

## CHAPTER 54

- 1) **The political gathering had dispersed itself. Mr. Moreton had gone back to his duties at Gatherum, and even Mr. Warburton had been relieved from his duties.**

As with the longer cut at the beginning of Chapter 53, the omission of this passage puts all the emphasis on personal issues and serves to minimise the political content of the novel.

- 2) **But this American had crossed his path, and hers, and now all the world was a blank to her.**

**It was indeed a sad blank.**

These sentences give an especially bleak assessment of Mabel's situation. She had never loved Silverbridge, and so losing him shouldn't cause her to feel that "all the world was a blank." The fact that she does feel this way suggests how desiccated she's become—as if there is some void within her. At least Mabel was able to tell herself that she would have grown to love Silverbridge, or that she would be a good enough wife so that he'd never know that she didn't love him. Now she can't say even that.

- 3) He had done so, with too complete a readiness,—**with a sincerity which was hardly gratifying to her.** She had dreamed of a second love, which should not, **however,** obliterate the first,—**of something which might satisfy her aspirations for a home and a position, but** which might still leave to her the memory of the romance of her early passion. This this boy had come in her way;—**for when he had first come across her path, he had been little more than a boy.**

The compositor error, which probably would not have occurred if "however" had remained (See Decisions, Chapter 54, forthcoming), creates a nonsensical sentence that has always been reprinted until now: Mabel does *not* want her "second love" to "obliterate the first." What is unsaid here is how devastating Frank's desertion is. She can well understand him looking for a wife who would give him "a home and a position." But in his case, his love for Mary has indeed obliterated his love for Mabel.

- 4) **She must put up with things now which she had once thought she could never have endured.**

This sentence conveys something that is otherwise missing from the paragraph: Mabel's sense of humiliation. She had previously enjoyed feeling superior to Silverbridge; now she is willing to steal him away if she can, even though he loves Isabel more than he ever loved her.

- 5) She had told him that it was impossible that he, the heir to the Duke of Omnium, should marry an American, **and she almost thought that she had told him the truth.**

Mabel still needs to believe that she will be doing Silverbridge a favour by keeping him away from Isabel. Yet she can at best "almost" believe it.

- 6) He was lovable and prone to love;—but surely his love could not be very strong, or he would not have changed so easily, **straying from her to this American girl as a bee strays from one flower to another. She hoped now that his affections...might come back to her.**

This is another of the many "movement of mind" paragraphs in Trollope's work, where he shows subtle shifts in a character's thinking. Here, the restored words serve as a transition to the next paragraph, in which Mabel is more wary of Isabel's charms. Whereas with the cut she feels that "surely his love could not be very strong," with the restored words she suddenly becomes less sure, and only "hoped" that he "might" not feel so strongly.

- 7) **Then all the family, all the friends, all the world must combine to teach him how impossible it was that he should...American so meanly born.**

If the paragraph ends with "and then the struggle must be made," as it does in the edited version, we might think that Mabel alone plans to be the one to capture Silverbridge's attention. Instead we see that she has in mind a full-scale attack mobilising every person around him.

- 8) **Surely among them they might be too strong for that boy!**

As with #7 above, this too emphasises the group effort that Mabel will lead.

9) **"I have not a word to say against her character."**

If in fact Mabel did have something to say "against her character," she would no doubt plan to say it in deploying her "weapons." Instead, she will only make a general attack against the prospect of an American with a labourer grandfather becoming the future Duchess of Omnium. On a certain level she must already know that such an attack will be doomed to fail—especially since she herself is not committed enough to make a full-throated effort.

10) **"Because you have enough of the old school about you to like conventional falsehood and make-believe proprieties."**

"Make-believe proprieties" is actually closer to what Mabel is talking about here: the foolish notion that, even in private, it is unseemly for her to declare openly that she wishes to become Duchess of Omnium.

11) **Lady Mabel looked up into his face blushing,—with a purposed blush, and, without speaking a word, had thus told him...that it might be so.**

By showing how much she wants to marry Silverbridge, Mabel surely strengthens the Duke's conviction that the marriage will and should occur. What he doesn't know is how the "purposed blush" is partially manufactured. He can have no idea of Mabel's ambivalence—ambivalence which Silverbridge was able to pick up on right away.

