respected him all the more for assuming such an honorable attitude. CHAPTER XXI.

Accordingly Ned went into the house with Gertrude, and was warmly greeted by both Mr. and Mrs. Lang.

They expressed much surprise, how

They expressed much surprise, however, over Gertrude's appearance at that late hour, for they had given up seeing her that night, supposing that her aunt had persuaded her to remain another 2ny at Clifton.

The fair girl explained the circumstances of her detention, while she shrewdly made much of her lover's heroism in relating how he had come to her rescue, when she was accosted by the bold wretch, on the Common.

"You should have taken a carriage never take the horse or electric cars when you happen to be out alone after dark," her father ex-claimed, with considerable excite-

Gertrude flushed and shot a sly smile at Ned, who comprehended its

'I suppose it would have saved me "I suppose it would have saved me
the fright of meeting that wretch,"
she demurely remarked, while in her
heart she was saying, "I I had taken
a carriage I should not have met Ned
—I should not have been the happy
girl to-night that I am." to-night that I am."
ey chatted pleasantly in a gen-way for a half hour or more,

then d arose to go.

He de Mrs. Langmaid and Gertrud cod-night and Mr. Langmaid then of mm to the door.

When by reached the hall Ned turned to his companion and inquired:

"Can I have a few moments" private conversation with you, sir?" "Certainly," the gentleman o-sponded, but looking a trifle surprised

request. "Come this way, led him to a small reception this way,' room of the hall.

I have a confession to make to

i, Mr. Langmaid," Ned began in a nk, maniy way, though he colored the something of embarrassment; something of embarrassman, something of embarrassman, hen he told his story with a hetforwardness that did him

he said, in concludid not intend to are it to her until I had won position in the world which would arrant me in asking her to be wife; but the circumstances of evening-her fear, her depend

this evening—her fear, her dependence upon and confidence in me, somehow broke down all barriers and I had confessed my affections for her almost before I was aware of it."

Mr. Langmaid listened in unbroken silence throughout Ned's recital and looked so grave and thoughtful over it that the young lover's heart alit that the young lover's heart almost failed him.

I am free to confess," he remark-"I am free to confess," he remarked, when Ned had concluded, "that I should have preferred this should not have occurred until Gertrude had seen a little more of the world. She is not yet through with her education and has yet to come out, when she will be liable to receive attentions from other young men. If she should then discover that she had made a mistake this episode would should then discover that she had made a mistake, this episode would doubtless mar both her life and yours with painful memories. Still, Ned." the gentleman added, with a genial smile, "you are a lad after ny own heart, as far as moral worth goes, and I should be proud of you in that respect as a son. I honor you exceedingly for your conscientious confession to-night, even though I consider that you have been some ant premature in declaring yourrealt premature in declaring your-self to Gertrude. If she loves you, however, I shall not spoil her life by telling her that she cannot be your wife. But you are both very young—too young to think of marriage for some time to come. out, and I claim that no han should marry until he can provide a home, even though it be an humble one, for the woman whom he

oves. There is a possibility also," he continued, with a roguish twink's it is eyes, "that you may both change your minds when you come to see more of the world. I do not say you will, but such things have happened before now, and I shall stipulate that you wait two years before I sanction any engagement between you. At the end of that time, if you remain con-stant to each other—if you are still stant to each other—if you are still the worthy fellow that you are now and show yourself capable of providing comfortably for my daughter, you shall have her. Meantime, Gertrude will be away, most of the time engaged in study; she is going to Hallfank to a select boarding-school for young ladies that is under the management of an intimate friend of Mrs. Langemeld's."

Langmaid's."
Two years and no troth-no ragage inents!

The stipulation seemed rather hare to Ned, but his better judgment told nim that Mr. Langmaid was right about it, and that it would ill-become uim to murmur against his decision. He had met his confession with s

He had met his confession within smuch kindness and consideration, he knew he ought to feel grateful to him and he did, at the same time it seemed a little severe to be told that he could have no claim upon Gertrude for two long years, and his face plainly betrayed his disappointment and dejection.

tion.

