GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

BY CHARLES DICKENS.

CHAPTER XIX.

Morning made a considerable difference in my general prospect of Life, and brightened it so much that it scarcely seemed the same. What lay heaviest on my mind was the consideration that six days intervened between me and the day of departure; for, if there were not some slight indication that something might happen to London in the mean time, and that, when I got there, it would be either greatly deteriorated or clean gone.

Joe and Biddy were very sympathetic and pleasant when I spoke of our approaching separation; but they only referred to it when I did. After breakfast, Joe brought out my indentures from the press in the best parlour, and we put them in the lirn, and I felt that I was free. With all the novelty of my emancipation on me, I went to church with Joe, and thought, perhaps, the clergyman wouldn't have read that about the rich man and the kingdom of Heaven if he had known all.

After our early dinner I strolled out alone, purpose to finish off the marshall at once, and get them done with. As I passed the church, I felt (as I had felt during service in the morning) a sublime compassion for the poor creatures who were destined to go there, Sunday after Sunday, all their lives through, and to see obsequies at last among the few green mounds. I promised myself that I would do something for them one of these days, and formed a plan in outline for bestowing a dinner of roast beef and plum-pudding, a pint of ale, and a gallon of condensation, upon everybody in the village.

If I had often thought before, with something alluded to shame, of my companionship with the fugitive whom I had once seen limping among those graves, what were my thoughts on this Sunday, when the place recalled the wretched, ragged and suffering, with his felon iron and badge! My comfort was, that it happened a long time ago, and that he had doubtless been transported a long way off, and that he was dead to me, and might be veritably dead into the bargain.

No more low wet grounds, no more dykes and sluices, no more of these grasping cattle—though they seemed, in their dull manner, to wear a more respectful air now, and to face round, in order that they might stare as long as possible at the possessor of such great expectations—farwell, monotonous acquaintances of my childhood! From henceforth I was for London and greatness; not for smith's work in general and for you! I made my exclamatory way to the old Battery, and, lying down there to consider the question whether Miss Havisham intended me for Estella, fell asleep.

When I awoke, I was much surprised to find Joe sitting beside me, smoking his pipe. He greeted me with a cheerful smile on my opening eyes, and said:

"As being the last time, Pip, I thought I'd follow.

"And Joe, I am very glad you did so."

"Thank you, Pip."

"You may be sure, dear Joe, I went on, after we had shaken hands, "that I shall never forget you."

"No, no, Pip!" said Joe, in a comfortable tone, "I'm sure of that. Ay, ay, old chap! Bless you, it were only necessary to get it well round in a man's mind, to be certain on it. But it took a bit of time to get it well round, the change come so uncommon plump, didn't it?"

"Somehow I was not best pleased with Joe's being so mighty sure of me. I should have liked him to have betrayed emotion, or to have said, "It does you credit, Pip," or something of that sort. Therefore, I made no remark on Joe's first head; merely saying to his second that the things had indeed come suddenly, but that I had always wanted to be a gentleman, and had often and often speculated on what I would do if I were one."

"Have you though?" said Joe. "Astonishing!"

"It's a pity now, Joe," said I, "that you did not get on a little more, when we had our lessons here; isn't it?"

"Well, I don't know," returned Joe. "I'm so awful dull. I'm only master of my own trade. It were always a pity as I was so awful dull; but it's no more of a pity now, than it was—this day twelvemonth—don't you see?"

What I had meant was, that when I came into my property and was able to do something for Joe, it would have been much more agreeable if he had been better qualified for a rise in station. He was so perfectly innocent of my
meaning, however, that I thought I would mention it to Biddy in preference.

So when we had walked home and had had tea, I took Biddy into our little garden by the side of the lane, and, after throwing out in a general way for the elevation of her spirits, that I should never forget her, said I had a favour to ask of her.

"And it is, Biddy," said I, "that you will not omit any opportunity of helping Joe on, a little."

"How helping him on?" asked Biddy, with a steady sort of glance.

"Well! Joe is a dear good fellow—in fact, I think he is the dearest fellow that ever lived—but he is rather backward in some things. For instance, Biddy, in his learning and his manners."