12) **"I did not know that he could afford that kind of thing," said the Duke with a frown on his brow.**

The Duke's response injects some orneriness into this brief scene. Otherwise, he comes across as too placid when he first hears about Frank's plans.

13) **"Of course his father will have to see to that."**

Frank may be the younger son of a not terribly rich man, while Silverbridge is the older son of one of the wealthiest men in the country. But as he speaks these words, Silverbridge must be aware of a deep connection: that his friend, like himself, is in need of a father to bail him out, or to finance things that he would otherwise be unable to afford.

- 14) **It had occurred under an altogether different set of human circumstances,—** before Mrs. Montacute Jones's garden-party, before that day in the rain at Maidenhead, before the brightness of Killancodlem **had shone upon him**, before the glories of Miss Boncassen had been revealed to **his eyes. But how could he now, at this moment, make all that intelligible to his father?**

Without the restored words, Silverbridge perhaps comes across as merely lacking gumption when he says “weakly” to his father that “There is no time for that kind of thing now.” Instead, we see here that in part he struggles to convey in an “intelligible” fashion just how deeply he has fallen for Isabel. He is so overwhelmed by his feelings for Isabel that he does not know how to explain them.

- 15) **“He will do well there, and that will force your father to respect him.”**  
**“I hope he'll succeed. We'll make a good fight for it at any rate.”**  
**Then there was a pause.**

The pause emphasises the awkwardness between Mabel and Silverbridge, as they do not have any current plans to see one another again. It is also noteworthy how Silverbridge refuses to engage Mabel on Frank's chances with the Duke. No doubt she would like to talk more about it, though—another reason for the pause before she speaks again.

- 16) **It would be a great kindness, he said, to Lady Mary.**

Lady Mary has nothing to do with the invitation. And so the chapter ends with the kind of “conventional falsehood” that Mabel had mentioned earlier (#10).

## CHAPTER 55

- 1) **Polpenno was a borough on the northern coast of Cornwall as to which most politicians were agreed that it ought to...could get into Parliament.**

These two restored opening paragraphs frame the chapter nicely. At the end of the chapter we see how the candidates must degrade themselves in order to be elected—an election process all the more tawdry when we understand from the start how the seat in Parliament should not even exist.

- 2) **Many years ago the Tregears had owned many houses in the little borough, and had professed...family had afterwards consolidated.**

This sentence, comparing the Tregears to the Cambornes, gives an even fuller indication of how important Frank's family once was—"many years ago." Perhaps he never made the adjustment—considering himself to have the wealth and status that belonged to his ancestors—and thus never thought it unbecoming for him to woo the Duke of Omnium's daughter.

- 3) **"A Turk or a Mohammedan if he had made money enough to be called an enlightened man would be just the member for Polpenno."**

Often in Trollope novels characters express their narrowness by complaining about Jews. (See my article "Can You Forgive Him?: Trollope, Jews, and Prejudice" in *The Routledge Research Companion to Anthony Trollope*, 2017.) Here we see how the "very conservative" elder Tregear targets different other groups. In this case Trollope's narrator comments on the narrowness; many other times he does not.

- 4) When the old people were gone to bed **the new member of Parliament and the expectant member betook themselves to the servants' hall in order that Silverbridge might smoke his pipe.** "I hope you'll get in," said Silverbridge. **"Well—yes; I suppose I may trust to you for as much as that."**

Here is another glimpse of Frank's occasional surliness, as he responds ungraciously to Silverbridge's offer of support. Silverbridge's sunnier nature is evident too, as he chooses to ignore Frank's petulance. Only at the end of

this scene, after more unpleasantness, does Silverbridge lose some patience, telling Frank sarcastically that he is a “clever fellow.”

5) **“I almost repent what I have done.”**

and

**“Not quite that,—but I declare I do spend my time thinking whether I’d rather sit behind Beeswax or Rattler.”**

We can indeed believe that Silverbridge has spent a great deal of time considering which side to sit behind, and that he is just about ready to go through with the switch. Frank believes Silverbridge is making a mindless decision based on a distaste for Beeswax, but it is “[n]ot quite that” at all.

