

MY HUSBAND'S LETTER

be so good as to use all your influence with my wife to make her realise the absolute necessity of behaving in all things with the propriety and *décorum* which alone can render these arrangements for her future of any use ?

“ If necessary, I am ready to go to Algiers and fetch her. I would prefer, however, for reasons which you will understand, that our meeting should not take place so soon after the shock of your letter, which only reached me this morning. As I do not think it advisable that she should travel alone with her maid, would you be so kind as to engage a reliable companion to accompany her back ? If no suitable person can be found, will you wire me to Mount Hazel where I am going to-night to see to some alterations and preparations for my wife's return ? I cannot thank you enough for your tact, your kindness, your care, and your hospitality to my wife. I am very much ashamed that any member of my family should have placed you in such a difficult and delicate situation. I must ask you yet another favour—to communicate the tenor of this letter to my wife. I would rather not write directly to her yet. Believe me, yours most gratefully.”

There ! It might be a business letter ! If I had just been told my husband had run off with some horrid woman, why, I'd be half demented, and fierce enough to scratch somebody or other's eyes out. It sounds wrong, somehow—not the intention but the wording. Never mind. What does my husband do ? He writes a letter as cool and sane as if he did not care. What is the good of