

JACK Dear old dad! What brings you here? Wherever have you come from?

SIR FRANCIS From town, my lad. To have a chat with you and to bring you your cheque. Here you are, my boy.

JACK Thanks, dad! I haven't seen half enough of you.

SIR FRANCIS I see your hospitality bills have mounted up

JACK I hope, dad that-

SIR FRANCIS Never mind; same when I was a lad. I'm very satisfied with you. It's something to go down from college with a record like yours. And now, my lad, we must begin to think.

JACK Think?

SIR FRANCIS Now that I have come into the family title, as you know, I have also- which you don't know- come into the family debts and difficulties.

JACK Debts!

SIR FRANCIS Which are far more than I expected, with the result that all the money I've been saving for you in India goes to pay them. And in short, Jack, you and I, for the next few years- will be, comparatively speaking, poor men.

JACK Poor men! (*Aside*) This settles me with old Spettigue!

SIR FRANCIS However, I'm in hopes of a small appointment for you- in Bengal