Although I was looking at Biddy as I spoke, and although she opened her eyes very wide when I had spoken, she did not look at me.

"Oh, his manners! Won't his manners do then?" asked Biddy, pushing a black currant leaf between her fingers.

"My dear Biddy, they do very well here—"

"Oh! they do very well here." interposed Biddy, looking closely at the leaf in her hand.

"Hear me out—but if I were to remove Joe into a higher sphere, as I shall hope to remove him when I fully come into my property, they would hardly do him justice."

"And don't you think he knows that?" asked Biddy.

It was such a very provoking question (for it had never in the most distant instance occurred to me), that I said, snappishly, "Biddy, what do you mean?"

Biddy having rubbed the leaf to pieces between her hands—and the smell of a black currant bush has ever since recalled to me that evening in the little garden by the side of the lane—said, "Here you never considered that he may be proud?"

"Fond!" repeated, with disdainful emphasis.

"Oh! there are many kinds of pride," said Biddy, looking full at me and shaking her head; "pride is not all of one kind—"

"Well? What are you stopping for?" said I.

"Not all of one kind," resumed Biddy. "He may be too proud to let any one take him out of a place that he is competent to fill and fill well, and with respect. To tell you the truth, I think he is: though it sounds bold in me to say so, for you must know him far better than I do."

"Now, Biddy," said I, "I am very sorry to see this in you. I did not expect to see this in you. You are curious, Biddy, and grudging. You are dissatisfied on account of my rise in fortune, and you can't help showing it."

"If you have the heart to think so," returned Biddy, "say so. Say so over and over again, if you have the heart to think so."

"If you have the heart to be so, you mean, Biddy," said I, in a virtuous and superior tone; "and so I put it off upon me. I am very sorry to see it, and it's a—it's a bad side of human nature. I did intend to ask you to use any little opportunities you might have after I was gone, of improving dear Joe. But after this, I ask you nothing. I am extremely sorry to see this in you, Biddy," I repeated. "It's a—it's a bad side of human nature."

"Whether you scold me or spare me," returned poor Biddy, "you may equally depend upon my trying to do all that lies in my power, here, at all times. And whatever opinion you take away of me, shall make no difference in my remembrance of you. Yet a gentleman should not be unjust neither," said Biddy, turning away her head.

I again warmly repeated that it was a bad side of human nature (in which sentiment, waiting its application, I have since seen reason to think I was right), and I walked down the little path away from Biddy, and Biddy went into the house, and I went out at the garden gate and took a dejected stroll until supper-time; again feeling it very sorrowful and strange that this, the second night of my bright fortune, should be as lonely and unsatisfactory as the first.

But morning once more brightened my view, and I extended my clemency to Biddy, and we dropped the subject. Putting on the best clothes I had, I went into town as early as I could hope to find the shops open, and presented myself before Mr. Trabb, the tailor; who was having his breakfast in the parlour behind his shop, and who did not think it worth his while to come out to me, but called me in to him.

"Well!" said Mr. Trabb, in a half-fellow—well-met kind of way. "How are you, and what can I do for you?"

Mr. Trabb had sized his hot roll into three feather beds, and was slipping butter in between the blankets, and covering it up. He was a prosperous old bachelor, and his open window looked into a prosperous little garden and orchard, and there was a prosperous iron safe let into the wall at the side of his fireplace, and I did not doubt that heaps of his prosperity were put away in its safe.

"Mr. Trabb," said I, "it's an unpleasant thing to have to mention, because it looks like boasting; but I have come into a handsome property."

A change passed over Mr. Trabb. He forgot the butter in bed, got up from the bedside, and wiped his fingers on the tabicloth, exclaiming, "Lord bless my soul!"

"I am going up to my guardian in London," said I, casually drawing some guineas out of my pocket and looking at them; "and I want a fashionable suit of clothes to go in. I wish to pay for them," I added—otherwise I thought he might only pretend to make them, "with ready money."

"My dear sir," said Mr. Trabb, as he respectfully bent his body, opened his arms, and took the liberty of touching me on the outside of,
each elbow, "don't hurt me by mentioning that.
May I venture to congratulate you? Would you
do me the favour of stepping into the shop?"

