

day was it when she was called by Mr. Haggar into his room? Was it by chance she answered his summons or did he ring for her expressly? Was she or Rookson called first? Did she have any conversation with Rookson after the signing? These were only a few of the questions for which Douglas had not prepared her.

It was very embarrassing also to know that every word she uttered was being taken down by a shorthand clerk, and to be told that she would have to swear an affidavit that what she had said was the truth. Jenny was not quite sure what an affidavit was, but it sounded dreadful, and did not tend to allay her nervousness.

Then the lawyer proceeded to go into matters which seemed to Jenny to have nothing to do with her signature. She regarded it as both impertinent and inquisitive to be asked when she left the Empress Hotel; how long was it before she obtained another situation; when she left Eaton Square and why; and what was she doing at the present moment? Mr. Perry was even curious about her mother. At last she lost patience and burst out:

"I didn't come here to talk about myself. What I do and what mother does is no affair of anybody's, and I shan't answer no more silly questions of that sort. I've done what the advertisement asked me and I wish you good morning."

"Stop a moment, Miss Bassett. Just one or two more questions and, perhaps, I shan't want to trouble you any further."

During Jenny's outburst the solicitor had his eyes fixed on a slip of paper. On it were some memoranda. The slip had been given him by Shagford.