

be merry, my
through a forest
other side."

be the first?"
make a bad hus-
—nay, I mean
ed me."

at I heard of a

aid I. "It was

For I am here
here in London

that you are

speak."

in silence, while
n. They mock
all my heart, so
but at last Bar-
laugh,—
n?"

vandered some
gh many dark
here, leading I
track by which
et although I
d, the golden
my days were
tightened and
wed. Thus it
rse or station
certain dreams

that haunted me, yet, as I hope, sound in heart and soul. I looked now in the dark eyes that were set on me as though there were their refuge, joy, and life; she clung to me as though even still I might leave her. But the last fear fled, the last doubt faded away, and a smile came in radiant serenity on the lips I loved as, bending down, I whispered,—

"Aye, I am glad to have come home."

But there was one thing more that I must say. Her head fell on my shoulder, as she murmured,—

"And you have utterly forgotten her?"

Her eyes were safely hidden. I smiled as I answered "Utterly."

See how I stood! Wilt thou forgive me, Nelly?

For a man may be very happy as he is and still not forget the things which have been. "What are you thinking of, Simon?" my wife asks sometimes when I lean back in my chair and smile. "Of nothing, sweet," say I. And in truth I am not thinking; it is only that a low laugh echoes distantly in my ear. Faithful and loyal am I, but—should such as Nell leave naught behind her?