

Rose disliked the match greatly, and fearing Lewis would do so still more strongly, ventured upon a mild remonstrance; but when once she had taken a thing into her head, Mrs. Arundel was very determined, and Rose gained nothing but an intimation half-earnest, half-playful, that as she (Mrs. Arundel) had not interfered with her daughter when she chose to engage herself to Ursula Major, she expected the same forbearance (and she emphasized the vile pun most unmistakably) to be exercised towards her and her odd fish, by which she irreverently paraphrased the ichthyological appellation of her "future."

Lewis, as Rose had feared, was both hurt and annoyed at this fresh and convincing proof of his mother's volatile and worldly nature, but there was nothing in the connexion to justify his taking measures to break off the match; Mrs. Arundel was perfectly free to do as she pleased, and competent to decide her own course in life; so after one conversation with her on the subject, the nature of which may be gathered from the result, he left the affair to take its own course. His first step on reaching London was to seek an interview with his legal adviser; their conference, proving satisfactory, eventuated (to use an affected but expressive word) in sending for a cab, wherein Lewis ensconced himself, in company with a small lawyer and a large blue bag, and the trio drove to Park Crescent.

The feelings with which Lewis once again stood within the library of General Grant's mansion,—that library where he had first been engaged to act as poor Walter's tutor,—the chamber into which he and Annie had been shown on the night when he had rescued her from insult in the crush room of the opera,—the night of the unhappy Mellerton's suicide,—may well be imagined. Then he had been poor, friendless, in the situation of a dependent, and made to feel that situation, alike by the open insults of Lord Bellesfield and the frigid courtesy of the General and Miss Livingstone, his youth, inexperience, sensitive disposition, and proud impassioned nature rendering all these trials doubly galling to him; while, still more to embitter his lot, came that "sorrow's crown of sorrow," his hopeless attachment to Annie. Now heir to an ancient and honourable name and an ample fortune, his affection returned by her he loved, his rival swept from his path without his having to reproach himself with participation in the act which wrought his downfall, his mind strengthened, his principles raised, and his faults diminished, if not eradicated, by the struggle he had undergone, and above all, his soul fortified by the recollection that, through God's grace, he had been enabled, at the turning point of his career, to sacrifice everything rather than sin against his Maker's law, how different was his position! He received a moderately cordial welcome from General Grant, which tepid reception was occasioned by a conflict in the mind of that noble commander between his strong regard for Lewis, a sense of the obligations he lay under to him, and an uncomfortable recollection of his attachment to Annie, together with the moral