"Bo you think me somewhat tyran-nical!—that I have imposed hard conditions?" Mr. Langmald sald-smiting at his long face.

"I am sure I ought not to question

our risdom regarding the matter, and you have been very kind. But but if you will permit no engagement—if I am to have no claim upon Gertrude, what are our relations to be toward each other?" then added: "Are we never to meet?

Am I not to be allowed to visit her during her vacation at home? Is there to be no correspondence, and are we forbidded to give free expression of the state of the

visit Gertrude here, when she is at home, and we as a family, will give you a cordial welcome; but," with a twinkle in his eyes, "I should not be in favor of private and protracted sessions. I should not object to a friendly correspondence, but there must be no 'love-making' at present. In a word, Ned, I cannot accord you the privilege of an engaged couple for two years to come; your own good sense will tell you what I meant by that, and I shall trust to your honor not to overstep the bound

I meant by that, and I shall trust to your honor not to overstep the bound I have prescribed. If, at the end of this time, you are both of the same mind as now, and your prospects warrant it, I will give you carte blanche, so to speak, for the future."
"Thank you, sir," Ned said, as he arose to go; "I will try not to dolate any of the conditions which you have imposed upon me, while, as for my future prospects, I promise you that I shall put forth my strongest efforts toward attaining a position worthy of your daughter's acceptance."
"Don't be in too much of a hurry," cautioned his companion, with a smile.

cautioned his companion, with a smile. "What is it that the wise man says about 'him that maketh haste to be

about him that maketh haste to be rich!"

Ned flushed slightly, although he knew that Mr. Langmaid intended no reflection upon him, by referring to that proverb. It had only been spoken in jest, nevertheless it stung him a

little.

"You need not fear," he sald, straightening himself, "I shall never commit a dishonorable act for the sake of getting rich. I should prefer to re-

of getting rich. I should prefer to remain poor all my days—I could never
enjoy using money which had been
fraudulently obtained."
"Stick to those principles, Ned, and
you will always have a friend in William Langmaid as long as we both
live," the gentleman heartily responded, as he shook hands with him, then
attending him to the stoor, he attending him to the door, he bade him good-night, and Ned went back to the lonely house in

bade him good-night and Ned went back to the lonely house in Mount Vernon street in a more blissful frame of mind than he had everknown before.

Time passed, and when New Year's came there was a pleasant surprise for Ned. As he had conducted himself faithfully and efficiently—he was promoted to a more honorable position in the bank, with an increase of salary.

her to any such place of amusement, for she did not enjoy being in a crowd; but to-day, she yielded to his entreaties, and Ned was delighted, as the drama proceeded, to see how highly entertained she appeared to be with that very interceting play.

when the play was over, and they were leaving the theatre, they were obliged to stop and wait a little, in the foyer, for the crowd was so great.

As they were standing there, so close together, Ned suddenly felt a terrible shock go over his mother, while a stifled cry of intense pain that had a note of horror in it,

broke from her.

He turned to see what caused it, and was startled to find her deathly

he anxiously asked.
"Oh! Ned! Ned!" she wailed, with
one hand pressed hard over her
heart, then sank a dead weight into

At that same instant—Ned remembered it afterward, though he did not pay much attention to the circumstance at the time—someone near them attend a startled oath.

ped forward and offfered to assist Ned in removing his mother from that stifling place into the open air. He thankfully accepted their aid, the erowd parted to let them pass, and Mrs. Heatherton was quickly borne out of the building to the sidewalk,

where Ned found a carriage, greatly o his relief.
Into it he put his mother, who was now beginning to recover, and gave the order to be driven as quickly as possible to Mount Vernon street.

possible to mount verion street.

Mrs. Hentherton rallied almost immediately, for the air was cold and frosty and Ned had lowered a window.

"Where am I? What has happened?" she faintly asked, and looking around with a dazed expression.
"You fainted, mother, and I had

Ned explained.

