

There was not a single tender or relenting thought in her heart, and I saw that the best and wisest course would be to allow her to have her wilful way. She stayed with us for a week or two, and then, having been successful in obtaining occupation as a daily governess, she removed to the old rooms that I had occupied in the house of Mrs. Syme at Canonbury, and there began her solitary life. In the course of three months I heard from Alec, and the letter filled me with a kind of dismay. The few remarks he made about his wife were very curt and cool. They might have been written by a man with a heart as hard as the nether millstone towards her.

I showed it to Euphan, and I saw that she felt it a good deal.

'One would never think, reading that letter,' she said, as she indignantly threw it on the table, 'that they had ever been husband and wife, or cared for each other at all. O David, is there nothing we can do to show that unhappy pair what they are doing?'

'No, there is nothing,' I answered. 'There are some of the affairs of life which may justify a