NOW FIRST PUBLISHED.

## A Winning Hazard,

## BY MRS. ALEXANDER.

Author of "Her Dearest Foe," "The Wooing O't," "A Crooked Path," &c., &c.

## COPYRIGHTED, 1895, BY MRS. ALEXANDER

CHAPTER VI. CONTINUED.

"I have brought you a cousin some half-a dozen times, removed though bodily present.'

"Who is it cousin Dick ?" exclaimed Kate leaving her slender hand in his tor another minute, while Tulloch stood, reddening under the gaze of two pairs of eyes. "Ab! I guess," she went on, "It must be Jamie Tulloch! I think I remember him."

"Well, I cannot say I remember you," cried the flattered Scot. "I left you a wee girlie, and I find you-a-" he hesitated.

"A beautiful goddess," put in Travers. "No! but what is a good deal better-a beautiful woman, if I may say it."

"Oh, Dick, give me that paper that 1 may hide my blushes," cried Kate laughing gaily, and catching the newspaper from Travers held it before her face for a sec-

"Ah! Miss Carey, I'd have known you among a hundred," said Tuiloch, turning to the elder sister, "I am sure I am delighted to see you ! How is your father?' "Remarkably well. He will be very

sorry to miss you." "Yes, indeed !" echoed Kate, "he is

out," she added addressing Travers. "Just fancy his having a note from Mr. Wincks this morning asking him to call though it was the Sarbath, he wished to speak to him particularly."

"Ab, yes! No doubt your father's experience must be of great importance to Mr. Wincks," said Travers gravely.

"I wish he thought so," remarked Alicia slightly raising her eye-brows.

"You have been a long time away from your triends," resumed Kate, pointing to a chair and evidently handing Travers over | of life as possible to her sister, ' How glad you must be to come back !"

"Yes, it's pleasant, but I am not come home just to idle and amuse myself. I am going to start business in the city."

"It must be delightful to have business to do !" said Kate smiling on him radiantly,

office quite early and dispirited, because there is hardly anything for him to do." "I would not trouble myself about that,"

said Travers, shifting his seat to one next the speaker, "I am inclined to believe that Wincks is a brick! How do you progress in your conquest of Miss Wincks?"

"Sometimes I fancy I have almost subdued her, and then I feel I have lost ground. When the brother is at home she is less triendly, it seems to me."

"Poor old soul! I suppose she 1s afraid of your fascination!"

"Fascination!" repeated Kate. "I don't think my dear old man is amenable to the fascinations even of an houri-but he is good to me, and be seems to know that I try to do my best."

"He would be very dull if he did not." said Travers, in a low tone. Kate turned her sister.

"No. I dont care for the theatre. It is all child's play and lies."

"You unhappy man," explained Kate. What a loss! Alicia and I are quite lifted out of present trials and troubles by

good play. What amuses you, novels?" "No I never read them. I know they are all invention.'

"Aud music?" said Kate, continuing her queries.

"Yes I like a good Scotch song or a lively reel.'

"And painting, Jamie?"

"Ab! well, yes-it isn't a bad spec. to buy a good picture!"

"That is not the way to look at it." persisted Kate, "Pure amusement is of | evening he paid a visit to Tulloch, whom immense value by itself. I believe it to be he caught as he was going out, and who a sacred duty to get as much pleasure out | accepted the invitation with readiness and

"But not to the neglect of duty," put in Alicia, with a little sigh.

"No, Alsie, of course not, but no one who is good for anything would go and enjoy bim or herselt with neglected duties behind him or her?"