Mrs. Heatherton sat erect with a startled air and put her hand to her

nead.

"Ah, yes-I know. Did you see-?

Ah--!" she cried, incoherently, then sank again among the cushions looking as if she was going to faint again.

Ned felt greatly alarmed for her

Ing as it she was going to faint again.

Ned felt greatly alarmed for her ghastliness was something fearful.

"What is the matter?" he anxiously inquired. "Did I see what? Why did you faint, mother?"

"It—it was very close, wasn't.it?" she remarked, weakly.

"Yes; but you are not in the habit of fainting. What was it you wanted to know if I saw?" Ned asked.

"I—ah!—anything of—my fan," responded Mrs. Heatherton turning restlessly away from his questioning glance, and beginning to search for the missing article herself.

"Why, yes—here it is; I captured it and your handkerchief just as you were falling," he said, handing the articles to her, then added: "But surely with this air blowing on you, you with this air blowing on you, you not need a fan!"
No, but I did not like to lose it-

it is one I have had a long time," she responded, with a weary sigh, as she again fell weakly back among the

"Do you feel ill again?" Ned in-juired, very uneasy about her, for he thought she acted exceedingly strange.
"Oh, no, I am getting better every moment," she said; then as if de-sirous of turning his attention from herself, she becam to talk of something. nerself, she began to talk of something

there to be no correspondence, and are we forbidded to give free eypression to our affection for each other?"

"Those are pertinent questions surely," Mr. Langmaid returned, with a little smile and amusement, "and I can appreciate your anxiety regarding such matters, for I

This troubled Ned greatly. But the next morning his mother appeared quite herself again, except a slightly heavy look about the eyes, and Ned's

fears subsided.

The remainder of the winter passed without the occurrence of anything worthy of note. Spring opened, once more the trees on the common commenced to leave, and Ned, with a thrill of joy in his heart, told himself that Gertrude would soon be home

She came the last of June, looking oveller, to his fond eyes, than ever. Her year at school had done her

Her year at school had done good in many ways.

She was the picture of health; th was an added air of refinement culture about her, which told of and the faithful training of teachers; while there was a sug of maturity and womanize which made her ten-fold more ling than she had ever here. ing than she had ever be first meeting was very que the presence of Mr. and Mr. and but one glence into ing blue eyes told the youthat her heart was still first love—there was

that her heart was first love—there was the possible change ther had suggested. He saw her freq after that, for so war, had not yet gave little recept it of town, gave little receptoreturn, and Ned these festivities.
Gertrude create breeze of excitement among the young ite a little men, whon she met upon and from whom she r tention; indeed s the bright particular galaxy of fair ma strange to say, she a favorite

Ned was not of a j and did not begrudg tion and admiration he did wish that the disposition the attention and admiration
he did wish that th
upon him had not b
Mr. Langmaid's w
ling however; for
to appear to th
friend of the
violate that is em
him granul
lieves beloved in ite so rigid. d was law into o years he was orld only as a rould not orld only as a and he would not eman's confidence in antage of the priveman's confidence in g accantage of the priv-loyed in being invited to estivities where he met Gertrude, One evening he was bidden to a re-

one evening he was fidden to a re-ception given by some neighbors of the Langmaits—the Hortons—and as a sort of farewell party to them be-fore their departure for the moun-tains, and he went little dreaming of the surprise in store for him. the surprise in store for him.

When Ned entered the drawing-room
he went, as was his duty, directly to his hostes; to whom he made his bow and was presented to the Misses

bow and was presented to the Misses Horton, with whom he chatted for a few minutes, after which he felt rea to look about for Gertrude, who, he felt sure, must have already arrived, as he was a little late.

He could not find her in the drawing-room, and began to fear that something had prevented her from coming as he saw her father and mother were present.

resent.

He wandered about for a while, the wandered about for a while, greeting people here and there, then thought he would go into the conservatory, for Ned was very fond of flowers, and he knew that the Hortons always had a fine collection.

