

CORRODING GOLD

of his career was troubling both his parents and himself at that very time.

"Sit down, Jack, and hear the great news," said his mother, her bosom swelling with pride. "We have had a visit from a great London lawyer this afternoon, who came to tell us that your Uncle Edgar Sheldon has died in Australia and left us a very large fortune and an immense sheep-farm——"

Jack's sunny eyes grew round with the wonder of it.

"Oh, how ripping! And shall we all go out there and settle on the place? Oh, do let's!"

His mother shook her head.

"No, no, my son! But the possession of the fortune will make a great difference to us all. Perhaps now you will be able to go to the University."

"Oh, pax, mater! You promised to let me off that rot ever so long ago," cried Jack ruefully. "Can't you put in a word for a chap, Este?"

Estelle laughed and ran her fingers rather softly through his thick brown curls. It was easy to see that Estelle Rodney was devoted to the men-folk in her home. They had never had to accuse her of lack of sympathy or understanding.

"That seems like the sound of a key in the lock," cried Mrs. Rodney excitedly. "Can that be Kathie home already? Now we'll hear something worth while!"