"Life cannot be all pleasure, even if

remnant of bis property ; and what a long life stretched out before this fair young successful man. He is bold but cautious. I Travers." He has certain soft corters, too, the softness goes a very short way below | for him. the surface. Kate was very gracious to bim. I don't quite understand her swallowing all fiden ial tone. his nonsense so readily. She can be a reckless firt, I suspect. I remember how she Llanogwen , hough he was an ass not to see | that he hadn't the ghost of a chance with her. Tulloch is more of a gentleman, much more, and her kinsman to boot, still I is not the sort of girl who talls in love easily ; I don't tancy she would take to Tulloch, that is. I don't like the idea. Am [ , n idiot too ? This won't do. I must not dream of impossibilities. Good God! has all the chances of existence, all the wels in the diadem of life ; and what a jewel Kate is! But it she is well provided tor, and tenderly protected, it is not much see tow far my man is in sober carnest. An old shikari like myself ought to be up social jungle is a little more difficult to thread than the real one."

only for their sakes .- Yours always sin- metals.

cerely, "Robert Carey." Travers looked up his list of work and engagements, and finding he could manage to absent himself on the next Thursday

CHAPTER VII -AN IMPORTANT MISSION. Travers was still writing busily when Tulloch arrived on the much anticipated Thursday.

"You are punctual," exclaimed the former, rising to shake hands with him;

you, our worthy principal, Wincks, is gocreature, gitted as she was with a superb ing to send me on a special mission to the something, you know. Mr. Salter was girls say you took them down in an open physique ! Besides, there was her sister, to old country. What do you think of that? quite pleased; I wish we had thought of it carriage and pair, or four, not sure which. whom she was tenderly attached, to be There's a client of his has a fancy to buy before ; so papa had it tuned, and it is not provided for. "Tulloch is. and will be, a an estate in the county Meath, and Wincks [ bad, though it hadn't been touched for wants me to ascertain all perticulars and ages." have noticed that long ago," thought see that everything is fair and straight. He has come to the right man when he came which men and women too may fancy they | to me! I know every inch of the country can manipulate. But they are mistaken, | -- and I will get the re I facts of the case "Isn't it nice ?" said Kate, in a low con-

"First rate !" returned Travers, who was sincerely glad to hear of such a mark used to play with that contractor man at of confidence from Carey's employer. "Best news I have had for a long time." Kate gave him a little nod and a smile. "Ring the bell, Alsie," cried Carey, "here's Tulloch ready to pick the bones of don't see her falling in love with him. She | the chair he is sitting on with hunger " The bell was answered by a promising jingle and dinner appeared. There was a piece of creamy white cod and oyster sauce, and the promised leg of mutton, round, plump. juicy, and delicately browned. fol-Why is it that a fellow with a full purse lowed by some pinky stewed rhubarb with cream The viands were irreproachable, and it the attendance was less perfect there was an honest jollity about the whole thing that was very enlivening. The jumping up matter about anything else. I suppose I for bread, the hunting in improbable corshall have to play sympathetic confidante ners for the corkscrews, the indiscriminate and goodeberry picker. Anyhow I must opening of beer bottles by the men, the opening of beer bottles by the men, the benevolent striving to save "Matilda" unnecessary runs up and down stairs, gave a to the dodges of such a game, though the cheerful picnic sone to the entertainment. Then a joyous hospitality of the host. How

he beamed upon his guests from behind the The following morning Travers received | muttor, and dropped unexpected tit-bits a note from his Irish relative. "Dear and spoonsful of gravy on the plates within away, cat bing what Tulloch was saying to Dick,-I am sorry to have missed you and reach, and made surprising "long arms" to Tulloch to day. The girls tell me he has those that were not, and pressed his guests turned out a fine man. Bring him over to to drink the beer and the claret, though London. Ob, Dick, he wants to be taken dinner on Wednesday, or the first day you | "it was an insult to good wine calling such | care of." can-a leg ot mutton at seven and a hearty a mix'ure of ink and vinegar by the name welcome. Tell bim I suppose he can do of a decent liquid." It is not all written without finery. You'll be glad to hear I in the records of pleasant imprudence P It have a grand job with Wineks ; parti ulars | was a treat to dine with Carey. You felt when we meet Shouldn't be surprised if that every morsel you swallowed invigorated play my cards well that he takes me on your host. Alas! that the unallayed gold permanently, say as manager. Anyhow, I of such a nature is so unfit for general cirsee the tide is turning. The girls send culation !- that its flex ble purity cannot their loves. Luck ought to come, it it was bear the friction with baser and stronger