But, as he drew near the door leading into it from the hall, he suddenly came upon a cight which

suddenly came upon a sight which drove every drop of blood from his face and made his heart stand still with mingled indignation and dismay. Gestrude was standing framed in the arch of the doorway, with all the wealth of flowers and foliage as a background to the picture, and looking unusually lovely—a veritable symphony—in blue and silver.

Her dress was the prettiest thing Ned had ever seen her wear

Ned had ever seen her wear.

The material was a delicate shade of blue—very thin and gauze-like—staped off with tiny threads of silver. The lining to the corsage had been cut low, but the gauze was carried up high on the neck at the back and sloned away in a V in front being tinloped away in a V in front, being finshed with a full ruffle of chiffon en broidered with silver. The sleeves came to the elbow, and were also edged with the same ruffling, while long, pearlgrey gloves came up to meet them. The skirt was very artistically draped and caught here and there with silver amid her bright hair and were clasped

around her white neck.

She was wondrously fair to look upon, Ned thought. Her cheeks were slightly flushed, smiles parted her delicate red lips, just revealing her small teeth, that were like two rows of milk-white corn, and her blue eyes were sparkling with animation. She was chatting with a tall young

man of firs figure, and who was dressed in the height of style.

A dlamond of purest water gleamed upon his shirt-front; his cuff-buttons were set with the same precious stones. and another gleamed upon the little finger of his left hand, from which he had removed his glove, with the evident intention of displaying the stone. Ned's face plainly expressed the

amazement he experienced upon be-holding this young exquisite. "What does it mean!" he exclaimed under his breath, as he drew back a little to take another look at the man. "Who could ever have believed there could have been such a change in anyone! and yet if one studied his face closely and analyzed his features, the coarseness of his nature was unnistakably apparent. But hiw came he here? Where did he ever get the money to deck himself out in that style; for those are real diamonds and his suit is of the finest broadcloth! I am confounded!"

Then his face grew dark and stern, hard lines settled about his mouth, as 'Who could ever have believed there

hard lines settled about his mouth, as he saw Gertrude look up into her ne saw Gertrude look up into her companion's face, make some spirited retort to a remark that he had just made, and then laugh out musically. "She does not know—she cannot dream who he is, or she would not stand there talking with him an instant," Ned muttered, almost frere-y while his hands shut together conly, while his hands shut together con ulsively, his nails making great dents

Then, as if no longer able to endure the tableau which had wrought him up to such a state of excitement, he approached the couple he had been watching.

Gertrude glanced up as he drew near and instantly her face changed; the brilliant smile softened, her eyes deepened into tenderness; and a slight tremulousness about her lips betrayed how all her pulses had quickened at the sight of him.

Ned was quick to mark these signs

and his own face involuntarily bright-"Oh, Ned, you have come at last!" she exclaimed, as, with outstretched hand, she started forward to greet

him. , Her companion glanced up at her words and movement, whereupon he

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of sudden sickness it is

of sudden sickness it is seldom stary to send for the doctor it Nerville is to be had. For more than 30 years it as been prized by thousands of gratiful mothers as an invaluable remedy, specially dapred for family use, and one need nevereel anxious as long as there is a bottle of t in the house.

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gave a great start of surprise, while an expression of dismay, equal to Ned's upon seeing him, overspread his face, and a low, scarcely audible whistle of astonishment escaped his

"Wallingford, by thunder!" he mut-"Wallingford, by thunder!" he mut-tered, with a frown of hate, "and she acts as though they were mighty good friends, if not something nearer" "How long have you been here. Ned?" Gertrude inquired, as, she late-her hand confidingly in his. "I have been watching for you ever since we arrived.

