

"He might, certainly, if he would; but you forget he's no friend of yours, and would be only too glad of a handle against you, for he wishes to get his own son into your place; indeed he'd have had it from the first, but that I stuck up steadily for you!"

"I know that, Harry: you were always a good friend to me, and I'm sorry we're not as much together as we used."

"I'm sure I don't know why we're not, unless it's because you're such a quiet-going fellow, and won't come out with me to any fun: you don't seem to take to my companions."

"I wish you didn't take to them either, Harry. I don't think they're good company for you."

"Ah! you're going to lecture, and it would be better to consider how to get this money, for, bad as I am, I can't bear your mother and little Lucy to be at a loss from my extravagance. Now I can see nothing to hinder your helping yourself out of the till. Don't start! there's nothing wrong in it, you can slip in the money when you get it; and all will be right again, and no one the wiser. Bunker does not make up his accounts till the end of the month!"

"Oh, no, Harry, I could not do that."

"Even for your mother's sake?"

"She would not wish it."

"Why?"

"How can you talk so, Harry? Don't you know it's wrong to take what is not your own?"

"Yes, but you're going to return it."

"But I have no right to make use of it without leave. Say no more about that plan, please."

"Well, well, never mind; since you're so particular I'll try and borrow a few pounds from some of my friends. I'm just off to meet them now to arrange about that