> It was a pleasant meal, and Tu'loch seemed carried away by the spirit of his convives. His eyes dwelt on Kate with undisguised admiration-and Travers was halt surprise, half annoyed, at the readiness with which she accepted his attention. At last the girls suggested a stroll in the

garden while the cloth was being removed. By this time Carey had grown very con-

fidential, and as Tulloch and Travers smoked the cigar ot peace, detailed his places for sharing the business of Bouchier and Winks, and establishing an Irish

branch of considerable magnitude-tor then, putting his papers together, he clos- Parliamentary business chiefly-but also

"Well, Dick, I have grand news tor | ter had one in her room, and one day Alicia asked if we might have it and pay

> "I remember you used to charm the soul of the rejected Brett with ballads down at Llanogwen. "He hadn't a soul," said Kate, with calm

conviction. "He had an ear and a so of physical intelligence."

"You young materialist! Do you mean to say that some men have souls and some haven't ?'

"I think so," hesitistingly. "I am ignorant and illogical enough, but Dick, I have a certain sense of the fitness of things ; could and save heartily enough, but as I haven't. you fancy Mr. Brett enjoying himselt in heaven?

"Well, bardly. He might get on better in the other place ; especially it he could get up a company to raise water, say from the bottomless pit, to extinguish the flames! Then our Scotch triend, Jamie Tulloch, would be rather out of place in the celestial regions. He'd miss his pipe, his bills of ly. lading, and his invoices."

"But Jamie has possibilities. He rather wishes to be generous ; he is sympathetic ; you see how pleased he was with poor dear papa's project and entered into it," said Kate thoughtfully.

"My dear girl, it would not be wise to 'I know what you were going to say. Mr. Tulloch shall never lend papa at y money ; others ; and he is such a dear ! I seem to see him in a new light since we came to

"Perbaps, rather. When does he start ?" "On Saturday. How strange it will seem to be without him.

"Still it is a great step in advance his being sent on this mission. I must come and look you up, and see that you are ject. conducting yourself properly '

"Pray do. By the bye, we have a new acquaintance. The clergyman of the church we go to has called ; Alicia told Mrs. Salter,

our landlady, that she would like to teach in the Sunday school; and it seems they wanted teachers very much ; so Mr. Overton came to se; us. Alicia always 1 ked not be free for more than a week myself, that sort of thing."

"And you ?" asked Travers.

"Well, no, I am ashamed to say, I don't know why I feel awkward and uncertain. Now Alsie is quite at home." Here they had accomplished the tour of

the wilderness, and joined the rest.

"Come, Kate, let us have one of the melodies," said Travers. "I was afraid you would torget how to sing."

"I had nearly," she returned, "but you

"When shall we manage that day at the Crystal Palace?" asked Tulloch. "The Now I thick pleasure ceases to be pleasure when it costs too much."

15

"So do I," returned Travers, laughing, "but you see I didn't think it did, and we had a very jolly day. When you don't do a think often you may as well do it thoroughly.'

"That's not the way to scrape money together," said Tulloch, sulkily.

"I know that. But as I shall never have a chance of doing so I may as well enjoy what I can. I don't say it's wise. Yours is a good maxim. I dare say if I had a margin to work upon I would scrape why, all I care for is to keep clear of debt."

"Why you'll die a miserable bachelor, then !" cried Tulloch.

"A bachelor ? Yes. A miserable one, certainly not. To be sure there are heiresses, discriminating heiresses, to be tound, Jamie my man."

"And that's truth," said Tulloch, hearti-

"Now you, lucky fellow that you are," resumed Travers, "have only to pick up the fairest charmer you can find, and throw considerations of pelf to the wind."

