

of the latter; an occasional word of sympathy and kindness would have melted and reclaimed me, while all the torture he could inflict only made me worse.

One rainy day, five or six of us were employed "making rhymes on the Doctor," as we called it, and I was pronounced the most successful competitor, my epigram was most unfortunately committed to writing, and before night some "kind friend" put a copy in the Doctor's way—it was as follows:—

"The devil came up to our earth, to seek a congenial profession,
And he's now the head master at H——, an elder and clerk to the session."

His rage was far beyond my powers of description—he actually raved and foamed at the mouth, but to the astonishment of the whole school, I was not flogged: he seemed, however, to have vowed hatred and vengeance against me from that time; his first step was to tell my father that I was the most wicked and callous boy he had ever seen, and he feared that, unless severe measures were taken with me, I would bring disgrace on my family, and "come to bad end"—a favorite expression of the Doctor's. My father believed all this, for many of my most mischievous pranks, greatly exaggerated, had been industriously brought to his notice, and in place of attempting to reclaim me himself, which he could have by the sacrifice of a very little trouble, he sent me—may God forgive him—to live altogether with this monster at H——, as a boarder; the Doctor had made his calculations accurately, for this was exactly the object he aimed at. I was not permitted to visit "the Park," and my father and mother informed me that none of its inmates would hold any communication with me until Dr. Simpson should report me a reformed character.—The other boarders were warned against associating with me. I was abused, insulted, and flogged till my blood boiled, and my heart hardened, and I believe it would have broken out right, had it not been for the secret sympathy of almost every boy at school, few of whom could be brought to dislike me, although great trouble was taken to induce them to do so.

When I was about fourteen, I was overjoyed to learn that Dr. Simpson had been appointed *Rector* of a large school in another part of the country, and my heart bounded with delight at the very thought of escaping his fangs—but alas! my joyful anticipations were of short duration; a few days after the intelligence was made public, the Doctor summoned me to his study, and said with one of his sinister smiles—"Well, William, I suppose you have heard that I have got a better situation than head master and clerk to the session at H——, as you facetiously express it,—are you not grieved to lose me?" I was silent. "Answer my question immediately, you stubborn rascal." Bad as they called me, I would not lie—so I replied boldly that I thought I had rather cause to be