



CHAPTER V

AN INTERESTING INTERVIEW



DIRECTLY he went down to the mill next morning Walter Bremner sent for Robert Fletcher to come to his private room. He had been much upset by what had happened, but had said so very little about it that even his wife scarcely realised how it had affected him. Adair was the very apple of his eye, and the thought of the insult and danger to which she had been subjected within a stone's throw of the house was intolerable to him. As the door opened and young Fletcher entered, the millowner rose to his feet, and surveyed him with an intensity of interest which surprised himself. He had shown him a good deal of consideration and kindness for his father's sake, but had never hitherto been personally drawn to him, and for that reason had not sought in any way to cultivate a closer acquaintance with him; but now he looked at him keenly. The man who had saved his daughter's life must henceforth occupy a different position in his eyes.

Robert Fletcher was now in his twenty-second