

SPETTIGUE Ah!

*(All rise except SIR FRANCIS)*

SPETTIGUE So, I was right after all, and that old fool of a woman told me they were not here

JACK *(offering his hand)* Oh, Mr. Spettigue

SPETTIGUE Don't address me, Sir! *(To girls)* And this is the way you take advantage of my absence!

JACK Mr. Spettigue

SPETTIGUE Don't address me, sir! I have no wish to hold any converse with you.

CHARLEY But won't you allow us to explain?

SPETTIGUE My business is with this young man, sir, and not with you.

LORD FANCOURT But you won't listen to either of them!

SPETTIGUE Go away, madam, and don't interfere.

JACK You forget yourself, sir.

SIR FRANCIS Perhaps you will remember, sir, that ladies are present.

SPETTIGUE I disapprove of their presence and request them to return with me.

JACK We can discuss this matter on a more fitting occasion.

LORD FANCOURT Certainly. A most excellent suggestion. Let him call again.

SPETTIGUE You're a very foolish old woman, and I must beg of you not to interfere. Ladies, come!

*(KITTY and AMY move forward reluctantly)*

SIR FRANCIS Sir, you cannot put such an affront upon Mr. Wykeham's friends.

SPETTIGUE I don't know them

SIR FRANCIS Introduce me, Mr. Wykeham.

CHARLEY Mr. Spettigue -Sir Francis Chesney.

(*SPETTIGUE barely acknowledges introduction*)

SIR FRANCIS Mr. Chesney is my son, sir; and this lady is...

LORD FANCOURT Pray don't introduce him to me. I've been sufficiently insulted by the old boun--er--gentleman--already.

SPETTIGUE I am deeply annoyed to find on prematurely returning from town, my niece and my ward lurching, without my permission, with these two young gentlemen.

SIR FRANCIS To meet Mr. Wykeham's aunt.

SPETTIGUE Indeed I...

SIR FRANCIS There is no "Indeed" about it, sir! I repeat, to meet Mr. Wykeham's aunt.

SPETTIGUE. In my mind it matters little.

SIR FRANCIS. In my mind it matters everything, therefore- allow me to introduce you. Donna Lucia d'Alvadorez! Mr Spettigue.

SPETTIGUE (*aside*) The celebrated millionaire? Oh, how do you do.

LORD FANCOURT How do you do. I am Charley's aunt from Brazil, where the nuts come from.

SPETTIGUE (*aside*). I've been indiscreet (*To LORD FANCOURT*) Oh, I am sorry, very, very sorry.