"I'm not so sure about that, Travers. It's uncommon handy to find a wife with a tidy little fortune. I'm not greedy-far let Tulloch-" began Travers. earnestly. from it, but I should like the woman I "No, certainly not," interrupted Kate. marry to have something of her own; and, by the way, I am invited to a big dinner at Anderson's. He is the London partner no one shall it we-Alsie and 1-can pre- in Berry, Thomas and Anderson's, the vent it. He is so hopeful that he deceives great china merchants, on Wednesday; himself, and then unintentionally deceives and I caresay I'll meet more than one twenty thousand pounder there."

"Go in and win, then; only make your selection-prudence, ambition, and a moneyed wite, or the girl of your heartlove and the world well lost. Don't play tast and loose with both, or take my word, you'll come to grief-decided grief." There was something very serious in Travers' warning tone. Tulloch changed the sub-

"As to your expedition. Miss Carey-Alicia says they would rather wait till their father comes back. I must say he is capital company.".

"So be it then," said Travers, rather impatiently, with an unreasoning sense of irritation against his companion. "I shall so it had better be postponed. High! Here hansom ! Cant lose any more time; come along, Tulloch, as far as the Marble Arch, where you will find a splendid choice of omnibuses."

It may be imagined with what tender thoughtfulness Carey's daughters mended and packed and sewed on buttons, in preparation for their father's journey. He

## PROGRESS, SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1896,

and they continued to talk in a friendly fashion, Tulloch offering many compliments in rather clumsy style. Travers was a little surprised that Kate accepted them so frankly, though he acknowledged that Tull- | always try." och had a tone of rough sincerity not unattractive.

Tea was now brought in, but still Carey did not appear.

"What have you been doing with yourselves since I saw vou," asked Travers.

"Nothing remarkable ; Kate has had great deal of copying to do, and Miss Golding came to tea with us last Wednesday, and took us tor a drive to Richmond. She is very good-natured."

"Golding?" repeated Tulloch, who caught the name. "Any relation to Golding and Grimes the big china merchants ?" "I cannot tell you," returned Alicia.

"Miss Golding is very rich ; she lives with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Palmer, in Westbourne Terrace."

"Dreadtul stupid common people, who are horribly rich," put in Kate. "The niece is not half so bad ; I think she is rather nice by nature, though rather spoiled by her wealth."

"Her tather is dead ?" asked Tulloch. adding in a reverential tone, "She must be old Golding's daughter, and I fancy her fortune will run a good way into five figures !"

"It must be pleasant to make money, said Kate, pensively, as she had handed Tulloch a cup of tea. "I wish I had a shop."

"If you had a shop it is a toss up whether you would make money or lose it."

"I suppose so, and I am afraid I belong to that class who lose it," she returned then with a little interrogative graceful bend of the head to one side, and fascinating smile, she asked, "How do you set about making money, Mr. Tulloch ?"

"Mr. Tulloch !" he repeated with an ad. miring gaze. "Why do you put me off to such a distance, when you call Travers, Dick ?'

"Oh! I have known him so well ; he seems nearer-more than a cousin than you are.'

"I can be as good a cousin as he is ' cried Tulloch, eagerly.

"It you are as good as he is," said Kate, laughing, though there was infinite kindliness in the glance she gave Travers, "you will be very good indeed. So to encourage you in well doing I shall call you-what is your Christian name ?"

"I was christened James, but my friends generally call me Jamie !"

"Then Jamie, let me persuade you to take ame bread and butter.' "That's right ! I never liked my name so

much before," he exclaimed. "Did they teach you to make pretty

speeches in India?" she asked. "You and loss.'

"More profit than loss, thank God !" done. Most of them seem to think it's of no as well go that way as we are not in a consequence.

