

Literature.

HIS SACRIFICE.

By the window of the drawing-room of the corner house in a dingy London square stood Honor Wyllie and Archie Douglas—a tall, dark-complexioned girl; and a slight, fair young man, somewhat above the middle height. Honor's slender fingers were mechanically untwisting the cords of the tassel that hung from the heavy curtains; her large grey eyes were directed at the little enclosure of smoky-looking trees, upon which the smut-laden rain was falling, but she saw neither trees nor rain. "I never for an instant thought of this," she said, without moving. "Believe me, never, or I should have been more careful."

cab, unconscious even that the driver thereof winked knowingly at another driver as he officiously helped him in. Douglas might, in fact, have been in the condition the cabman supposed, so unconscious was he of what went on around him. Even when he was once more in his own room, gloomy as a dark, wet day in London could make, his thoughts were scarcely under his own control. "How weak I am?" he muttered, after an ineffectual attempt to answer a business letter, and so dismiss Honor from his thoughts. "I could never have believed that a simple 'No' from her would so unstring me."

figure walking slowly away. "Perhaps I should have come sooner if I had guessed I should be so welcome," he added. "You are looking fearfully ill, though, Archer!" and Mr. Douglas surveyed him anxiously. "What have you been doing to yourself?" "Nothing, dad. Working too hard, possibly; and I have had one or two things to worry me lately."

know, father; don't think I am ungrateful. But it is no good—you are acting under a mistake. You give it up." "But you, Archer?" "Oh, I'm right enough!" and he laughed, abruptly. "Pshaw, father! what do you take me for, that you try to saddle me with a wife who doesn't care a straw for me? Come, you give it up!"

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