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SURE TO WIN.

You wish to hear the old man's story, my dear, and how your mother and I first made acquaintance? Well, if it will give you pleasure, so be it.

Just thirty years ago, last Hilary term, Col. Josiah Stark, H.E.I.C.S., C.B., ex-commander of that famous regiment the Boggywollah, Fenibles, returned home from India.

There's many a youngster at five-and-twenty, not half what I am at sixty-seven, who thinks the colonel grimly, as he tossed about his brawny arms.

THE WAR.

There was one peculiar feature in Col. Stark's character which rendered him a very difficult man to agree with.

He was a man of a peculiar nature. Tall, broad-shouldered, and grim, with large irregular features, and iron-gray hair bristling like bayonets.

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CHAPTER II.

When I passed up and down the drawing room in great exasperation.

My uncle was a bit of a philosopher in his way. He leaned back in his chair, and watched me for a minute or two with some amusement.

It is curious, he said presently, to observe how completely passion blinds even tolerably sensible persons to positive fact.

CHAPTER III.

Were I live to the age of Methuselah, which Heaven forbid, I should never forget the tremor of nervous anxiety in which I passed the time of my uncle's absence during his visit to the Ferns.

Very sagacious people aver that when ever you have to wait for anything, time passes quickest in occupation.

Now, my uncle Ferril was a very methodical man. Nothing less than an earthquake, if I think could, have moved him to omit a habit.

CHAPTER IV.

What time did he fix for probation? The colonel mentioned no particular period, Caleb, pursued Uncle Ferril.

Oh, preposterous, ridiculous, absurd! I shouted. The thing's impossible upon the face of it.

Then, Uncle, what was the object of your coming to me, if I can't get my uncle to see his mistake? Let me see what you can do for me.