"Ah ! if they only knew what it is to do without it they would take a different view of the matter.

said Tulloch, with grave conviction. actively to the top of the omnibus while yore-bis fine aquiline face beaming with the comfort of talking of one's troubles." that it is nearly useless to try and make a "My father is staying a long time with "You are right, I suppose. 'To bear is man act on different lines from those the light of the child-like heart within. Travers struck across Kensington Gardens. travelling cap in his pocket that he might to conquer our fate,' but it is a relief to | natural to him, or if you suceed he fails? Mr. Wincks," observed Alicia who was "Delighted to see you. Tulloch, my Tulloch was evidently a man of sub-stance, and able to indulge his whims. He was not very refined, but a fairly good and said you'd fill out. There was room for sleep comfortably, may be imagined. Then presiding over the teapot, and Tulloch. me to talk of them, at least to some triends | Men rarely win except off their own bats." in a fit of intense economy he declined a proceeding to make especial inquiries about Mr. Carey's health and strength, Kate addressed herself in a confidential tone to "Don't fancy Carey would ever win off -you, for instance. Yet I think I am a cab, insisting on proceeding to Euston little stronger than I used to be." his own bat or any other man's." filling, begad, you were a bag of bones! Square by a succession of omnibuses. So honest fellow, with an air of great sincerity. It he proved disinterested and true, would it not be well it Kate were safe under she would hardly recognise you, and Katey, "You are a tower of strength, Kate ; "I don't agree with you. He is bright he bid them a loving farewell, and departed only don't become strong-minded !" There and shrewd in an intermittent way. He is, set bid them a loving farewell, and departed gleefully, carrying his own luggage, and was a pause, and Travers recommenced, in or was, quite capable of making a hit in quite certain of going to conquer trach Travers. "I am glad Mr. Wincks has asked papa to go to him privately, for I it not be well if Kate were safe under shelter of his protection from the terrible uncertainties of the future? He knew well how penniless Carey was save for his poor how penniless Carey was save for his poor quite certain of going to conquer fresh business worlds, like another Alexander. sometimes fear they will not get on so well. together. They are so different, you see, and sometimes papa comes home from the earnings and the pittance derived from the appearance. (To be continued.)

crosses did not come. One must take time for serious thought," said Alicis. had been writing. "One can be happy as well as serious. It isn't easy to forget worries, but I shall

"You are quite right! You are the most sensible girl I ever met!" cried Tulloch. "There!' said Kate, with a little triumphant nod to Travers, "You see what a profound judge of character our cousin James is! I hope you will treat me put me out of the pale if I went in my with more respect in future, Dick!" "I am of your opinion about enjoying put up with any want of proper obser-

oneself. Now suppose we have a happy day together. Travers. We'll take you down to the Crystal Palace to spend the day and dine. What do you say to going to-morrow? My holidays will soou be over, so I'd like to make hay while I can." "It would be very nice," said Alicia, smiling.

"Then let us meet at Victoria Station at wo.'

"Quite delightful !" exclaimed Kate, only it your holidays last out the week I would rather go on Saturday. Monday it is always so crowded, and the last time we went Cousin Dick took us down in an day, the twentieth." "Sir Everard and open carriage. Then papa must come." Tulloch's face fell.

"We'll settle it between us," said Travers quickly, "and let you know. I am not sure what day I can go."

you arrange," exclaimed both girls to. sort of a gathering, as it seemed to Tullgether.

At last Travers and is protege were in the street, and after walking a few yards in silence, Tulloch broke out "What a charming girl! I never saw such eyessuch a figure-she'd do credit to any man's table-and what a smile! Why you didn't say half enough about them, for the eldest on your back, and don't send round the is very pleasent and well mannered. But hit. I get a good deal too many; one can't Kate is a fine creature-a sort of girl one refuse all, and the greater number only longs to kiss, eh. man."

"I don't know," returned Travers, drily. "I am not given to longing for what I but we'll do it." can't have.'