Mr. Trabb's boy was the most audacious
boy in all that country-side. When I had
entered he was sweeping the shop, and he
had strengthened his labours by sweeping over
me. He was still sweeping when I came out into
the shop with Mr. Trabb, and he knocked the
broom against all possible corners and obstacles,
to express (as I understood it) equality with
any blacksmith, alive or dead.

"Hold that noise," said Mr. Trabb, with
the greatest sternness, "or I'll knock your head
off!
Do me the favour to be seated, sir. Now
this," said Mr. Trabb, taking down
a roll of cloth, and tiding it out in a bowing manner over
his head, "I hold that noise," said Mr. Trabb, with
his hand upon the locker, "I know;
I saw him collapse as his master rubbed me out with
his hands, and my first decided experience of the
stupendous powers of money, was, that it had
morally laid upon his back, Trabb's boy.

After this memorable event, I went to the
latter's, and the bootmaker's, and the hosier's,
and felt rather like Mother Hubbard's dog
whose outfit required the services of so many
trades. I also went to the coach-office and took
my place for seven o'clock on Saturday morning.
It was not necessary to explain everywhere that
I had come into a handsome property; but when-
ever I asked anything to that effect, it followed
that the officiating tradesman ceased to have his
attention diverted through the window by the
High-street, and concentrated his mind upon
me. When I had ordered everything I wanted,
I directed my steps towards Pumblechook's,
and, as I approached that gentleman's place of
business, I saw him standing at his door.

He was waiting for me with great impatience.
He had been out early with the chaise-cart,
and had called at the forge and heard the news. He
had prepared a collection for me in the Barnwell
parLOUR, and he too ordered his cookman to
"come out of the gateway" as my sacred person
passed.

"My dear friend," said Mr. Pumblechook,
taking me by both hands, when he and I and the
collection were alone, "I give you joy of your
good fortune. Well deserved, well deserved!"

This was coming to the point, and I thought
it a sensible way of expressing myself.

"To think," said Mr. Pumblechook, after
muttering admiration at me for some moments,
"that I should have been the humble instru-
ment of leading up to this, is a proud reward.

I begged Mr. Pumblechook to remember that
nothing was to be ever said or hinted, on that
point.

"My dear young friend," said Mr. Pumble-
chook, "if you will allow me to call you so—"

I murmured "Certainly," and Mr. Pum-
blechook took me by both hands again, and com-
municated a movement to his waistcoat that
had an emotional appearance, though it was rather
low down, "My dear young friend, rely upon
my doing my little all in your absence, by
keeping the fact before the mind of Joseph—
Joseph!" said Mr. Pumblechook, in the way of a
compassionate adjuration. "Joseph! Joseph!"

Thereupon he shook his head and tapped it, ex-
pressing his sense of deficiency in Joseph.

"But my dear young friend," said Mr.
Pumblechook, "you must be hungry, you must
be exhausted. Be seated. Here is a chicken
had round from the Boar, here is a tongue had
round from the Boar, here is one or two little
things had round from the Boar, that I hope you
may not despise. But do I," said Mr. Pum-
blechook, getting up again the moment after he had
sat down, "see what, him as I ever sported
with in his times of happiness? And may I
—may I—?"

This May I meant, might he shake hands? I
posed, and he was servant, and then sat down again.

"Here is wine," said Mr. Pumblechook.

"Let us drink. Thanks to Fortune, and may she ever pick out her favourites with equal judgment! And yet I cannot," said Mr. Pumblechook, getting up again, "see aore me One—and likewise drink to One—without any expression—May I say I—I—?"

I said I might, and he shook hands with me again, and emptied his glass and turned it upside down. I did the same; and if I had turned myself upside down before drinking, the wine could not have gone more direct to my head.

Mr. Pumblechook helped me to the liver wing, and to the best slice of tongue (none of those out-of-the-way No Thoroughfares of Pork now), and took, comparatively speaking, no care of himself at all. "Ah! poverty, poverty! You little thought," said Mr. Pumblechook, apostrophising the fowl in the dish, "when you was a young fledge, what was in store for you. You little thought you was to be refreshment beneath this humble roof for one as—Call it a weakness, if you will," said Mr. Pumblechook, getting up again, "but may I say I—I—?"

