

daughter, who had married without his consent, and whom he had consequently cast off. She was a widow, very much straitened in circumstances and having a large family to support, but, though she had written several letters entreating her father's forgiveness, he would not grant it, and they remained estranged. This had somewhat embittered the old man's heart, and he was inclined to look with a cold and unsympathizing eye upon those around, while he remained wrapped up in his own sorrow. He heard Ernest's exclamation as he passed under the window, and it went like a dagger through him.

“ ‘Old screw’ can it be? am I come to this?—well, it is the fault of those who have made me so—pooh! what does it signify what a boy says of me?” and the farmer lighted his pipe, and puffed away in silence. The winter wind whistled keenly round the walls of the old house, the snow was