"My motto is nothing venture, nothing have." said Tulloch, with a self-satisfied grin, "and she has sense too, a feeling for the value of money which few young things | sweet spring flowers adorned the room and have."

"Well, take care ! Kate is not so easy to please; don't lose your heart and think you have a sate game.

"Game! Why, don't you see she is far too wide awide not to know the value of a mirably suited her coloring. Travers obcomortable home-and a husband to keep her? However, they don't seem very hard up. I suppose old Carey has a trifle and lit up with an expression of unmistake-

trifle "I know very little of his affairs-but 1 draught of Hope elixir; there was an up-

suspect that if he has-it is a very trifling trifle.

"Well, I am rather an impulsive sort of fellow, and I contess that with or without | degree of mental exultation. Poor Carey evidently studied more there than profit a trifle Kate Carey is a tempting article. His schemes were generally on the invert- returned Travers, recovering his usual She seems rather to take to me, too, hey? She was sharp on you for not thinking base, what a spreading superstructure he returned Tulloch, piously. "And I can tell enough ot her sense. I can slways man- could raise. Nature is a beneficent comyou it's very good to hear a young lady age to get on with women. High !" hail- pensator. Carey had little of this world's speak seriously about money as you have ing an omnibus with his umbrella, "may goods, but then tancy and temperament

hurry.' "As I am not in a burry I shall walk Travers' mind the object of them was be- as ever you like."

for private and general matter. ed and locked the escritoire at which he Tulloch listened with protound attention.

and then in his turn hinted at his inten-"I'll not keep you long; I can dress as tion of buying a house and furnishing Carey would say in no time.'" it, and establishing himself permanently in "Why, you are all right, man." London. He rather liked the idea of Mr. "Oh, I must put on evening togs." Carey's scheme, and if his kinsman saw

"What, to go dine in a poky lodging; I never dreamt of changing.

"You are a traveller. and will be held harmless. But the young ladies would provided there was no risk. dusty morning attire. They would uot his eyes sparkling. "It's as certain as that you are cutting the end of that cigar. It's vance

Tulloch looked annoyed, and surveyed himselt critically in a long glass between the windows.

"I don't look so bad, eh ?"

"No; on the contrary, quite fascinating," and Travers, thowing him an evening paper, disappeared into his bedroom.

But Tullock found reading more attractive in the cards struck round the frame of the over mantle glass. These impressed bim a good deal. "The Honourable Mrs. Hurbert Herries requested the pleasure of Mr. Travers' company to dinner on Tues-Lady Maudesley wished for the same tavour on Wednesday, the twenty-first." capital-"The Countess of Llandaff was at home to Mr. Travers on Thursday," so was Lady Adeline Dacre; while the Duchess of Bun-"Ob! we shall be pleased with whatever gay desired his attendance at a confidential och, the words "small and early" being

printed in the corner of the card. "Why, Travers, you are no end of a swell," cried Tulloch: "you seem to go everywhere, to all sorts of grand houses. "It's easy enough to get invitations in London, as long as you have a decent coat waste one's time. Come along, we have about twenty minutes to reach Nottinghill,

They were scarcely five minutes behind time, and found that Oakeley Villas had put its very best foot foremost.

The cloth was "elegantly" laid, and ly turned with him. the table. Alicia and Kate arrayed themselves in demi-toilette-the former in a black gauzy garment which became her, should you think so ?" and Kate in lilac muslin, trimmed with li.ac and black velvet ribbon, which adserved that his companion's eyes sought her the moment he crossed the threshold to keep them-not much-but still a able pleasure and excitement. He also saw that Carey had evidently imbibed a large rearing of the head, a sparkle in his bright

blue eyes-a curl of fun and good humour about his mobile mouth, which bespoke a ed pyramid system, from a pin's point of supplied him with true riches.

While these thoughts flashed through stowing the heartiest of welcomes on Tul-

helps me."

