

# THE ADMIRAL'S NIECE.

## CHAPTER I.

“I SPEAK for your own good, my dear Kate; do not accuse me of wrong motives; as the child of my dear lost sister, your happiness must be a matter of importance to me, and I dare not trust it to the keeping of the Marquis Guadagni.”

Such were the words of Admiral Rainsworth, as about a week after Ada's departure, he and Kate sat *tête-à-tête* in the drawing room at the Retreat.