

possible for us all. Afterwards, I saw that my greedy ambition had helped to involve us and he had borne the punishment. Had he not thought he could get supplies from me, he would not have plotted the rebellion."

Flora hesitated for a moment, and then said, "When Bob came in the morning to ask if you had slept, I kept him a few minutes and we talked about this. He declared your engaging to supply the goods was not important, because if you had refused, Rupert could have got all he needed from Peters or somebody else, so long as he was willing to give a high price."

"It's possible. After all, Bob is cleverer than people sometimes think, and I see an explanation for Peters' vindictive pursuit: I'd stopped his trading with Rupert and refused him for a partner. Well, he paid, and Rupert paid, and I owe my escape to Bob."

"You made reparation," said Flora gently.

"I tried; when I was found out. It was rather late then, and Bob carried much of the load. I did not get off free. I spent days of torturing myself to come home, broken in body, to be a burden to you."

Flora's eyes shone. "Oh, my dear, come home and that's all that matters. You'll get well in England; your strength will return."

"It may be long," said Wyndham quietly. "I can't grumble for myself; I'm thankful about Bob. I can growl. He's strong and his pluck's unbreakable. Pluck and honesty like Bob's are worth more than gold and his, but he won't look about Bob. I can't."

He paused, and smiled while I try not to lose

patience, waiting, and when he resumed: "I