"I have but just come, and came to "I have out just come, and came a look for you immediately after paying my addresses to the Hortons," Ned re-plied, while unconsciously he clung to o4 n sw unq wan3 paq aqs purq aqa hold her back from some fancied dan-

ger.
She fushed, for he had always guarded against any demonstration of affection, especially when they met in public.
"We came over early, at Mrs. Hor-We came over early, at Mrs. Hor-

ton's request," she remarked, "and I have just been introduced to a westhave just been introduced to a west-ern gentleman who is on a visit to Boston. Come and let me present you to him—he is exceedingly jolly and original," she concluded in a low tone. If Ned had not been so excessively annoyed he would have laughed alou' at what she told him regarding her now accumintance.

new acquaintance.
"A western gentleman on a visit to
Boston!" and he was "very jolly and
original." origin

Original."
Truly the mutations of fortune were something wonderful, while but for the hum of volces all about them, the sound of delicious music in the adjoin-

sound of delicious music in the adjoining room, and the touch of Gertrude's clinging hand, he would have believed that he had dreamed what he had seen and heard.
"I do not think? care to be introduced to him," he said, bending his lips to her ear. "Come with me, Gertrude—I have something to tell you."
"Yes—but just walt one moment," she replied, then turning back to her recent companion, she remarked with her customary courtesy, "I shall be obliged to ask you to excuse me now."

shall be obliged to ask you to excuse me now."

The gentleman made a profound
obelsance.
"Certainly," he briefly returned
then abruptly wheeled about and
disappeared within the conservatory, an evil scowl disfiguring his
low forehead.
Gertrude turned and walked slowly down the hall with Ned, and the
fair girl was quick to notice that
something had gone wrong with something had gone

her lover.
"Is anything the matter, Ned?"
she questioned, lifting a pair of anxious eyes to his grave, perplexed

face.
His brow cleared at the query and he smiled fondly down upon her.

"Nothing that need trouble you,
or that I shall not soon recover
from," he said; then added: "I have had something of a shock this even

"A shock! Of what nature? she asked, regarding him gravely. "I will explain it to you presently; but first tell me who is the gentleman with whom you were conversing just now?"

His name is Hunting."

"Yes. He is said to be a very wealthy "Yes. He is said to be a very wealthy gentleman from California. He must be quite talented, too, for he has invented a valuable pump of some kind—I believe it is for the purpose of exhausting air from certain receptacles which must be air-tight. Papa met him a few weeks ago when he was returning from New York and became quite interested in his invention. He is trying to form a stock company for the purpose of introducing his pumps in a practical way, and—"
"Has Mr. Langmaid purchased any of the stock?" Ned interposed, a strange expression on his fine face.
"I believe so—quite a great deal; or at least he is negotiating for it, for he believes the invention to be a very valuable one." Gertrude ans-

very valuable one," Gertrude answered. Then she exclaimed: "Why, Ned, what makes you stare so strangely? One would think you knew something against the man."
"And I do, Gertrude," Ned gravely

"Oh, what is it?" she exclaimed as-

"Oh, what is it? I be to to shed." I am afraid Mr. Langmaid is being made game of and will lose every dollar which he intrusts in the hands of that ruscal," Ned continued, with some excitement. "For, Gertrude," of that raseal. Ned continuel, who some excitement. "For, Gertrude," name is not 'Hunting.'"
"Not Hunting! What can you mean he impressively concluded, "the man's Ned! How do you know!—who is he, then?"

"He is no other than Bill Bunting the cowardly bully who knock.

ing, the cowardly bully who knocked me down the first time I ever saw you, the thief who stole your dog Budge, and the low wretch who insulted you on the Common as little less than a year ago."

CHAPTER XXIII. "Ned. you cannot mean it! Surely ou are mistaken!" Gertrude ex-

claimed, aghast, while she sudd grew crimson with mingled me cation and indignation.

"Certainly, I mean it," Ned ly asserted. "Let us sit a drawing her aside to a sofathe great staircase, where would not be so conspicuou I will prove the truth of what told you. Did you not observe startled he appeared when he just now and saw me?"

just now and saw me?"
"No. I noticed nothing peculi is manner."
"Well, he was evidently as murprised to find me here, as I was discover him a guest in Mrs. He

his manner."