6) **“These are my ideas,” said Tregear, getting up, “and I regard myself as a philanthropic patriot.”**

Nothing about this conversation suggests that Frank is “philanthropic,” and his patriotism is such that he has great scorn for members of the opposing party, even those like Carbottle who don’t want to cut people’s heads off. Perhaps, then, there is some self-deception—echoing the more important self-deception he has regarding his behaviour toward Mabel and his motivations with Mary.

7) **“That’s all very well,” said Silverbridge, as he followed his friend,**

Here is a small ironic touch. Silverbridge may now literally be following his friend after Frank gets up, but as the conversation has made crystal clear, he no longer follows Frank’s lead the way he used to.

8) **But in spite of the repentance which the future head of the Pallisers felt as to the first step which he had taken in...nobody could hear him.**

Silverbridge may be joking here—saying he’d speak as long as it was impossible to hear him—but in fact he is more willing to make a speech than he once was. And as someone “essentially loyal in his nature and fond of

action,” he is now more willing to accept Frank as his brother-in-law; he will not blindly follow his father in objecting to the match.

- 9) **But in such positions a man has to endure the blows, not only of his enemies,—which are generally...blows are sometimes excruciating.**

Frank has not always been one to submit quietly—we may think in particular of his refusal to hunt when he is not in the mood to do so during his visit to Crummie-Toddie (Notes, Chapter 38.9)—but the stakes are higher here. He needs to get into Parliament to advance his cause with Mary, and so he is willing “to endure the blows.”

- 10) **Mr. Williams, who came back with them all to supper, was not quite so well contented. There had been but faint....them all into supper.**

Silverbridge’s slow movement away from the Conservative party is not merely an appeasement of his father or a personal reaction to Sir Timothy. Both Frank earlier in the chapter, and now Mr. Williams, demonstrate a level of intolerance that Silverbridge now openly opposes.

- 11) **On the next day, after breakfast, it was found to be raining heavily, and to be raining after such a fashion that they who knew the weather in that part of the world declared that it would rain all day.**

The absurdity of the non-stop campaigning is even greater when it is apparent so early in the morning that the heavy rain will continue “all day.”

## CHAPTER 56

- 1) **Here and there about the borough vast placards were exhibited declaring the great Conservative reaction...to the neighboring county!**

and

**Tregear won by one hundred and fifteen votes, and would never have won but for the tailor’s sharpness. The tailor only**

The amusing passage about “the great Conservative reaction” has relevance today, when narrow electoral victories are sometimes hyped as landslides

sending monumental messages. In fact, as Trollope goes on to show, without the efforts of one astute tailor, the Liberals would have won the election.

- 2) **Yes; there had been a great reaction, and he allowed himself to hope that every Salem and Zion and Ebenezer in his large parish would be closed,—forgetting probably that he would have no seats in his own church to offer to this bulk of the parishioners who would...fashion but his own.**

Trollope's critique of religious zealotry and hypocrisy is even sharper when we read how Mr. Williams doesn't have room for the supposed converts and doesn't care if people have a place to pray.

- 3) **"I did not like to stand in your way," said the father, "when the offer came. And yet I felt that I was hardly justified."**

We may be reminded of the Duke earlier, who also does not want to stand in the way of his son's parliamentary prospects, despite his own deep ambivalence. In the Duke's case, however, he acts in a rational and principled fashion, as he understands that it is good for Silverbridge to go into Parliament, even as a Conservative. Frank's father, on the other hand, is arguably foolish, too caught up with restoring the family's former glories. It is not practical for Frank to enter Parliament—unless, of course, he marries a wealthy woman.

- 4) **It was becoming, he thought, the great fault of the higher ranks in England to seek the means of expending their...mind on this subject.**

On one hand, the cut is beneficial. By leaving just a short paragraph about the need for a memorandum on amusements, Trollope is able to emphasise the humour of the Duke's sternness. On the other hand, we do get a fuller sense, in this deleted passage, of the Duke's thinking on the subject. To go as far as to think that "the best energies of the country were being wasted" on activities like hunting is more than merely crotchety.



- 5) "I ought to be earning my bread as a lawyer or a doctor, **or perhaps as a magistrate a thousand miles up the country in India.**"

and

**"You will understand this thoroughly,—you, who have your good things still to come."**

Frank is being especially dense or especially disingenuous. He barely considered becoming a lawyer or doctor (Notes, Chapter 3.2); it's absurd to think of him willingly going off to India. And he should know by now that there are reasons to believe Mabel's "good things" are not ahead of her.

