

Those Delightful Americans

would think being made love to on that system almost as bad as marrying an Englishman. Not that she has anything *against* Englishmen, you know, only she——”

“ Objects to them on patriotic grounds,” I said. “ Of course her objection must be purely patriotic.”

“ Oh, certainly. But one can understand the feeling.”

“ One can understand a *corresponding* feeling,” I said thoughtfully, and we rocked for a moment in silence.

“ I am glad to think there is no—no sentiment of that kind about Violet,” I resumed. “ She has travelled so much, hasn’t she? But of course there may be financial difficulties. Mr. Ham may not see his way——”

“ Mr. Ham will see his way to anything Violet wants,” said Mrs. Adams decidedly. “ And of course she’ll want Lord Robert. He is such a dear, with that innocent air, like a schoolboy. People may say what they like, but there is a charm about your British nobility. Of course you have to meet them to recognise it. Dear me, how often I have read of these Anglo-American alliances, and how little I ever thought I should have one taking place in my own family.”

“ Ah, well! ” I sighed, “ I hope it will all