

THE PLAYERS

resentment at the implication of, perhaps interested, match-making. "Horatia is scarcely a girl to allow interference. She is no fool, and quite capable of choosing a husband for herself."

"Quite so," Vernon agreed, as deprecating futile discussion. "And I don't think," he added slowly, "that she cares for our friend, Bendish."

"You don't?" Lady Clanrobert questioned sharply.

"No," he answered, with lazy conviction. "I don't."