- 6) "Tell her, **unless you feel that you will be breaking confidence by doing so,**"

and

**"You will tell her this from me,—if you think you can do so honestly."**

Because he doesn't love her anymore, Frank can't quite grasp how Mabel's feelings haven't also changed. But he does grasp that she, like him, is trying to nab a wealthy spouse, and so it makes sense that he would understand her constraints. In addition, it is slightly awkward for the Duke to mention "breaking confidence" in the final paragraph of the chapter unless he is referring to what Frank has specifically written.

- 7) **Had not everything slipped from her? What chance of success was there for her? Oh,—if she also could have been born a man, then too she might have fought her own battle.**

Earlier in the novel (Chapter 29), Mary too wishes that she could have the freedom of a man; and indeed many Trollope heroines voice similar frustrations. In *The Duke's Children* it is harder to imagine Isabel Boncassen joining them with such complaints; she represents a more modern sort of woman.

- 8) **There was, however, no hardness in it. It was not that he refrained from the expression of the feeling, but that...for his absolute desertion.**

We see a potentially vindictive side of Mabel when she promises some future "penalty."

- 9) **Now that Miss Boncassen was gone,—and Silverbridge gone also,—the Duke devoted some period of his...hideous deformity of dozens.**

This is a fine humorous touch. Mabel has to put up with the Duke's obsession when she couldn't care less about it, while the Duke is so oblivious that he thinks Mabel might actually want to hear him talk at length about the issue.

- 10) **"Your correspondent talks of breaking confidence. What does he mean?"**  
**"Breaking confidence with you. I certainly shall not do...I to do, Duke?"**

Earlier in the novel, when the Duke was able to show respect for Mrs. Finn's letter writing, it was a step toward his eventual forgiveness of her. Here too he is getting close to acquiescing, and so he is able to compliment Frank a little bit. The difference is that by the end of the book, he has a deep, warm friendship with Mrs. Finn. If the Duke is ever to feel deep affection for Frank, it will have to occur way beyond the pages of the novel.

## CHAPTER 57

- 1) The Major, with **more pluck than some had given him the credit of possessing**

It is not merely that Tifto has "much pluck," as he does in the edited novel; it's that he has more pluck than others would have expected. We are reminded here of how sensitive Tifto is about proving his worth. With the restored paragraph at the end of the novel (Notes, Chapter 75.14), we can imagine how virtuous he feels about putting an end to Silverbridge's stipend and becoming a (relatively) honest publican.

- 2) *The Staines and Egham Gazette*, which had always supported the Runnymede hunt, declared in very plain terms that all who rode with the "Major,"—**for at this time poor Tifto's majority became the subject of many unpleasant remarks,—**

The quotation marks around "Major" were not crossed out in the manuscript, but they needed to go, as they might have confused readers without the explanation that follows. It makes sense that Tifto's authenticity as a major

would be questioned and attacked at this time. The fact that he changes his name at the end of the novel (Notes, Chapter 75.14) is evidence that Tifto is indeed no major. Surely he would keep the title (even with a new name) if it were authentic.

- 3) **Two stout young farmers had been placed at the door to prevent any from entering who were not members of...enemies would support it.**

This paragraph, and many of the smaller cuts elsewhere in the chapter, bring the hunt meeting to life in a more detailed, memorable way. Here in particular we see the class tensions, as wealthier people from London are outsiders in the way “[f]armers who paid nothing” are not.

- 4) **When the matter was discussed afterwards it was thought that this little studied peroration might have been spared.**

As this sentence reminds us, there is plenty of posing, plenty of “studied” behaviour in this chapter; among the hunting men, Tifto is hardly alone in his pretensions or prevarications.

- 5) **As he went, very glorious in his pink top boots and white leather breeches, one or two of his adherents...disconsolate among his hounds.**

These two vivid sentences present a compelling portrait of Tifto striving so hard to be “glorious,” yet ending up sad and alone with his horses and his brandy.

- 6) Mr. Topps, who had had great experience in public meetings, **and thought that a counting of hands was better than any eloquence in the world for hurrying a meeting to a...prejudicially with his dinner**, hereupon expressed an opinion that they might as well go to a vote. No doubt he was right if the matter was one which must sooner or later be decided in that manner. **In an assembly of Britons who ever knew an opinion to be swayed by any amount of eloquence? Very much may be...doubt, on this occasion.**

Once again we see Trollope taking an entirely minor character but giving him a moment to capture our attention—in this case, Mr. Topps being eager for a vote primarily for digestive purposes.

