

and consideration. 'Twas agony, if that is not too faint a word. Lost too much in the contemplation of his disgraceful position even to feel satisfaction at recovering his freedom, he wandered the whole day through the streets in his despair, wishing even to find some chance of rushing into outrage or crime, and becoming more thoroughly the wretch he fancied himself to be. At length, late in the evening, faint and exhausted, he returned to his lodgings. He had scarcely reached home when Ned West, one of his late fellow clerks, made his appearance.

Ned, like Frederick, was an only son—the spoilt child of a snug cit who had scraped up ten thousand pounds behind a counter; but who, content with the idea that he had smoothed his darling's path through life, omitted to teach him the value of the money he had toiled for years to accumulate. Ned was a dashing city blade—a thorough good hearted, or in the phrase of this Continent, a whole-souled fellow; which implies that he spent all the money he could get, in a very disinterested manner. He was strongly attached to Rose, and was now come for the purpose of, condoling with him, and with a firm determination to make a "night of it."

"Why, Fred, my dear fellow, where the deuce have you been hiding yourself? I have been hunting you these three hours."

"Begone!" replied Rose, "I loathe the sight of any one who knows me."

"Nonsense!" returned Ned; "many a good fellow has made a slip before you; but why, in the name of goodness, didn't you make this affair known to me? I've drove pretty hard on the old man lately, but I would have got enough out of him to have made it all right. What's fifty pounds!"

"West," said Frederick, "you are a kind fellow, and I thank you from my soul. I wish I had done so, but it is too late. Go and let me be miserable alone, as I deserve to be."

"Fudge! You think too much of this business. If Thompson had not been a hard hearted, unfeeling villain, you need not have been exposed in this manner. I d—d him for a scoundrel today and cut the concern; but rouse up and come along—do you think your friends will forsake you for this mishap?"

"I desire not the pity of any of my friends. I tell you again, that I will not, willingly, meet with any of you. Leave me, I beg of you, 'tis all I ask."

"I'll not stir one inch till I know what you intend to do," replied Ned, steadily.

"Heaven knows,—leave London tomorrow, at all events, forever."

West saw that it was useless to urge him fur-

ther. "At least," said he, "you will want money—let me help you."

Rose was destitute.

"If you will accept of whatever I have in payment, not otherwise, as you will never see me again."

"Well, as you please," and Ned in a moment handed over his purse containing several pounds. "If you are determined, I can't help it, but you'll think better of this soon, and I shall hear from you."

"Never!" said Frederick; "but Ned, as long as I live, I will remember your kindness;—may you never be as wretched as I am now."

They shook hands, and West departed, after again entreating his friend to correspond with him. Rose by this time became more composed, and endeavoured to comfort himself with the thought that it was not too late to retrieve the past. "I have disgraced my father's honorable name, and I will bear it no more. I will go where I am not known, and begin life again. My disgrace shall be a warning to me."

On the following morning, after exchanging his clothing for apparel of the plainest sort, he left London by the north road: his heart was lightened of half its burthen at casting off the dust of the great city: a feeling of confidence as to his future conduct, gave him new spirit, and he trudged on his way cheerfully. After a weary journey, he by chance, directed his steps to Hull in Yorkshire. Having spent the greater part of his little fund, and thinking himself at a sufficient distance from the metropolis, he determined to seek employment suitable to the appearance he bore. He assumed the name of Wilson, and engaged himself as porter in a commercial establishment. With exemplary patience he discharged the drudging duties, and bore with the rough treatment incident to this new and uncongenial calling; but the education and manners of a gentleman could not entirely be concealed. He had made known to his employers as much of his history as satisfied them, and after a probation which afforded proof of his worth and ability, he was advanced to the counting house. Frederick had not forgotten his dear-bought lesson. His conduct in every particular was scrupulously correct, and step by step he became managing clerk of the concern, with a liberal salary.

But though Frederick had recovered his self-esteem, and dwelt with honest pride on the good resolutions which had enabled him to win the respect of all who knew him, and had apparently ensured him a respectable station in life, he felt pained and mortified at the deception he was committing in passing by a feigned name. He considered, too, that he had wiped away the stain