

And her eyes in the twilight look
 From the glimmering rows,
 With the old sad meaning they took
 Under the lilac boughs.

But the leaves are astir again
 With the passing of feet,
 And my heart grows sick with the pain
 Of mem'ries sharp and fleet.

A LORD OF THE CREATION.

PART IV. (CONCLUSION.)

CHAPTER XII.

Vaughan Hesketh made a second pilgrimage to Beacon's Cottage the next morning. A restless night had caused his ideas, only confusedly rebellious before, to arrange themselves in the most compact ranks of mutiny. Made courageous by a belief in his own immunity, he had now given the reins to those frantic steeds—his thoughts—his wishes; and they dragged him where they would. He was desperately resolved, with the indomitable resolution of a selfish man to win that which he covets, let what will stand between. His own interests, he said to himself, did not stand between. He was secure. The will was signed, and safely in the keeping of the family lawyer. Redwood, he argued, was virtually his—he had no more now either to gain or to lose from Mr. Hesketh. If the young man did not consciously calculate, among the other advantages of his position, the fact that his uncle could not, as the doctors said, linger many days, most assuredly it did unconsciously, and as a matter of instinct, weigh with him very forcibly.

So, nothing "stood between." Nothing but the pale face—paler than ever that morning—with the eyes looking unnaturally large, and the sometime rosy lips drawn closely together, in a strange sort of painful calm. The only thing that seemed to have power to effect that curious calm, was when Caroline looked at Vaughan's clouded brow and deeply meditative aspect, or heard his voice, hasty and querulous, beyond all the transient impatience she had ever noted in it before. *Then* her look would soften, and her eyes would fill with sudden tears; *then* the cry of her heart would almost rise to her lips—"O, Vaughan, Vaughan! If I could only comfort him—if I could only help him a little!" But she