

"He is an excitable fellow," said Mr. Delane. "I hope after to-day he will sober down. About half an hour ago he turned up at our house, and we had a long talk in my study before I would consent to bring him here. You want to know what he has to say for himself? Kitty must tell you that."

"Where has he been?" asked Grace.

"Taking a friend's place as under-master at some school. The friend was out of health and ordered complete rest. Oliver has been taking his duties, handing over to him every penny of the salary, and at the same time saving him from all anxiety about the future by keeping the place open for him. It never occurred to Oliver that his absence might be equivocally interpreted."

"What has all that to do with his behaviour to Kitty?" asked Grace.

"Nothing whatever. If you want that explained you must go to him. I regard what he told me as strictly private."

Kitty and Oliver did not emerge from the sitting-room for a long while—not till the long-deferred words of love and betrothal had been spoken, and all past tribulation blotted out by present happiness.

In the end Grace did hear what had passed between Mrs. Fenwick and Oliver, but Kitty never admitted that her lover had been at all to blame; and I will do him the justice to say that he never wearied of trying to deserve the forgiveness she had granted so readily and gladly.

H. L.



## March for the Pianoforte.

PIANO. *Maestoso.* *mf* F. PEEL, B.Mus., Oxon.

First system of musical notation, featuring a treble and bass clef. The treble clef part begins with a *mf* dynamic marking. The music is in a minor key and consists of flowing eighth and sixteenth notes in both hands.

Second system of musical notation, continuing the piece with similar melodic and harmonic development in both hands.

Third system of musical notation, showing further melodic lines and harmonic support.

Fourth system of musical notation, featuring a key signature change to a major key (indicated by a natural sign over the F) and a change in the bass line's rhythmic pattern.

Fifth system of musical notation, characterized by dense chordal textures and complex rhythmic patterns in both hands.

Sixth system of musical notation, continuing the dense and intricate musical texture.

Seventh system of musical notation, concluding the page with a *rall.* (rallentando) marking. The music features a mix of chords and moving lines.