"Well, he was evidently as m surprised to find me here, as I v to discover him a guest in Mrs. Ho ton's house."

"And Mrs. Horton has taken stock in the pump, too," said Gertrude, interrupting him.

"Well, the pump may be all that it is represented to be." Ned said, thoughtfully, "and those who have invested in it may get their money back; but I shall surely warn them to beware of intrusting much with such a character. Bill Bunting has been a low, unprincipled fellow ever since I first knew him, more than ten years ago."

"And I have been chatting with that treacherous wretch this evening, as with a friend and equal!" breathed Gertrude, with blazing cheeks, and looking greatly distressed.

"Well, I presume he did not recognize you any more than you did him, "Well, I presume he did not recognize you any more than you did him, "Well, I presume he did not recognize you any more than you did him, "Well, I presume he did not recognize you any more than you did him, inflexible numbers to win her and

"And I have been chatting with that treacherous wretch this evening, as with a friend and equal!" breathed Gertrude, with blazing cheeks, and looking greatly distressed.
"Well. I presume he did not recognize you any more than you did him, for it was so dark that evening when he insulted you on the common that you could not see each other distinction," Ned soothingly rejoined, then continued, musingly, "But it is a mystery to me how he ever got money enough together to cut such a swell enough together to cut such a swel enough together to cut such a swell as he appears to-night—how he ever wormed himself into polite society! He is dressed as stylishly and expensively as any in the house—his diamonds are bona fide and very fine ones, too, if I am any judge, while to the superficial observer he would seem like a person accustomed to senge in

the superficial observer he would seem like a person accustomed to scenes in high life, when, in truth, he is only an ignorant boor who has been reared amid the slums of Boston."

"That accounts for some of his queer expressions, which were really quite ungrammatical, but which I believed to harmonicalisms or Western disbe provincialisms or Western dialect, said Gertride with an experience of intense disgust. "Oh, Ned, is it not strange that people are not more particular about the character and thus

strange that people are not more particular about the character and antecedents of strangers, and thus guard their homes and their families from such audacious adventurers?"

"It is strange, but it is a sad and disgraceful fact that money will take a person without either brains or respectability into society which would utterly scorn to receive a genius, if he were poor. I am not speaking from personal experience, however," Ned added, with a slight smile, "for I have no money and I am far removed from being a genius —I am conscious that I owe my entree to these circles to the favor of my good friends, the Langmalds."

"Hush, Ned; you shall not depreciate yourself," Gertrude said, reproving the first particular and the company of the control of t

ree to these circles to the favor of my good friends, the Langmalds."
"Hush, Ned; you shall not depreciate yourself," Gertrude said, reprovingly, "and, say what you please, there are some people in the world who value others for their real worth, regardless of their lack of fortune."

"Yes, but they are few and far between. As a rule, people are rated"
"So! we mee

"Yes, but they are few and far between. As a rule, people are rated according to the magnitude of their bank account. or the show they can make in the world. But it puzzles me to imagine how Bill Bunting managed to get such a start—for he was reared amid the most abject poverty," Ned concluded, reflectively.

Gertrude shivered waen she thought that she had graciously given the

that she had graciously given the wretched fellow her hand upon being introduced, listened to his compliments, and even indulged in playful repartee with him.

Mr. William Hunting, alias Bill Bunt-

As we know, he had alloward mised, by the sudden flush on Gertrude's cheek and her greeting of Ned, that they were lovers, and now, as he stood covertly watching them, an

evil light leaped into his eyes, and a evil light leaped into his eyes, and a crue! smile wreathed his sensual lips.
"How did he ever get into such a swell crowd as this?" he muttered with a scowl. "He is the last person on earth I should have expected to meet here. Perhaps some 'half-brother' has left him some 'half-brother' has left him a petroleum well also! ha! ha! ha! I wonder what he has been up to all these years—him! I haven't forgotten that there are severalold scores to be settled between us."

He could see them plainly in their retreat under the stairs, and continued to watch them, a malicious look on his dark face, until they arose to join the dancers.

