

BETWEEN TWO LOVES.

A TALE OF THE WEST RIDING.

BY AMELIA E. BARR.

CHAPTER VIII.—ANTHONY ASKE'S REVENGE.

IT is a finer thing to conciliate an enemy than to conquer one; but Jonathan Burley did not make any such consideration. He felt himself to have "bested" his son-in-law, and he kept reiterating that "he was not afraid of him." What could Aske do to him? He did not believe there was law enough in England to make Eleanor live with her husband if she did not want to do so. True, Aske might divorce her; but the irate father answered the thought promptly, "Let him do it! He'll have to give her back her money, and she'll get a better husband, easy enough. And as for what folks say—that for it," and he snapped his fingers defiantly at the supposed gossip.

The day had been a wretched one to the undutiful wife; and she had almost determined to tell her father she would go back to her husband and her own home. But the first words Jonathan said convinced her that her repentant resolution had come too late.

"Aske was at t' mills to-day, Eleanor."

"What did he say?"

"What did he say? I hardly know, I was that mad at him; but I know what I said. I called him a liar, a double liar; and I told him thou niver should go back to him; and I dared him to do his worst to me."

"Oh, father! father! I am so sorry."

"Sorry? What's t' matter now, pray? I thought that was what thou wanted."

"I—I don't know."

"Well, if iver! Thou caps all t' women I have come across. Now mind, Eleanor! Thou can't play fast and loose wi' thy father. Thou brought thy quarrel to me, and I hev lifted it; and I mean to fight it out. And make up thy mind to another thing—Anthony Aske has turned his back on thee forever; and thou'lt just hev to lay upon t' bed thou hes made for thyself."

"Father, I have you, and there is nobody so loving and so true as you are."

"Now thou talks sensible. We got along as happy as could be before that fellow came between us, and we can do without him varry well indeed for t' future."

She stooped and kissed her father for answer, and he held