

Committed to his Charge

fixing, that he won't rest until he has added a Nox Vomica——"

"Good Gracious, Mrs. Lindsay," said Mrs. Forby, putting the key in the door, "is the man a homœopathist too?"

Mrs. Stuart laughed outright; no one had ever heard her do so before.

"Well, I'm no musician," Mrs Lindsay admitted goodnaturedly; "Miss Sweeting here is, you can ask her—Peter told me about the stop."

But Miss Sweeting had distributed her notes and, content with having achieved a purpose unknown to and in defiance of the whole Guild, had quietly gone home.

Mrs. Forby turned a wrathful countenance toward the crowd of women ; since Dulcie had escaped she would make a vicarious sacrifice of someone, no matter which one.

"That ridiculous old Peter—Nux vomica—I suppose he means *vox humana*."

"Perhaps it is—I daresay," said Mrs. Lindsay, with an accent of don't-care. A wicked desire to expose her friend seized Mrs. Forby.

"And what does nux vomica mean? Isn't there a Latin Ollendorf?"