"Aha!" he muttered, as he saw Ned slide his arm about the slender

that a bewildering smile and glance up at him. "I'll head that business off yet. I'll be even with you, sir, for all of your infernal meddling in the past. I shall owe you another, too, for this night, for, of course, you're going to tell all you know about me, and there'll be the devil to pay," he concluded, with a frawning brow.

oncluded, with a frowning brow. But, as Ned had assured the fair girl, he did not suspect that Ger-trude was the lady whom he had in-sulted on the Common the previous

spective; accordingly he had conceived an inflexible purpose to win her and her wealth, if such a thing could, by any means, be accomplished.

any means, be accomplished.

Later in the evening he presented himself before her, when she happened to be alone for a moment, and there was a strange glitter in his jusky eyes as he remarked, in an insinuating tone:

"I have come to claim the honor.

"I have come to claim the honor.

Miss Langmaid's hand for the Gertrude flushed, but there was a resolute sparkle in her own as she lifted them for an instan his face with a defiant

"You will excuse disposed to dance,"

disposed to dance, and coldly.

"Pardon: but Miss gets—she allowed n name upon my care quadrille," he persided, y ca against this relief, with ontward dull, angry red politeness, the nounted to his

must ask you to ex-rude repeated. you are indisposed," away from her, but ritting savagely to stream of profanity naturally to his lips us, and with a

nfortable after this leaving the house

the intention immediately.

He had just n ched the upper hall when he sudden came face to face with Ned, who been to the ladies' dressing-room or get a light wrap for Gertrud

way with you or your plan

as you do not trespass upon which I feel it my duty to pr which I feel to my duty to private the life of the whole of the life of the whole of the life of the whole of the life of the work of the work of the work of the life of the work of the ory of the past is as good as mi

Mr. William Hunting, alias Bill Bunting—for the western dude was no other—had been no less startled upon beholding Ned a guest in Mr. Horton's house, than our young hero himself over his appearance there.

"Wallingford! by thunder!" had been the astonished exclamation, as he slunk out of sight into the conservatory, and never having learned of the change in Ned's name.

Then, stationing himself behind a palm tree, he watched the lovers as they walked away.

As we know, he had shrewlly surmised, by the sudden flush on Germinised, by the sudden flush on Germanised, by the sudden flush on Germanised.

"Curse you! I am no longer the poor beggar I used to be, let me tell you," Bill flercely said. "I have it in my power, perhaps, to make you

it in my power, perhaps, to make you repent your insolence. Look out for yourself, Ned Wallingford! I swear you shall not be many years older better you find yourself beneath my heel."

But his threats were like so many idle words to Ned. He did not experience the slightest fear of him—the fellow seemed so far beneath him, both morally and mentally, that his only desire was to get away from him to ignore him utterly.

With this feeling he passed him, with something of hauteur in his manner, and was half way down stairs before Bill realized that he had been quietly snubbed.

before Bill realized that he had been quietly snubbed.

This cavalier treatment galled him

You Can Read it in the Faces

Of the People You Meet-The Irritability, the Gloom, the Despair Caused by Brain Trouble, Starved Nerves and impoverished Blood-There is Hope in . Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

This is the age of brain trouble, of heart failure, of paralysis, and of body weaknesses. You can read it in the faces of the people you meet. The business man, the factory hand, the professional man and laberer alike find their nervous systems giving away before the terrible strain of keen competition.

Nerve force is being consumed at a tremendous rate, and the blood which must make good this loss becomes thin, weak and watery. The whole secret of preserving health and curing disease in all such cases is to supply an abundance of rich, red blood. Stimulants may drive the heart at a more rapid pace for a time, but the breakdown will come with greater force. The blood demands nourishment, the nerves cry for sustenance by bodily pairs, aches and irregularities. They demand just such help as is best supplied by the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, the great builder and nerve restorative.

It is yain and suicidal to delay with the hope that nature will make cure. Nervous diseases