



III.

Uncle Walter's Invitation.

" Things will be vexing, people will provoke,
And all goes wrong ;
Then comes the cry for help, or else the shame
That frets you all day long."

"**H**ERE are the letters!" cried Ernest, the next morning at breakfast-time, as he ran in with the post-bag, which had just been deposited on the hall table. "Quick, papa, do open it!"

"Why, Ernest, what makes you in such a state of excitement? who would have thought of seeing you care about the letters?"

Ernest looked over at Constance and laughed, and then they both watched their father very eagerly, while he with great