

their family, or their accomplishments, whom he every where met on his return from college, he had not distinguished one by any particular mark of favour ; yet as this was a subject to which he was resolved not to advert, from a disinclination to bias or influence his nephew in a choice, which, though a bachelor himself, he well knew to be the most important step in life, he seldom indulged in the expression of any particular anxiety to see his views accomplished.

Such was the state of things when they embarked for the continent, when Sir Edward increased the income of his nephew, from three hundred a year, which he inherited from his father, to five hundred—a sum which he conceived to be quite sufficient for the expenses and rational amusement of a young man of four and twenty. We are already aware of the hope he entertainnd of seeing Clifford united to the daughter of his early and estimable friend—a hope which, since his arrival in Paris, had almost been nursed into conviction ; we have also seen how that hope was disappointed.

It may readily be supposed, that, indulging so constantly in play and other extravagant pursuits, Clifford was not long in finding his income inadequate to his necessities ; and that as he knew not in what manner to obtain supplies, he was not unfrequently involved in embarrassments, from which he found it difficult to extricate himself. In order, therefore to reduce his expenses, he gave up his apartments in the Hôtel des Princes, merely reserving one room for his servant, and took up his abode altogether with Adeline. But even the retrenchments effected by this measure were insufficient : for so infatuated had he become with play, so necessary did he find it as a resource, that his time was now divided between the *écarté*, and the more destructive and absorbing temptations of the *rouge et noir* and *roulette* tables. Having, on one occasion, returned home, after an unusual run of ill luck, he endeavoured in vain to devise some plan by which his finances might be recruited. As he sat ruminating, with his head lean-

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