

sir, to meet such a lady as Mrs. Lathom ;" and then, all his fighting blood up, he looked Lathom squarely in the face.

"Now, sir, let us talk. Put aside the fact of my sacred office. Put aside the fact—which I shall now avow—that the Home Government, on my recommendation *alone*, appointed Mr. Feilding to the position he now occupies, and tell me, sir, why you object to this worthy gentleman ? Hum, ha !"

Lathom motioned to his soldier servant, who (with Helen) had been waiting, and had discreetly retired out of hearing, to bring the spirit-stand.

"Thank you, Walsh. That will do ; you need not wait. Helen, please see to Mrs. Lathom. No doubt she will like some tea ;" and eager and half-angry as he was to come to battle with the clergyman, he spoke, as was his invariable custom, with a simple courtesy that again made Mr. Marsbin turn down his lips and then raise his heavy fat-lidded eyes as if appealing to Heaven to note that he, at least, did not approve of an officer in the King's service speaking in such an unduly condescending manner to a female convict. But Lathom was ready for him.

"Now, Mr. Marsbin, we three can talk freely. You have asked me why I object to Mr. Feilding as a magistrate. In the first place, his legal attainments are of the most rudimentary character, and that disqualification, added to an infirmity of temper, have made his decisions notorious throughout the colony ; in the second, he is not a gentleman, either by birth, education, or instinct, and never having tried to act as one, cannot therefore inspire respect either in his brother magistrates or in the minds of the public generally ;