

had been careless enough to drop at that moment.

“What do you think of that proverb, Miss Julia, as applied to me? I am awkward, and rather old for the task I undertake; but, if I persevere, do you think I shall prosper?”

“I do not think you awkward, or too old,” said Miss Julia, smiling; and then she added, “to become a very good hand at hop-picking.”

“Persevere, and you will prosper, Mr. Clavering,” said Mimmie; “even Fanny has at last learned the truth of that motto. She is already getting a character for being exact; and she was, until lately, proverbially indifferent to perfect truthfulness.

“I think,” said Mrs. Reynolds, “Fanny owes much of her perseverance to having such a friend as this scrupulous, exact, methodical little Martha, whose character serves as a continual check upon Fanny. Now, I have a bargain to propose to you, Mr. Clavering; if you will let Fanny have