"Stay; will you not wear th's at dinner?" stooping for a pansy that flou fahed among the late-autumn blossoms. "Keep is for remembrance when I am away."

"O, but flowers fade; and I could only remember you for a couple of days."
"Why not press it between the leaves of

a book?"
"O, I will do that; and I will remember
your lecture every time that I open the

volume."

"Thank you; but if you can't think a little bit about my self, I den's want you to bother about my lecture. You can feast yourself in contemplation of your loud and gorgeous friend, Mr. Ham.

They had entered the house; and at the same moment Aster's father and Mr. Ham came in. It was quite plain that these two men were confi lential friends; for as they entered the room the host had his am within that of his greet, and both were scengrossed in their subject—talking in a low tone—that they seemed for a time unconscious of the presence of Aster and Boland. When the heat did raise his head he simply gave a cold how to Reland; and then bestowed a sharp glance upon his daughter. Nor was the rudeness of the host to end here. Turning his back upon Roland he said:

"United white alone together this afternoon, but to inch the swamp they were discussing while alone together this afternoon, but to inch the swamp they were discussing while alone together this afternoon, but to inch the swamp they were discussing while alone together this afternoon, but the is not the swamp they were discussing while alone together this afternoon, but the set in the swamp they were discussing while alone together this afternoon, but the set in the stead in the seal of traducture for me to possible."

"But it is not the swamp they were discussing while alone together this afternoon, but the set in the stead in the satually inventing charges against your reput tien."

"Could he be so infamous? This is surely not possible,"

"But it is not the swamp they were discussing while alone together this afternoon, but the set in the stead of traducture for me now, that you, my friend, must henceforth be estranged from our house."

"But you will be still were for me now, that you, my friend, must henceforth be estranged from our house."

"But you will not marry that man, Aster dear!" He was looking wistfully into her heaveful and the set in the satually into her heaveful and the set in the satually into her heaveful and the set in the stead

" Mr. Ham and I have been discouning

" Mr. Ham and I have been disconing the March, and he thinks that I had better go on with the drainage."
"It will bring in two years all the money expended in reclaiming it," put in Mr. Ham.
" Dan't you think so, Aster?"

" I don't know, Mr. Ham ; I really know

"I don't know, Mr. Ham; I really know very little about such matters." At this juncture Raland's temper was asserting itself under the slight by the rude parent; so he stepped in among the trio, and looking the giri in the face, said:

"Yen are quite right, Aster, not to bother your head about bogs and swamps. Let the menattend to all that." The father was simply amazed; and drawing himself up to his full height he frowned upon the young man. He said nothing, hewever; and to break the emparassing silence Aster chimed in:

"I suppose that the city ciris of your ac-

"I suppose that the city girls of your acquaintance never meddle in such matters;

quantance never medde in such matters; but the truth is, papa always consults me about these things."
"In the city," reterted her father, stiffly "young women have other concerns; but a girl who is to become a farmer's wife should

girl who is to become a tarmer's while should make the management of stock and the tillsge of the soil serious subjects of study."
"Most certainly," replied Reland; "if a girl is to become the wife of a husbandman, the farm should be her great cencern. But I was not aware that Aster had serieusly considered taking such a sten." considered taking such a step.

"I presume, sir," roplied the father, his voice quivering with displeasure, "that there are many of my daughter's affairs which she does not feel bound to displeas to

strangers."
44 I had thought that I might congratulate myself as one upon the list of your daughter's friends. Was I not right, Aster?"

"I aiwa," e felt great pleasure, hir. Gray, in regarding you as my friend, as one of my most aincere friends." Her color had risen as she ended this aentence; and there was a slight tone of defiance in her voice.

"A fact of which I was not aware," her father replied, with still rising choler.

"But you should not be so hard upon Aster, 'put in Mr. Ham. Sirls thought-lessly form friendships. You'll forgive ter I know for this indisoretion." Aster turn

a know for this indiscretion." After turn ed upon him a look of infinite scern.
"There is one indiscretion at least, Mr. Ham for which my father will never have to parden me."

"And what a that men a father will record to part of the state of the state

"And what a that pray, Azter ?"
"For countin, you upon my list of friends, sir."

"Leave the roots instantly, Arter," her father almost shouted, while his faceway

purple with rage.
When the girl withdrew Reland turned and nowing to the heat said :

"Your conduct and your tone, sir, to "Your conduct and your tone, sir, to wards myself are so extraordinary, so in explic, ble, and so unmerited, that observes in me to your mothing for me but to withdraw. As for it was vivid this persen. Mr. Ham, whom you are at to terms of such intimacy, nething I sesure you but the sacred shield of your household could have saved him from the proise ment which his incolonce deserves. However, he will not always he able to success the wards in the same of the inmates. I bid you good morning."

So saying he walked out of the room With these

and into the garden where sat Asfer sittleG. nervous and miserable.

and into the garden where say Aster intened, nervous and miscrable.

