

ensconced in a shady nook or bower, he would enjoy his glass of ale, and smoke his long clay pipe, as was customary among men of his class some thirty years ago. I always attended him on those peregrinations, and thus I acquired a thorough knowledge of the environs of London. For the first two or three years I enjoyed this sort of life exceedingly. At my grandfather's, being of an enquiring disposition, I was continually in the manufactory, asking questions of the *employés* concerning the manufacturing of the different articles they were preparing for shipment to foreign ports—in fact I obtained a considerable insight into the business. But I was advancing towards manhood, and I began to think what my future lot in life must be. I had always had a strong dislike to trade or commercial speculations of any kind. The Church was out of the question, and the study of law I had a strong aversion to ; as for medicine or anatomy, I turned from them with almost loathing. While revolving these matters in my own mind—to decide what I was most fitted for—an actor appeared upon the scene that settled this point, at least for a time. My brother, some eighteen months older than myself, and who had chosen for his profession the service of the Merchant Marine, arrived with his vessel in the London Docks. This was a source of much pleasure to me, as the vessel had to remain in dock all the winter. Of course my brother was anxious to hear and see all that could be seen of London life during his stay, having been at school nearly all the time prior to the family's departure from England, not having enjoyed the same facilities that I had for witnessing the gaieties of that very gay city ; so I became his *chaperon*, and a right jolly time we had of it. Frequently, when his duties compelled him to remain on board by night as well as by day, I would keep him company ; and in the comfortable cabin, with a cigar and some wine, would I listen to his funny yarns about Canada and the Canadians. His description of different ports he had visited highly interested me, and I began to ask myself whether it would not be much