

and make them all as mad as himself. Why, sir, he actually reproved the officers for swearing, and in such a respectful way, *the cunning fellow, they could do nothing to him*; and when an ensign had him put in prison, and threatened to have him whipped, he seemed as happy there as St. Paul himself. The people came to him night and day to hear him speak and preach. The infection of his fanatical religion spread in every town through which they took him. They could find nothing by which they might keep hold of him; for he was no Dissenter; he professed to delight to go to church more than anything, and to receive the sacrament. And the end of it was, the major had to set him free; and actually was foolish enough to say, if he preached again without making a mob, if he was able, he would go and hear him himself; and he wished all the men were like him. A most dangerous rascal,—a fellow with the strength of a lion and the courage of a veteran; and yet he would rather preach than fight. I would make short work with such fellows, if I had Tyburn for a few days in my own hands, with a troop of Marlborough's old soldiers.'

"'It would be of no use, sir,' replied Harry; 'they would beat you even at Tyburn. I saw a man hung there yesterday as peacefully as if he had been ascending the block for his country or his king. He said, Mr. John Wesley had visited him in the prison, and taught him how to repent of his sins and seek his God, and made him content to die. The people were quite moved, sir.'

"'No doubt! the people are always ready enough to be moved, said the general, 'especially by any rogue who is on the point of being hanged. These things should be met silently, sharply, decisively.'

"'The Pope has tried that before now, sir,' I ventured to suggest, 'and not found it altogether answer,—at least not in England.'

"'True, Evelyn,' said my great-uncle, meditatively. 'These outbursts of fanaticism are like epidemics: they will have their time, and then die out. In the Middle Ages, whole troops of men and women used to march through the country, wailing and scourging themselves, and in the wildest state of excitement; but