

(*aside, retiring.*)—I can't, no, no, my heart will burst,
Oh!——

(*aloud, advancing.*)—See, Ottilie, you are asked to share
Their jaunt to Italy with these two ladies.

The chance is not like to occur again,

And so you must——

(*very low.*)

depart——

Ott.—(*excitedly.*)

I, quit you! Never!

Rect.—(*beseeking.*) You will.

Ott.—

Not I!

Rect.—(*same.*)

Accept, I beg of you.

Ott.—I will not go.

Rect.—

You know, my cherished darling,

I only seek in this your happiness.

Ott.—(*more gently.*)

Well! keep me near you, wholly your own, and let

Nought henceforth sunder us one single day.

What notion is't possesses you, my friend?

To think that I'd leave home, and go without you!

Rect.—You must.

Ott.—(*plaintively.*) Why? what's ado? O 'tis so sweet

To be just our two selves!

Rect.—

Pshaw!—Those two ladies

Are charming people.

Ott.—(*coaxingly lays her hand on his arm.*) See! I'll be
most proper,

You'll have no further cause to scold me. Franz

May jabber on, and I'll not move a muscle——

Rect.—(*impatiently.*)

You must decide——

Ott.—(*bursting into tears.*)

Ah! sure you can't love me

As I love you, or you'd not grieve me so.

Rect.—And this same night.

Ott.—

For pity's sake!

Rect.—

I wish it.

(*Exit, precipitately.*)