"A little! John, she chased him off the place. If I'd been Jack I'd ha' boxed her pink ears, or, if they ain't pink, I'd ha' made 'em."

"His were pink, I remember," said Innocence.

"He said German was rot, and that no girl who loved her country ought to know it. He said any language spoken by people who were England's enemies was rot."

"He's very patriotic," owned Bexley, "but I didn't know he carried it so far. Did you give it to him, Cecilia?"

Cecilia shook her head.

"Not really, it's dad's fun. I had been typing drains all the morning, and making papa spell right, and when Jack came I was cross. I think he's a very nice boy really."

And the nice boy was running around with Mrs. Buckingham.

"So he is," said Bexley; "he's as straight as a die, and, if he's not brilliant, there are bigger fools than Jack. I ought to have let him go into the army."

He sighed a little.

"But with an only son and Lady Bexley, it's hard to know what to do," he added. "If he'd been a soldier, he could have occupied his mind."

"There ain't much in the army to do that, if a