CHAPTER II.

THE INMATES OF THE HOUSE.

ARTHUR MOORCROFT had been a general favourite with his school-fellows. Active and strong, full of high health and exuberant spirits, he had been foremost in every scheme of amusement, and had taken the lead in every game. He had a generous heart and an open hand; and when a parcel had arrived with his name upon it, it had been a cause of not disinterested rejoicing to all who shared his room. No one could have charged him with a mean or a shabby act. He was too brave to cringe to those above him, or to bully those below. Thus Arthur had been, as I have said, a favourite with his companions; but with the masters he was occasionally in disgrace. His was a proud and wilful spirit—hating restraint, struggling against control—that republican spirit,