CHAPTER XVII.

A CHAT IN THE DESERT.

there were far enough off, then he said, either carelessly or with an affectation of carelessness:

"I dare say. Oh yes, I have no doubt of it. But there would have matter much. If I had brought home the daughter of an archangel he would have growled and grumbled. He gave you a pretty warm time of it Polly, before he let you marry Graham."

"I dare say to marry Graham."

"And then he said, with more vehemenee:

"Hang it all, my father doesn't understand the opudition of things nowadays I have growled in the sate of the strength of the Ferguson scholer of mintermarrying and intermarrying just to please Burke. We can show a pretty good list, you know, and I wouldn't sidd any name to it that would disgress it; but that craze of my father's is all nonsense. Why, the only place nowadays where a lord is word alipped and glorified is the United States: that's where I should have good to the stone of a poerage. Of course my father is accorded to a peerage. Of course my father is the greatest man in the kingdom; but what would he be in London! Why, there you find geverning England a commoner, whose family made thim—and gladenough to take office too—noblemen whose names are as old as the history of England."

"His sister interrupted him.

"My date Master," said she, "please romember thas because a girl is pretty, left filed and a stone of the product of the strength of the Ferguson scholer."

"He is siter interrupted him.

"My date Master," said she, "please romember thas because a girl is pretty, left filed and a stone of the strength of the first of the control of the strength of the first of the control of the control of the control of the said and the control of t

of England—

'His sister interrupted him.

'My dear Master," said she, "please remember that because a girl is pretty, her father's politicis are not necessarily right. If you have imbibed those frightful sentiments from Mr. Winterright. If you have imbibed those frightful sentiments from Mr. Winterbourne, for goodness sake say nothing about them at the Towers. The matter will be difficult enough without that. You see, with anybody else, it might be practicable to shelve politics, but Mr. Winterbourne's views and opinions are too widely known; and you will have too widely known; and you will nave quite enough difficulty in getting papa to receive Mr. Winterburne with decent civility, without your talking any wild Radicalism in that way."

"Radicalism I said he. "It is not Radicalism. I tis common-sense, which is just the reverse of Radicalism. However, and the protection of the common-sense, which is just the reverse of Radicalism. However, and the protection of the course of the dust?"

Yolande dud as she was bid.
"I have been so much interested," said she, brightly. "What a chance it with one of my advanced age. But I have resolved on is this, and the protection of the course you couldn't be guilty of such familiarity with one of my advanced age. But I

rchie," said his sister, on one ion, in rather a significant tone,

"Yes; and Jack Melville will have every penny of it; and a good solid nest-egg it must be by this time. I am certain the old lady has an eye on Monaglen. What an odd thing it would be if Melville were to have Monaglen handed over to him just as we were getting back Corrievreak! I think there are some curious changes in store

the only kind of goods I've get to sell.
No. I don't think any one can bring that against me."

"I, for one, would not think of accusing you of any such thing," said his sister, warmly. "I hope you would have more pride. Jim was poor enough when I married him."

"Now if I were marrying for money," and he—and he seemed eager to rebut this charge—"I would have no scruples at all about asking Yolande to go and live at Lynn. Of course it would beat very economical arrangement. But would I? I should think not I wouldn't have her shut up there for anything. But I hope she will like the house, as a visitor, and get on well with processing the state and the seemed eager to rebut this charge—"I would have no scruples at all about asking Yolande to go and live at Lynn. Of course it would beat very economical arrangement. But would I? I should think not I wouldn't have her shut up there for anything. But I hope she will like the house, as a visitor, and get on well with the state and the seemed eager to rebut this charge —"I would not call them meat for babes. At the Chateau now—"Oh, they were strictly forbidden," she said, frankly. "Madame would have read them all the same. Why not? What is the harm? Every one knows that there is crime and wrong in the world; and why should one shut one's eyes?—that is folly. Is it not better to be indignant that there should be at world and wrong? If there is any one who takes harm from such writing, he must be a strange person."

"At all events, Yolande," said he, "I hope you don't think that all kings are scoundrels, and all convicts angels.

They were on their way to visit a convent some few miles inland, and the only thing that varied the monotony of the journey was the occasional stumbling of the wretched animals they rode. He glanced round to see that the others were far enough off, then he said, either carelessly or with an affectation of carelessness:

would I? I should think not I wouldn't have her shut up there for anything. But I hope she will like the house, as a visitor, and get on well with my father and my aunt. Don't you think she will produce a good impression? What I hope for most of all is other are enough off, then he said, either carelessly or with an affectation of carelessness:

would I? I should think not I would it in a mill the the for anything. But I hope she will like the house, as a visitor, and get on well with my father and my aunt. Don't you think he comes awfully one being ridiculous? He hasn't mould settle it in a minute, would settle it in a minute, you think he is too portentously

you came to Oatlands, what did you know about me? Nothing."
"Bless the child, had I not my eyes?" Mrs. Graham exclaimed.
"But before two or three days you

"if it is a Christian name, which doubt. But this I may suggest to you, my dear Yolande, that you don't pay me a compliment, after the friendship ons are in this part of the world."

At this point Mrs. Graham pulledup her sorry steed, and waited until the married name. The name of Polly you speak of, and the relationship ware all hoping for, in calling me by m

is just the reverse of Kadicaism. However, what I have resolved on is this, said she, brightly. "What a chance it is to learn about Afghanistan and Russia—from one who knows, as Colonel until Yolande goes to Allt-nam-bs.

Then he will see her. That ought to Parliament; but they all contradict reason for treating me with any increasance.

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