

“And highly complimented the miners may think themselves,” put in Archie.

“Well, as it turns out,” continued Mr. Kimberly, “you needn’t have worried yourself quite so much about your inability, seeing you have already accomplished a very great deal—you and your young friends who help you.”

“How?” exclaimed Minnie, eagerly, “we seem to be able to do nothing just now—the only time we could do any real good—”

“Never mind that at the present moment,” interrupted Archie, “let us hear papa’s story.”

“Then you must know in the first place that the discontent among the miners is stirred up by a few men who, not content with bringing poverty and hardship upon themselves, seek to draw others into it also, and seem never to be so happy as when raising strife of one kind or another. I know that the most of my men, are perfectly well aware that they receive good wages for their work, and would be content enough if it were not for these vampires—for they seem liker that than anything else. Though I have been at many of their meetings I have never had an opportunity of speaking until to-day, and you may be sure I made the most of it, laying before them a plain statement of the case, and asking them if, in their hearts, they did not endorse every word of it.

“I may as well say that I had very little faith in anything resulting from this appeal, and was therefore not surprised when I sat down, to see that the stolid indifference with