

plicable meanness by its inmates, so I left the Park, and went into lodgings in H——, and by putting great restraint upon myself, I managed to effect my change of quarters without coming to an open rupture, which I was anxious to avoid, chiefly on Mary's account.

During my residence in Scotland, I fell in love with a very handsome girl, whom I first met at a country ball at H——, we soon became intimate, and she agreed to accompany me to India; her father and mine were well acquainted, and chanced about this time to travel from Edinburgh in the same coach, and the former spent a day at the Park, before going home. In the course of conversation he mentioned me, and hinted how he thought matters were likely to go, with regard to his daughter and myself. He was little prepared to hear such a character of me as he then got, at my own father's table. They spoke of my violent temper, headstrong passions, and bad heart, and even brought up the old story of Ellen Shand, in judgment against me. Mary defended me on this, as she did on every other occasion, and was, in consequence, looked upon as but a few degrees better than myself. When I next rode over to see my "sweetheart," her father told me he could not give me his daughter, and forbid me his house; I thought however, that she would not believe the stories against me, as I had given her the true version of most of them before; but I was wrong—for, shortly after my interview with her father, I got a note from her saying she had torn me from her heart, and was about to wed a man equally agreeable to herself and her beloved parent. I felt towards her, nothing but contempt, and was truly thankful for such an escape.

I now determined to return to India, and as Mary was not comfortable at home, and wished to accompany me, I asked my father's permission, which to my delight he at once gave, and indeed seemed overjoyed at the prospect of getting fairly rid of us both. Our adieux were very easily made, and we went up to London without further delay.

To my inexpressible grief, I received intelligence, on my arrival in town, that poor General Gordon was no more. The whole of his large fortune he bequeathed to me, without any condition whatever, but in a letter which the good old man wrote to me on his death bed, he asked me to take his name, if I had not met with more kindness (than my letters to him intimated,) from those who bore my own.

One of the first things I did was to send my father two thousand pounds to repay him for Mary's education and my own, and the portions of five hundred pounds we had each received. I begged him, in the event of his not choosing to take it himself, to make it over to my sisters at home. I gave no further explanation, and they believe that Mary and I are