

have arrived, as it leaves me free to go. The new wardens are sure to be satisfactory as you recommended them to Mr. Petersham. Besides, all the trouble seems to be over, the squatters are contented enough; the blackmailing plot evidently lay entirely between Puttick and those two scoundrels the Tomlinsons."

"Huh, yes! It was put up among them three, I guess. Kalmacks is safe enough now, there's no call for you to stay longer. Charley Paul and Tom Miller is two good men, I known 'em since I was a boy down at St. Amiel, Mr. Petersham won't never have no better."

"As to that, you'll be here for quite a while yourself."

He made no reply, and when I turned from the window to look at him, he was lying with his eyes closed, and, thinking he was tired, I left him.

At the end of the south verandah was situated a small detached room, which we had turned into a workshop, and early the same afternoon I went round there to repair a favourite fishing-rod. The verandah was empty as I passed through it, but presently Petersham joined me.

He did not speak but sat down in an armchair beside the bench where I was working, and pulling