



WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

ENGLISH WATERING PLACES.

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SUMMER, with its long days and bright sunshine, brings with it, to town residents, a desire to visit one or other of the many beautiful spots that are scattered along our coast. The facilities for travelling are so great that a few hours suffice to complete a journey which formerly occupied days, and, at a comparatively trifling cost, we are borne over the iron roads to the most distant part of our country. Railways have created a demand for healthy, pleasant, and convenient watering places; and, within the last few years, many poor little fishing towns have suddenly sprung into importance and become favourite places of resort. Some of the most charming spots on the shores of our own beautiful island are, indeed, admirably adapted for the purpose of those who seek fresh air and fine scenery, and places of no previous importance have thus suddenly become thronged with visitors; and elegant villas, and comfortable boarding-houses, and convenient hotels, have sprung up to offer their accommodation. There was a village, for example, on the coast of Somersetshire, a place of very limited attractions, visited sometimes by fishing smacks and small trading vessels that came to the neighbouring islands of Knightstone and Birnbeck; well, this place has recently risen into a first-class watering-place, and is the resort of a large number of visitors.

Weston-super-Mare, the locality to which we allude, is delightfully situated on Uphill Bay, Bristol Channel, and is conveniently reached from London, having a station on the Great Western Railway eight and a half miles from Axbridge. It possesses all the attractions of a first-class watering-place, and is rapidly increasing its popularity. The villas, commanding the sea, are elegant structures of the modern school, and impart a pleasing aspect to the town from the bay. The fine sweep of the bay, with its pellucid and transparent waters, stretching out into the open channel; the interesting prospects of the surrounding country, especially the view of the opposite coast of Wales, give a picturesque charm to the scenery, unsurpassed of its kind on

the English coast. The sands are excellent, and the bathing establishments well managed—a most important matter in a watering-place. For those who seek repose and health, the restoration of a jaded body or exhausted mind, this place is peculiarly adapted; it has its attractions, also, for the mere holiday seeker, and a visit to its pleasantly situated town and extensive bay is sure to be thoroughly enjoyed and pleasantly remembered. Weston-super-Mare, therefore, has claims on the attention of the excursionist, who will find it in all ways suitable for a pleasant, cheerful, healthy residence during the time he may be able to devote to relaxation in the country.

The parish of Weston-super-Mare covers an area of 2,190 acres; it comprises the islands and fishing stations, Knightstone and Birnbeck, and the hamlets of Ashcombe and Milton. The population is over 4,000.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF AN HEIRESS;

OR,
The Old Feud.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "FRENCH HAY," ETC.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

This day be bread and peace my lot,
All else beneath the sun,
Thou know'st if best bestowed or not,
And let thy will be done.—POPE.

FORTUNATELY for me, I was a very quick, and tolerably good seamstress. My work, therefore, found favour in Miss Hall's sight; and when the skirts and flounces we were engaged upon were completed that evening, she asked me, rather anxiously, if I would mind coming the rest of the week?

"I know the pay is little," she said, kindly; "but you seem very quick at taking anything; and if you do want work, and learn a bit while you are with me, you'll stand a better chance in a work-room, if you choose to try it afterwards."

"Thank you; I shall be glad to come. And if, when this is finished, you can put me in the

way of obtaining more, I shall be sincerely grateful."

The next day, and the next, therefore, I went regularly to my new duty; and Mary, who at first rebelled a little against it, at last became not only reconciled, but satisfied; while I, endeavouring with my whole heart to throw all my zeal and energy into the employment, found, as all will who try the experiment, that I was both the happier and better for it. One circumstance, certainly, which aided my efforts considerably, must not be overlooked. In Miss Hall's room I was perfectly quiet. Neither coarse, noisy companions, nor rude employers, revolted or annoyed me. My principal talked incessantly, to be sure; but, like the creaking of a branch in stormy weather, I got used to it; and as for conversation, so that now and then I answered "yes" or "no" in their proper places, she was content!

On Sunday, too, I had visitors.

Mary came, and with her John and Monsieur de Coutance.

The sight of both the latter was very welcome; and although, a fortnight before, I had been in utter ignorance even of their existence, now I greeted them as tried friends, whose worth and value had been tested and proved. The first, especially, I was delighted to see, in order to thank him for the part he had taken with Mr. Meredith, and to ask if anything more had been heard or seen of him.

"Yes, to be sure! Such creatures as him aint easy got rid of. I see him or his precious funkey most days; and though they can't help lookin' as vicious as hungry rats, they're as civil as they well know how to be. One would ha' thought, after the row as Mr. Meredith and me had, and the things I said, as he'd ha' been more ready to knock me down than speak to me, 'specially as he don't want for pluck! But I suppose he thinks he'll catch me trippin' some day, and then he'll get a chance of findin' out his ends, and payin' off old scores!"

"Oh! if he never learns anything until you betray me, I have little cause for fear!"

"I hope so! But folks are all on the listen everywhere down the road. Everybody's got some tale or other; and a night or two ago, it seems, there was a row with poachers in the Eilerslie woods, and by