"I came to say good bye, Aster: after all that has happened it is impossible for me to remain."

"I am sure," the girl said, "that Mr. Ham must have prejudiced my father against you or he never would have adopted such language and such a manner towards his guest. I feel quite cortain that it is not the swamp they were discussing while alone together this afternoon, but your character. From what I surmiss of Mr. Ham I believe him capable of traducing you; of actually inventing charges against your reput tion."

"Could he be so infamous? This is surely not possible."

"But it is possible; and this is the man with whom my poor father, who really has

dear!" He was looking wistfully into her beautiful eyec.

"(Oh, ne; I shall never do it of my own free will."

"Farewell, Aster: though extranged from your father and your house, fate may sometimes be kind enough to lot me see you Farewell. And taking her hand into his he raised it reverently, tennerly to his lips, and imprinted upon it a war a kiss. Then he arose, bowed and went away. For many a bitter day afterwards he remembered the muto misery in her look as he left the garden.

That evening Reland sought end an old Eton school fellow, whom he found smoking on the lawn of his uncle's house.

"Why, you seem rather excited, old fellow; what is wrong? I thought that the fair Aster had a monopoly of your company fair

for this evening."

"Yes; it had been so arranged. But I found that ead, Ham, there, and he saw fit to insult me. You can now guess I suppere the nature of my mission."

one nature of my mission."

"Hem; things are really serious then.

Do you want no to help you through with the affair?"

the sfisir?" *
"If you will, o.a. allow. My wish is that
you wait upon this person in the morning
that he may name a friend with whom you
can arrange the meeting. Let it not be
later than the following morning. He has,
of course, his cheice of sword or pistel,"
"I doubt if the man will fight,"

"Then nothing will remain for me but whipping. And I presume that you will not be silent as to his cowardies."

Early on the following morning Frank Harland, for such was the name of Roland's

friend, rode away towards Oatlands, the residence of the coarse-haired Mr. Ham. He alighted at the gate, and throwing his bridle rein over a post entered the grounds. Mr. Ham was at the moment crossing the

Mr. Ham was at the moment crossing the field towards his residence; but when he perceived the early visitor he changed his course, and proceeded to meet the comer.

"O how do you so Mr. Harland. Did not know it has you. It is a long time since we have suff than other. Was over looking at some of my fellows who are clearing the bush eith piece of intervals. Ratcals will not work it can's eye is not constantly upon them.

In a similar strain did he chatter on; but his ease of manner Harland could see wat will ease of manner Harland could see wat will counterfeited. The early visit, and the grave face of the visiter, had alarmed him; but he had not the courage to put any of the questions that had turned his face into a note I interrogation. At last they were at the door of the dwelling; and Harland paused upon the steps.

"I come to you this merning, Mr. Ham,

"I some to you this marning, Mr. Ham, toon an important and delicate mission; and should accompany me to your a litrary."

A fire a ray to ame into Ham's face, and the way vivid through the roots of his coars, black heard.

it was vivid shrough the black beard.

"Partainly; I shall attend to you with pleas ro. I hope, at least, that the matter is capable of an amicable and satisfactory sottlement. I have always sought to do

what is right, and—
"I Lave no doubt, Mr. Ham, that it can
be arranged with entire satisfaction." loanid betwee relief be son in the chair to which Mr. Ham, with a hand

in the chaf. to which Mr. Ham, with a hand that trembled, pointed.

"I am, sir, the bearer of a message from my old school-friend Roland Gray. What the purport of such a message is you will no dcubt very readily guess, when you come to remember the language which you recently employed respecting him, and the threat which your words evoked. I am therefore ready to arrange the terms for a meeting with any friend you may be good enough to designate."

designate."

"I really fall to comprehend what you mean, Mr. Harland."

mean, Mr. Harland."

10 that is impessible, Mr. Ham. There is a code of honour among gentlemen under such circumstances, of which you must certainly be aware."

The fellow's courage had quite failed him,

if the paller in his awarthy cheek did net

utter a huge lie.
"You surely do not mean that you come

to propose terms for a duel?' shall immediately wait upon any friend you will name to me.

But there must surely be seme mistake, I am not aware of having used any larguage that you deveke the resentment of your friend." Awlard simply shrugged his shouldors.

I am not here to discuss that point."

"I am not here to discuss that peint."
And he rose with soom upon his face, "I take the word elimy friend upon the matter; and he is a gentleman and a man of honour." Lt his reply Mr. Ham adopted a new line of poiley, and with it a completely altered manner and tene.
"Well Mr. Harland, suppose that it be as you say with respect to the provocation; there is another feature of the matter which I bring forward with reluctance, considering your relations of friundship with Mr. Gray." Here he paused.
"Pray, precedsir."
"I may say, Mr. Harland, that the repute of Mr. Gray is not the hignest; and conndering my own character and standing I do act see how it is possible for me to engage in a combat of henor with him. My position as I have raid is unquestioned, but gage in a combat of henor with him. My position as I have cald is unquestioned, but I knew nothing of your friend save what rope t speaks of him as an adventurer without character. He has had a good education, and all that, and associates with people of the property of the people o of my own standing; but these facts count for little,"

"Pardon me, sir," Har and replied with a haughty smile, "I intend that your position in this matter shall be made very plain. I intend to show that one matter alone stands in the way of your acceptance

of this challenge."