The rest of the evening went over quickly, with an occasional song from Kate, and some of Alicia's expressive playing. Kate's voice, though needing culture, was rich, sweet, and true, just what might be his way to making a good thing of it he expected from her graceful, creamy throat. (Tulloch) would not mind advancing a She was naturally dramatic, and in no way courle of thousands to forward the business

When she had sung the quaint little Irish "Risk, my dear fellow !" cried Carey, ditty, "Kathleen O'More," her father, who had listened with delight, suddenly exclaimed.

a splendid opening! Old Wiucks is a "That reminds me of Brett and Llanogshrewd fellow, but he has no enterprisewen! Faith, it quite slipped my memory to not a shied! It was only the day before tell you I met him the day before yesterday, vesterday he said to me-'You are a clever coming out of Wincks' private room, and man, and a good lawyer, Mr. Carey. How you'd think he had seen a ghost ! 'You is it that you came down in the world?' here !' he exclaimed, stepping back and 'Faith I never could tell,' says I, 'luck was staring at me. 'To be sure I am,' said I. against me somehow, though I was an in- 'Thanks to you! You did me a good turn teresting fellow !' 'Ah !'' says he, 'enterwhen you introduced me to this firm. I'll

prising ! just so: I never was enterprising. not lorget it ! Why don't you come up I suppose if you were a partner in this firm | and see us? We are in a pleasant part, busy to come and see us, for he was going

to be mar ied next week to a widow lady with a lot of money, he gave me to under-

Travers noticed that Kate's color came quickly over cheek and brow as her father spoke, and his eyes caught hers with an

"Can you sing a Scotch song?" asked self greatly.

"One or two old ones," said Kate, and his cheek, "the worst is over now." She asked her sister to play the accompanimoved away as she spoke and ran up the ment of that almost torgotten ballad. steps to see if the table had been cleared "Donald," to bis further delectation. Then and the room put in order. When she there was a stirrip cup in the shape of a modest glass of whisky and water, and came down again, she tound Travers waiting for her, and apparently in deep thought. good nights were exchanged. It was a quiet, dry night, and the two men walked on together towards town for a short way in silence.

"I tancy you live rather fast, Travers," said Tulloch, with a slight irritated tone. "I? Far from it. I am as careful a fellow as ever lived. Why, poor old Carey calls me a screw, and I am always preach-

dinner, that's all." "Well, as you and Tulloch were able and

might rest on my oars." "Why Dick, I never knew you disagree-

able before !" she exclaimed with a look of surprise.

"Come Kate, that is too strong an accusation, I must not lose my character, though if I have been disagreeable once during these years, it's not a bad record." pleasant easy tone, and throwing away the

"Thank you," he said, meeting the "You would only have deprived him of a across the Park," said Travers shortly. wiches, and filled a little flask with brandy "Good-bye to you for the present; will loch. He had sprung from his chair, his sweet soft moist eyes up-turned to his great deal of pleasure and done no good. and water, and collected pennies and three-"You're right! that's perfectly true," look you up soon." Tulloch clambered tall slight figure almost as upright as of with kindly seriousness "but I don't see Have you not seen enough of life to know perny bits that he might be saved from feeling the porters too largely, and put a

vas to be allowed travelling expenses, but see, Alicia has kept up her music, and not until his mission was accomplished, an arrangement which caused those young

ladies some anxiety. "I wonder how he will manage it," said Alicia to Kate, the day before he was to start. "He has never said a word about it.

and he seems quite happy." "You know he has a way of looking like that, when the next day he is obliged to confess he hasn't half a crown in the world. I'll ask him, Alsie, though I bate to do it. It's a sort of liberty to take with one's father ; but I'm awfully afraid he might ask

Mr. Wincks for an advance. It would lower him dreadfully. Mr. Wincks is very very good in many ways, and does not think that he despises poverty, but I fancy he cannot imagine a respectable man without a reserve fund of some kind-not less than ten pounds; and in his heart believes that people who haven't ought to be under police survelliance."

