

ber of brother officers. He won the bet, and I paid my hundred pounds, though it left me poor for the next twelve months. The matter was over, and I thought no more of it but as of a very foolish act on my part, the punishment for which would cure me, for the rest of life, of using a silly expression to prove my conviction. Harrington sold out of the regiment some time after, and returned to Europe, and I followed upon leave at the end of six or eight months. By this time my poor uncle was dead. I had nothing but a very small annuity and my pay. My funds were very nearly exhausted when I arrived in England; and I had no means of purchasing the papers on which my fortunes, as it turned out, depended—purchasing. I may call it, for although the rascal asserted that he detained them as payment for a charge against my poor father, which the executors had refused to pay, that was all pretense. However, hearing of your father's disasters, I came down to Cumberland at once. I wrote to you: you answered me, I set out to London again like a madman, to hurry forward the sale of my commission. It was rendered unnecessary by the event I an

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