

in structure, sanitary and full of comfort came into existence; schools and an hospital were built, also a home for worn-out workmen who had none to care for them of their own blood; and cottages for widows whose husbands had died in the service of the firm were erected. Orphan children of the workmen were considered wards of Lord and Lady Glenmore without forms of application or pressure of any sort, and so they grew up without bitterness or any sense of the inequalities of life, and developed naturally, according to their bent.

The young laird and his gentle lady became a tremendous force, because they were so human in their sympathies and pleasures, linking themselves in all things with the interests of the men who were the instruments of their wealth. The healthy natural craving of the people for enjoyment, for Nature, for freedom from the constant grind of daily toil was not barred and banned until men clutched at a little recreation as though it was something to be stolen at their peril, and not theirs of right.

The freedom of intercourse between employer and employed had a healthy influence upon both, and the village folk were encouraged to put forth their energies in any direction for which they had special aptitude, sure of sympathy and appreciation. Glenmore was proud of the men who had found their true mission in life while employed at the works, and had by their own perseverance acquired the means of advancing their intellectual and social status.

It was a new world to Hardcastle, and one into which he had no capacity for entering. Sometimes he seemed to catch a passing whiff of a fresh atmosphere, but only a confused sense of amazement and wonder remained with him when the moment had passed. Whatever process of transformation and re-adjustment was going forward in the deeper recesses of his own mind was never disclosed by any marked movement or spoken word; the surface of his life, to all appearance, remained the same, and no one wished to recall the past.