

glad than sorrowful. He received my reply with a grin, and then proceeded to inform me that my father still entertained hopes of my amendment under *judicious management*, and had, in consequence, begged that Dr. Simpson would take me with him, and give me another chance, and that he had agreed to do so.—“You will therefore be pleased to get your things ready, as we start by the stage to-morrow.”

I actually felt my blood curdle with despair, as I left the study. I would have given worlds to cry but could not ; I rushed from the house perfectly unconscious of what I was doing or of where I was going, but instinct I suppose led me to my father's door. I entered and found him alone in the parlor—I knelt down before him, and prayed and entreated that he would spare me—I attempted to explain the Doctor's hatred to me and the cause of it, but he was inexorable and would not even listen to me ; he told me I might bid my mother and sisters good bye as I was in the house, but ordered me back to H—— immediately I had done so. I found them up stairs in the drawing room, but not one kind word or look did I get. I went through the ceremony of bidding them good bye mechanically ; I could see nothing that was passing, and I thought I would expire ere I could reach the open air. I soon recovered a little, and had hardly got among the trees, when my sister Mary overtook me and threw herself into my arms ; the noble hearted girl was shocked at the reception I had met with, and could not let me go, without coming to assure me that one heart in my father's house felt for me. We entered into a long explanation, with the details of which I will not trouble you suffice it to say, that the whole system pursued towards me, was in accordance with the advice of Dr. Simpson, who declared, that my proud spirit must be broken ; he described me as vicious and wicked, far beyond my years, and this poor girl was the only one who had the generosity to doubt the truth of his statement ; at length Mary was obliged to leave me, and we parted with mutual vows of the most sincere and ardent friendship.

I returned to H—— and went to bed, but not to sleep ; my heart was in a state of agitation bordering on frenzy—I reviewed my past life, and asked myself if I were indeed the monster they painted, and my conscience loudly told me—no ! I verily think I should have been driven to some deed of desperation that night, had not the remembrance of Mary's sympathy and love, softened my heart, calmed my perturbed feelings, and restrained my evil passion ; from that night however, I have been a man, and I never afterwards entered into any boyish games or amusements.

The Doctor and I started next day for ——, where I remained twelve months, worse used than ever : during all that time, I never saw a single relation or heard a word from home, unless