"And what, pray, may that matter be?

The fellow wasy once more sally pale, and he trembled.

our cowardice, sir.

"What Do yet dare in my own house to use such words ?" "I use them, of course, most deliberate y. And now, air, that yet have raised the question of the worthings of my friend the question of the worthings of my friend to meet you in a combat of honor, you must first parmit me to state that in denying that fitness, every statement that you have made, is a falschood. First, as to his blood: he is a gentleman. And I know that in proving he is your equal in this respect, you will parden me for asking certain questions of you, as you will my making certain statements of fact respecting him. Pray, sir, who was your father?

"A gentleman. He was the owner of this property; and held the position of magistrate in this county, as I do." Mr. Harland bowed.

Harland bowed.

"And who, then, sir, was his lather?"

Mr. Ham winced; turned red; sud then stood up, glaring at his intercognier the pictore of wild but impotent rage.

"I will not press the question, Mr. Ham., I will answer it. He was what we describe as a "common person." That is, he can not a gentleman." Mr. Ham's face was dark with rage; but it soon began to assume again its ashen color.

"Nam wit Mr. Gravic fashed a common."

assume again its ashen color,

"Now, sir, Mr. Gray's father is a younger son of a filth earl in the British poorago, He is therefore by blood fit to most in the field of honor the grandson of a — Nobody Tetn, sir, as to the undefined charges against his obn-actor, they are gratuitous falsehoods. If, with these facts before you, a refusal of satisfaction is still made, I have only this tessy: the unpleasant task of hersewhipping you remains to my friend; while the duty of problaiming your cowardice. remains to me. What is your strucker?"

"Though your language has been such as I never believed that anybody would dare use in my hense, I am constrained to accept your statements respecting your friend's fitness to meet me in the field of honor."

There are not target almost convulsations of target almost convulsations. Thon, as a spasm of torror almost convulsed him, he suddenly asked:

"What weapons does he propose! I can

net fence

"This is a matter that your friend and I shall arrange. The cheice of weapons, however, I may add rests with your side."
"Then please wait till I write a note to—Jabez Drummond;" and the follow, taking a pen seated himself at his desk. But his fears had so unnerved him that he made several attempts before he could got the pen into the ink bottle; and wasted several sheets of paper before his hand was steady enough to produce legible writing. When he had ended he turned to the visitor:

"Will you not take a glass of spirits befere you go? Will you not come and broak fast with me?" His cringing manner was most deeploable, and Harland answered in a time of quiet soom:

*No, thank you."

Then placing the letter into Harland's hands he said:

64 Can this not be made a formal encounter? I have read that this thing is often dans."

"What do you mean, Mr. Ham?"
"That we do not, for example, use bullets. Let it be blank charges."
"Ol course you are at librty to do what you please in this respect," Harlani an swored, with ireny "But we shall use bullets."

bulleta."

"My God, Mr. ariand, you seem to do
light in taking the part of a monster."

"Good morning, Mr. Ham."

"But when, where—about what time, I
mean, it this to take place?"

"That I shall arrange with your friend.

mean, ie this to take place?'

"That I shall arrange with your frien!.
But I may say that there can be no valid reason to prevent it taking place to morrow at the rise of sun. Good merning, Mr. Ham;" and without further words he left the house, mounted his horse, and rode SWAY.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

The Lion Throne.

Few of our contemporaries made any special reference to the throne upon which her Majesty was seated at the opining of the Colonial exhibition. As a matter of fact, it was more other than the royal seat of the Lion of Penjaub, Runject Singh himself, the chief of the trophics sont home from Lahore after the glorious campaign on the Five River. That some of the morning papers spake of it as a chair may be due to the fact that a cushioned lining, specially melded upon one of the royal chairs at Rickingham Palsos, had been fitted into the Samous throne. It was a custion of the south of the same moment the so-called "heir" to the Sikh seversignty should have been soliciting the Few of our contemporaries made any severignty should have been soliciting the sympathy of his compatricts in the Pun-jaub, while here in London the Empress of India should have been scated upon the veritable liened throne of that ones potent nation.

Aboriginal Ideas.

A number of indians recently attended a A number of indians recently attended a church service in Manitobs. Daring the service one of them concluded to have a smoke, and began filling his pipe. Then he tried to light it, but his matches wore poor and wouldn't burn. The minits cosing the state of affairs came doyn from the pulpit and struck a parlor match. The right who had never befare sten were greatly tarrified an were about to be cranding were finally explained to them arrive properties.

Αυ εδνούδι urging a confi ed over a