

EXCLUSIA

room where Maybush, Fiddlestick, and Windbag were still cowering in fear.

TABLEAU X. Hardly had I re-entered, when a messenger was announced from the custom house. He also looked frightened; his hands shook, and his knees knocked together as he said to the little fat Fiddlestick—'There is a man in an open boat just off the Outer Wharf; he is dressed like a fisherman; there is a wonderful light shining from his eyes and he says—He is The Master, Christ.' And immediately the Trinity of Disunity jumped up with a great shout of joy; and clasped each other by the hand, and fell on one another's necks, crying out—'We are saved!' But in the midst of their joy the messenger called out—'The Master says He cannot land in this country'—And the great Windbag, who had recovered his speech, immediately asked—'Why not?'—The messenger replied—'Because He is an Asiatic'—Fiddlestick exclaimed—'Oh! we will soon get over that. I will draft a special exemption act in a few minutes, and the people will pass it with acclamation.' But the messenger shook his head and said—'That cannot be, for The Master said He does not break the laws of any country, He never claims exemption.' And I was sorry for Maybush, Fiddlestick, and Windbag; for it seemed as if all hope had gone out of their lives. And the messenger went down amongst the people, telling them what he had heard and what he had seen; and again the people shrieked out vengeance and curses against their leaders. In the midst of their shrieking and cursing the Spirit of the Day vanished from my side, and I saw that he stood midway between earth and Heaven.

TABLEAU XI. Amongst the people were scattered a few of the clergy who had remained in the Republic of Exclusion. They carried the Bible in their hands, for the Bible was the written law of their authority; and even as I looked the Spirit of the