

Author: Rev. Hamilton Kingsford (1831-1914)

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VNiVERSITAS
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SALAMANTINI
VIGORNIAN MONOLOGUE.

XVII.

I didn't rickon as thur wuzn't no likes o' 'e bein' anny better, but a've bin on the mendin' 'and hiver sence a come whoam, an' a've gone to try an' git summat or another to do i' Birmi'gham. Thur yean't no accountin' fur wot a 'ool do; 'e be a despret saafy. I telled 'e as a'd better goo to sarvice in the country nar goo into the town. I didn't waant fur 'e to goo to no plaace wur a be many o' thahy rodney, robblin' rottlin' sart o' young chops, an' to goo along o' thahy to public-'ousen ar summat; not as I minds 'is gooin' hevery onst while wen a be a dry, ar when a 'aves 'im 'is fittle. I knaows a pretty good feow on 'em as is as baad as baad. 'A couldn't be in no wuss comp'ny 'owever. A's riglar blacks, a blaggards heverybody, an' 'ca's 'em heverithing as a con lahy thur tongue to. Thur be so many 'ticements an' thin's, an' bwoys as is allus on the nifflin' pin, an' sarvin' one another out, an hall manner. An' if a gits moer waages, a doesn't goo so fur, not by a lung wahy an' a yean't no better off but a's wuss, let aloan as a be so stived an' penned up in town. But thahy young uns a be so standy: a 'ool 'a thur own wahy if a

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con; an' 't'yeant' o' no moer good to talk to thahy not to spet. An' a be so cheeky an' folks ca's it sprackness. Pahrents doesn't chastise nar ardain thur child'en as a wuz used to. An' hevery nows an' thens a sims as if a wuz lunny like, an' 'adn't got hall thur buttons on. But, a sez, " young fools thinks as owld fools doesn't knaow nothin'; but owld fools knaows as young fools doesn't knaow nothin'." I rickons as it be the truth pretty nigh. But thur, a lives an' a larns; an' hall on us as is haged men got wuz buwoys onst, an' a dessahy us didn't knaow no better'n thahy; nar do no better.

But now mind 'ee, thur be a 'oonderful' odds in the young uns; an' some's wuss 'n some. Sometimes thahy as is'nt so baad gits clocked along o' thahy as is, an' a gits despret pals, an' a goes bezzlin' about an' muddlin' together; an' a soddens thursel's an' soddens thursel's an' ahter a times comes to be wot I calls riglar wet uns and a goes out nights an' a doesn't mind wot a does; a's allus ahter summat ar another, an' a's suer to be 'ad afoer lung. It be the drink as does it; a be so covetous; a thinks a's to 'a as much as a do mind, an' niver wahits till a be a dry. I likes folks to be moderate like.

A on't 'arp 'oweever 'ardly noane on em. It be hall the saame as if a wuz 'ard o' 'earin'. "Noane bean't so dunny as thahy as o'n't 'earken"; a sez, an' I tells 'ee wot it be, I've fund it so. Dessahy you 'ave. Thur yeant no need to sahy so to we, not to ne'er un on us.