It began to be unnecessary to repeat the form of saying he might, so he did it at once. How he ever did it so often without wounding himself with my knife, I don't know.

"And your sister," he resumed, after a little steady eating, "which had the honour of bringing you up by hand! It's a sad picture, to reflect that she's no longer equal to fully understanding the honour. May—?"

I saw he was about to come at me again, and I stopped him.

"We'll drink her health," said I.

"Ah!" cried Mr. Pumblechook, leaning back in his chair, quite fluid with admiration, "that's the way you know 'em, sir! (I don't know who Sir was, but he certainly was not I, and there was no third person present); "that's the way you know the noble minded, sir! Ever forgetting and ever affable. It might," said the servile Pumblechook, putting down his untasted glass in a hurry and getting up again, "to a common person, have the appearance of repeating—but may I—I—?"

When he had done it, he resumed his seat, and drank to my sister. "Let us never be blind," said Mr. Pumblechook, "to her faults of temper, but it is to be hoped she meant well."

At about this time I began to observe that he was getting flushed in the face; as to myself, I felt all face, steamed in wine and snarling.

I mentioned to Mr. Pumblechook that I wished to have my new clothes sent to his house, and he was ecstatic on my so distinguishing him. I mentioned my reason for desiring to avoid observation in the village, and he landed it to the skies. There was nobody but himself, he intimated, woman of my acquaintance, and I in short, might he? Then he asked me tenderly if I remembered our boys' games at sums, and how we had gone together to have me bound apprentice, and, in effect, how he had ever been my favourite, and my chosen friend? If he had taken ten times as many glasses of wine as I had, I should have known he never had stood in that relation towards me, and should in my heart of hearts have repudiated the idea. Yet for all that, I remember feeling convinced that I had been much mistaken in him, and that he was a sensible practical good-hearted prime fellow.

By degrees he fell to reposing such great confidence in me, as to ask my advice in reference to his own affairs. He mentioned that there was an opportunity for a great amalgamation and monopoly of the corn and seed trade on those premises, if enlarged, such as had never occurred before in that, or any other neighbourhood. What alone was wanting to the realisation of a vast fortune, he considered to be More Capital. Those were the two little words, more capital. Now it appeared to him (Pumblechook) that if that capital were got into the business through a sleeping partner, sir, which sleeping partner would have nothing to do but walk in, by self or deputy, whenever he pleased, and examine the books—and walk in twice a year and take his profit out of the pocket, take his turn of fifty per cent—if it appeared to him that that might be an opening for a young gentleman of spirit combined with property, which would be worthy of his attention. But what did I think? He had great confidence in my opinion, and what did I think? I gave it as my opinion. "Wait a bit!" The united vastness and distinctness of this view so struck him, that he no longer asked if he might shake hands with me, but said he really must—and did.

We drank all the wine, and Mr. Pumblechook pledged himself ever and ever again to keep Joseph up to the mark (I don't know what mark), and to render me efficient and constant service (I don't know what service). He also made known to me for the first time in my life, and certainly after having kept his secret wondrous well, that he had always said of me, "That boy is no common boy, and mark me, his fortune will be no common fortune." He said with a tearful smile that it was a singular thing to think of now, and I said so too. Finally, I went out into the air with a dim perception that there was something unwonted in the conduct of the sunshine, and found that I had glibly got to the turnpike without having taken any account of the road.

There, I was roosed by Mr. Pumblechook's hailing me. He was a long way down the sunny street, and was making expressive gestures for me to stop. I stopped, and he came up breathless.

"No, my dear friend," said he, when he had recovered wind for speech. "Not if I can help it. This occasion shall not entirely pass without that affability on your part. —May I, as an old friend and not lothwithstanding, and I —"
blessed me and stood waving his hand to me until I had passed the corner in the road; and then I turned into a field and had a long nap under a hedge before I pursued my way home.

I had scant luggage to take with me to London. for little of the little I possessed was adapted to my new station. But I began packing that same afternoon, and wildly packed up things that I knew I should want next morning, in a frenzy that there was not a moment to be lost.

So, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, passed, and on Friday morning I went to Mr. Pumblechook's, to put on my new clothes and pay my visit to Miss Havisham. Mr. Pumblechook's own room was given up to me to dress in, and was decorated with clean towels expressly for the event. My clothes were rather strainedly, on account of the stiff long fingers and eagerly expected garment, ever put on since.

I went circuitously to Miss Havisham's by all the back ways, and rang at the bell coming to the room with the long spread table, leaning on her crutchet stick, turned and took me up, staring at me all the way back to Pumblechook's, took off my nov clothes and put it to my lips. I had not considered how I should take leave of her; it came naturally to me at the moment, to do this. She looked at me, and looked at Sarah, and Sarah's countenance wrung out of her watchful face a cruel smile. "Good-by, Pip!—you will always keep the name of Pip you know."

I was not expected, for she left me locked in when I went out in my new array six the rotten bride-cake that was hidden in my bundle to carry. Miss Havisham was making exercise in the room with the long spread table, leaning on her crutchet stick. The room was lighted as of yore, and at the sound of our entrance, she stopped and turned. She was then just about of the rotted bride-cake.

"Don't go, Sarah," she said. "Well, Pip?"

"I start for London, Miss Havisham, to-morrow," I said. I was exceedingly careful what I said, "and I thought you would kindly not mind my taking leave of you."

"This is a gay figure, Pip," said she, making her crutchet stick play round me, as if she, the fairy godmother who had changed me, were bestowing the finishing gift.

"I have come into such good fortunes since I saw you last, Miss Havisham," I murmured. "And I am so grateful for it, Miss Havisham!"

"Ay, ay!" she said. looking at the discomfited and anxious Sarah with delight. "I have seen Mr. Jaggers. I have heard about it, Pip. So you go to-morrow?"

"Yes, Miss Havisham."

"And you are adopted by a rich person?"

"Yes, Miss Havisham."

"Not named?"

"No, Miss Havisham."

"And Mr. Jaggers is made your guardian?""Yes, Miss Havisham."

She quite gloated on these questions and answers, so keen was her enjoyment of Sarah Pocket's jealous dismay. "Well!" she went on; "you have a promising career before you. Be good—deserve it—and shide by Mr. Jaggers's instructions." She looked at me, and looked at Sarah, and Sarah's countenance wrung out of her watchful face a cruel smile. "Good-by, Pip!—you will always keep the name of Pip you know."

"Yes, Miss Havisham."

"Good-by, Pip!"

She stretched out her hand, and I went down on my knees and put it to my lips. I had not considered how I should take leave of her; it came naturally to me at the moment, to do this. She looked at Sarah Pocket with triumph in her weird eyes, and so I left my fairy godmother, with both her hands on her crutchet stick, standing in the midst of the dimly lighted room beside the rotten bride-cake that was hidden in cobwebs.

Sarah Pocket conducted me down as if I were a Ghost who must be seen out. She could not get over my appearance, and was in the last degree confounded. I said "Good-by, Miss Pocket;" but she merely stared, and did not seem collected enough to know that I had spoken. Clear of the house, I made the best of my way back to Pumblechook's, took off my new clothes, made them into a bundle, and went back home in my older dress, carrying them to speak the truth, much more at my ease too, though I had the bundle to carry.

And now those six days which were to have run out so slowly, had run out fast and were gone, and to-morrow looked me in the face more steadily than I could look at it. As the six evenings had dwindled away to five, to four, to three, to two, I had become more and more appreciative of the society of Joe and Biddy. On this last evening, I dressed myself out in my new clothes for their delight, and sat in my splendour until bedtime. We had a hot supper on the occasion, grace by the inevitable roast fowl, and we had some fun to finish with. We were all very low, and the higher for pretending to be in spirits.

I was to leave our village at five in the morning, carrying my little hand-pectoral, and..."
I had told Joe that I wished to walk away all alone. I am afraid—surely afraid—that this purpose originated in my sense of the contrast there would be between me and Joe, if we went to the coach together. I had pretended with myself that there was nothing of this taint in the arrangement; but when I went up to my little room on this last night I felt compelled to admit that it might be so, and had an impulse upon me to go down again and entreat Joe to walk with me in the morning. I did not.

