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ald awaited the coming of his typist the next morning. Perhaps she would be angry at what he had done, but
surely he had a right to furnish his surely the had a right to furnish his wn rooms as he pleased.
He ushered her in as if she had been princess.
This an office!" she exclaimed in

## amaze

## "It isn't like the outer office," he re-

But she understood. "How kind! How good of you!" she said warmly. And books, too! I have longed for books of late. You will, no doubt, let be very careful of them, for books. I would almost as soon ill-treat a child as a book."
"They are yours to do as you please with. When you are tired of them, or have left them at home, I will replace them with others. Tell me what books you like and you shall have them. I mean the office shall have them," as he foresaw a reproof from
"I cannot take any more presents from you. I have already accepted the rery handsome present of the type-
He had sent for this; it was on the table.

Please tell me what my work is," she continued gravely.
"Don't make me feel like a culprit," e pleaded. "I haven't done anything wrong, have I?
He 'wondered as he spoke why she was the only woman he had ever met who had the power to make him uncertain as to the wisdom of his acts. He did not know that it was the hesitancy of love.

You have been most kind-as you always are. Now, please set me to

He dictated a letter, but he was astonished w
"I'm afraid I haven't expressed my meaning clearly," he said. "I have meaning clearly, ther things to think of."
He produced some papers for her to copy, and, going into his own office, shut the door of communication until lunch time. Then he told her his mother was going to call on her

She declined the honour firmly
"Indeed I am most grateful to her for her kind thought," she said, "but I cannot let her come. Please tell her I appreciate her kindness notwithstand
ing." He He saw that appeal was us. In his vexation he revealed the fact that
he had hoped his mother might induce her to come to lunch of a day. She thought of the farmhouse meals and acknowledged that the prospect was tempting.
"But I should have refused," she said, and added: "It seems to me that obliged to refuse most of the good things of this life."

## CHAPTER VII.

## A Declaration.

MARY WILLIAMS was now firmly established as a typist to Ron point of view he declared that she was invaluable to him. Punctual to a moment 'both morning and afternoon, orderly, methodical, quick, clever. Although their acquaintance was of so though their acquaintance was of so everything connected with the businesis, exactly as he would have consulted a very clever wife who was greatly interested in his work.

It is true that she was ignorant to begin with, but she quickly acquired a vast deal of knowledge, and her experience amongst the mill hands, as one of themselves, helped her in makone of themselves, helped her in mak-
ing suggestions to him when he formed plans for their welfare or amusement. He now gave her only bare drafts of his letters; she amplified them with the ability of a skilled clerk, and presented them to him, neatly typewrit ten, for signature; thus saving him hours of work. She had really toiled to gain speed in her writing, and was now a rapid typist. He watched her white fingers flying over the keys of
going to increase your salary by fifty pounds," he announced one day, "for you are fully worth it to me." the market? You know that I am not." "I know nothing of the kind. If you employ a woman. I couldn't after having had you, and a man would cost $£ 150$ to $£ 200$ a year. I can't do without a typist after being accustomed to one, and he would not be nearly so useful to me as you, for I should not stust him with the letters I give you you see that one hundred and fifty pounds a year-vast income! -is only your due. Whether
give it you."
She liked this masterful tone from him; her only fear was when his tone became soft, for she was not sure that she could always hold him in check. mit you are sure I earn it I m very useful to me", But it was self she was thinking in connection self she was it "I am quite sure. Resistance is useless."
Notwithstanding, in spite of the real, not imaginary), the extra fifty pounds was not inserted in the office accounts. Ronald paid it out of his own pocket, and said to himself it was a luxury he could well afford.

## 6 DON'T want my father to be tell-

 ing me what is the ordinary rate though, indeed, Mr. Westlake as a matter of fact, wrid Westlake, as ing of the kind, and was wiser than his son imagined. He had felt some amount of curiosity concerning this typist for whom such preparations had been necessary, and had in his heart laughed to scorn the idea that she was an elderly dragon. He watched quiet ly one day until she had left the office, and followed her some little distance, unknown to hersele noting her ap unknown her rait her sty of pearance, her gait, her style, ", which he declared to be tip-top. he had though not of the highest class, he deal, of late years mixed with it a goodand could rightly estimate a lady.
"No wonder expensive carpets wer necessary!" he chuckled to himsell. "Well, I shan't say anything to the missis. Let her find it out for hersell. A proud girl, I can see, but a good girl, too. If he doesn't fall in love with her he's a greater fool than I take him to be, though he ought to look much higher for a wife It isn't my business, though to meddle with a man of Ronald's age; he must conduct his own affairs."
It was with no slight wonder that Mrs. Westlake had heard of Miss Williams' decision not to be called oll. She could not understand so great an honour being refused.
"Ah! poor thing!" she exclaimed one day. "I dare say she's not accus" tomed to any society, and is afraid of me. Still, its a pity she wouldn't come to lunch of a day, poor soul! I would have taken care she have one good meal a day
"Yes, poor old soul!" Mr. Westlake replied solemnly, but there was a twinkle in his eye, which made $h$ son sure he knew the typist was no old.

Sometimes of an afternoon when was not much work on hand, Mary would allow Ronald to take an easy chair in her office and talk her. He kept her supplied with all the new books and periodicals, which wel a great solace to her in the lonely evenings, and they discussed them al terwards together, his clear-cut intel lectual face lighting up with pleasure. Occasionally they disagreed hoti when the conversation would en with a laugh. He discovered all tastes and opinions, and revealed 1 own as he had never done to anyone
before. The more he saw of her the before. The more he saw of her the
more he realized how wisely his admore he realized how wisely his anded, while on her part she turned him and found comfort in his unfal ing friendship and care of her. He in formed her that tha chocolate and French sweetmeats had been entirely Mr. Haselfoot's idea, and impresse upon her how ungrateful it would be

