

on in the house she looked up inquiringly, and said simply :

"Why? Didn't I stop in the house when poor old master died?"

It was a little different, though, with the other servants, who held a consultation, and had nearly decided upon going, cook heading the parliament by declaring that she "couldn't abear ghosts, though she had a slight weakness for spirits." The gardener, however, who was present, gave it as his opinion dogmatically, that even if there were such things as ghosts, he never knew them do anyone any harm ; and them as threw up good places for such "rubbidge" as that might think themselves very clever, but he was going to stay.

Hence it was that there was plenty of busy excitement and preparations at The Mynns one bright summer's day about a year after the discovery. The shutters were open, windows clean, gravel paths freshened up with red sand, and all giving the place a cheery aspect, which had been long absent, when Mrs. Hampton alighted with her husband from the station fly, and the big bell clanged.

"Yes, Denton ; I know they will not be here till seven, but I thought I'd come down and chat with you, and ask you if you had not forgotten any of my instructions."

"You shall see, ma'am, if you'll come in ; and then, perhaps, you'll like a bit of lunch ; and why, if there isn't Doctor Lawrence !"

"Ah, Denton ; how do ! Well, I call it pride—and after all these years."

"Pride ? What is ?" said the old lawyer.

"You too trotting off in your station flies, and passing an old friend on the road without offering him a lift."

"Why, how did you come down ?"

"Same train, second-class. I'm not a first-class person. I only wanted to see that all was right for the young folks."

Mrs. Hampton bridled a little, and then smiled.

It was a pleasant social little lunch the old friends had together, the old lawyer praising the sherry highly.

"So much body in it," he said, holding it up to the light.

"I hope not," said the doctor drily, and Mrs. Hampton looked horrified.

And so it was that there was plenty of familiar faces to welcome the happy pair, as they drove up to the gate at