All night there were coaches in my broken sleep, going to wrong places instead of to London, and having in the traces, now dogs, now cats, now pigs, now men—never horses. Fantastic failures of journeys occupied me until the day dawned and the birds were singing. Then, I got up and partly dressed, and sat at the window to take a last look out, and in taking it fell asleep.

Biddy was up so early to get my breakfast, that, although I did not sleep at the window an hour, I smelt the smoke of the kitchen fire when I started up with a terrible idea that I must be late in the afternoon. But long after that, and long after I had heard the clinking of the teacups and was quite ready, I went down stairs. After all, I remained up there, repeatedly unlocking and unstrapping my small portmanteau and locking and strapping it up again, until Biddy called to me that I was late.

It was a hurried breakfast with no taste in it. I got up from the meal, saying with a sort of brokenness, as if it had only just occurred to me, 'Well! I suppose I must be off!' and then I kissed my sister who was laughing and nodding and shaking in her usual chair, and kissed Biddy, and threw my arms around Joe's neck. Then I took up my little portmanteau and walked out. The last I saw of them was when I presently heard a scuffle behind me, and looking back, saw Joe throwing an old shoe after me and Biddy throwing another old shoe. I stopped then, to wave my hat, and dear old Joe waved his strong right arm above his head, crying lustily 'Hooroar!' and Biddy put her apron to her face.

I walked away at a good pace, thinking it was easier to go than I had supposed it would be, and reflecting that it would never have done to have had an old shoe thrown after the coach, in sight of all the High-street. I whistled and made nothing of going. But the village was very peaceful and quiet, and the light mists were solemnly rising as if to show me the world, and I had been so innocent and little there, and all beyond was so unknown and great, that a strong heave and sob broke into tears. It was by the finger-post at the end of the village, and I laid my hand upon it, and said, 'Good-by O my dear, dear friend!'

Heaven knows we need never be ashamed of our tears, for they are man upon the blinded dust of earth, overlying our hard hearts. I was better after I had cried, then before—more sorry, more aware of my own insignificance, more gentle. If I had cried before, I should have had Joe with me then.

So subdued I was by those tears, and by their breaking out again in the course of the quiet walk, that when I was on the coach, and it was clear of the town, I deliberated with an aching heart whether I would not get down when we changed horses, and walk back, and have another evening at home, and a better parting. We changed, and I had not made up my mind, and still reflected for my comfort that it would be quite practicable to get down and walk back, when we changed again. And while I was occupied with these deliberations, I would fancy an exact resemblance to Joe in some man coming along the road towards us, and my heart would beat high. As if he could possibly be there!

We changed again, and yet again, and it was now too late and too far to go back, and I went on. And the misfortune had all solemnly risen now, and the world lay spread before me.

SCENERY OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Of the "old thirteen" states, perhaps not one is generally so disregarded by American poets and novelists as North Carolina, in spite of its delightful scenery, and of Sir Walter Raleigh's attempts to colonize it; in spite of its stormy capes of Hatteras and Lookout, of its woodman and turpentine-gatherers; in spite of its gold region and copper-lands, its acid fabrics, and its great Danial Swamp. Though North Carolina was the first state that solemnly pronounced allegiance to the English crown, that historical fact is not attractive to travellers, and the old forts have been ereased up the Great Pee Dee and the Waterpee-rivers. Eigrated the rocks that still show traces of Hickory-but Gap, fair to allure any one but the polar and the omnipresent lagman.

But South Carolina has claims that are already recognized by the poet and historian, as well as by the trader and pedlar. In 1675, when the English first settled amid the great pine tracts and broad lagoons that grade Charleston, Lookout framed a constitution for the infant colony, and modeled it upon the Promised Land of Plato. Amid Shaftesbury's turbulent intrigues, and the vices of Whitehall, the mind of that amiable philosopher was absorbed in dreams of purer faith and purer life in the bright, unainted new country, where men had room at once to widen their tents and enlarge their frontiers.

Twenty years later, and the brave sturdy men who filled the pines and irrigated the rice in South Carolina, were recruited by bands of honest French Huguenots, driven from Langueois by the revolution of the Edict of Nantes,