"It is very bad indeed to have nothing behind one," remarked Alicia, thoughtfully; "but thank God we are wonderfully paid up; nor do I feel so much atraid of the future now, so long as we keep well. It would be awful if any of us fell ill."

"Oh, nonsense, Alsie; we never are ill. Why should we begin now ?"

"There's papa's ring," said Alicia, starting up; "I will let bim in, and then leave you together."

Katenodded, and laid down her father's gloves, which she had been stitching.

"Hard at work for the old dad, my jewel," was his greeting. "I'll not be my self at all when I haven't you and Alsie beside me; but it will be a real joy to come back again.

. Yes, and the journey will do you so much good; you will have so much to tell us. Now, dear, forgive me, but-how are you off for money? You have not been obliged to ask Mr. Wincks for any? "Not I, faith! I'd cut my tongue out first. But I have a couple of fivers all right, where I can get at them easy; so I'll be all right for my start tomorrow evening; and, of course, I'll put them back when the firm pays up

"I am so glad to hear it. Mind you hold the money very tight, dear; but don't pinch and worry while you are moving about-go to good inns and eat good dinners. You will not travel first class ?

"Is it me? and we wanting no end of things! No, by George! All the same, Bouchier and Co. shall not demean themselves by paying less than first class fare !" Kate colored a little.

"They ought, certainly." she said hesitatingly; "and you would go first-class places, but if you don't-

"Do you take your old father for a cheat quite different; very nice and all that, but my darilng ? Faith ! it isn't complimentary. so quiet and sedate. And do you mean to No, no ; but if they choose to give me firstsay that Carey has nothing to leave behind class pay, and I choose to go to secondhim ? Come, now, he'll have some; not class places that's my affair ; if they ask me what my journey ccst, why thats another pair of shoes. Now, where's my Alsie? "An old coffee pot, probable, and I am Come, hurry up tea and whatever you have,

I am as hungry as a hunter !" Kate and her sister were highly pleased and greatly surprised to find their father so flush of cash, and with light hearts continued their work of preparation.

How they packed his valise and cut sand-

He turned towards the end of the garden furthest from the seat and Kate mechanical-"Has anything annoyed you, Dick ?" she asked looking earnestly at him. "No! There's nothing the matter, why "You were rather silent and quiet at ing prudence to him." "Well, I'm sure he seems prudent

willing to do all the talking, I thought I enough; at any rate his daughter is. What a wife that girl would make !" "Which ?" asked Travers, lighting

"Why, Kate, of course. The other is

much, perhaps, but still some tin for the girls? end of his cigar.

"Ah! Dick. your record is indeed a good not sure of that.' "Well, it's an awful shame. What one," she said, "you have been good and reckless scamp Carey must be," cried Tulpatient, and loyal to us, so, it anything loch, with some heat. "I don't think I'd ever does worry you, and it would be a comfort to talk about it, I'll listen as long | have accepted his invitation to dinner if I had known all this."

you would make my business spin prettily?' though a trifle out of the way.' Then he so you see the old tellow has some thoughts looked very straight at me, and said he of it. I am not given to fancy things you had been making a line in Italy. What know, but it locks like it; and if our friend do you think of that, and that he was too Tulloch here, was inclined to advance the "It will be time enough to think of that, when papa is asked to join the firm," inter- stand. He thinks more than ever of himrupted Alicia quickly. She had placed her- | self, but he desired me to tell the young

selt besides her father on the rather un- ladies. This journey to Ireland put it all steady rustic seat. while Kate leaned on out of my head." the back of it and the others stood before

them "Well, we'll see !" resumed Carey, "things will be moving when I come back | amused look. from Ireland, I'll be pleased to see the old country again. Why, it's nearly four years | Tulloch, who seemed to be enjoying himsince we left-four bard years !" "Never mind, dear, said Kate stroking