7) **Here again there was squabbling; one man was alleged to have held up two hands, and another to have attempted to...the same hand twice.**

This is one more welcome humorous touch. We can well imagine how someone might vote twice, once on each side “to oblige both parties”; holding up “two hands” simultaneously is a trickier proposition. As we have seen elsewhere in the novel, no vote or election is entirely honest.

CHAPTER 58

1) He had thought that Lady Mabel would surely be gone before his task at Polpenno was completed; **but, while he was there, he learned from Tregear that she was still at Matching, and likely to stay for yet a few days longer.**

and (further down)

**“You correspond with her.”**

Silverbridge refers to the recent correspondence between Frank and Mabel in which she said she remained at Matching. By responding only to the charge that Miss Cassewary is a “nobody,” and not to Silverbridge’s mention of the correspondence, Frank is being evasive; he still wishes to deceive his friend about the true nature of his relationship with Mabel. One of the great unknowns at the end of the novel is the state of the two men’s friendship. They become brothers-in-law, but we may wonder whether Silverbridge will ever trust Frank again. It isn’t only that Frank was deceptive about his relationship with Mabel, but that Frank tried to foist Mabel upon him.

2) **He had understood that Lady Mabel was to spend Christmas with a brother of Miss Cassewary’s who was a...”sooner or later, but”**

Nearly every time that Miss Cassewary is mentioned in the complete novel, there are restored details that make her a richer character. Even if she is “next door to” being a “nobody,” as Silverbridge says several paragraphs

down, she does have a family—as we learn, a clergyman brother. With Miss Cassewary making more of an impression on the reader's mind, Mabel's plight is also more vivid—for Mabel too is on the same path, a single woman with no money, dependent on the kindness of others. It is a bit startling to see that Mabel will spend Christmas at the home of Miss Cassewary's brother—in part because we hadn't thought of Miss Cassewary as being the kind of person who would have a brother. Miss Cassewary and her brother are apparently on good terms; Mabel's brother, Percival, would not be so welcoming.

- 3) **But then neither could she have defended herself. She had not blushed, and been soft and gentle to him, when he had said soft words to her.**

These sentences are valuable in reaffirming that Silverbridge is well aware of why he is "quite justified" in what he did. It's not just that he met someone prettier and fresher, but that there was a real deficiency in Mabel's behaviour toward him. Frank's solemn manner has left Silverbridge silent, but not tongue-tied.

- 4) Lord Silverbridge as he read it **alone in the morning-room of his club became red in the face, and**

Silverbridge's face turns red even though he is alone, indicating a deep sense of embarrassment and not just annoyance. Perhaps, as he matures and wishes to think of himself as a grown and responsible man, these reminders of his wayward (and recent) youth are especially unwelcome.

- 5) **The livery-stable keeper had particularly pressed upon the Major the expediency of using the talismanic initials....are Master of Foxhounds.**

These sentences make a deeper impression on the reader that it is the livery-stable keeper who dictates the letter which Tifto writes. And so the parallelism of the chapter is strengthened, as Silverbridge too has letters dictated for him by Lupton.

- 6) **"I am obliged to decline any further correspondence with you on this subject,—and perhaps I had better say, on any other."**

This is a more brutal end to the letter, and echoes nicely Silverbridge's own father's earlier responses to Frank and Mrs. Finn also declining any further correspondence. Though on the whole Silverbridge is kinder to Tifto in the restored novel, at this moment he makes it absolutely clear that he wants nothing further to do with his former racing partner.

- 7) The parson from Croppingham seconded the proposition, and Major Tifto was formally deposed **from his high position.**

**Then, however, came the great difficulty,—as Mr. Jawstock soon perceived. There is nothing so dangerous to...one knew quite whither.**

Given how Trollope has devoted a number of pages to the deliberations of the club, it is satisfying to get an account of what happened after Tifto left. In particular, the passage reminds us of Tifto's competence; it turns out he is not so easy to replace.

## CHAPTER 59

- 1) He asked a few questions about the shooting,—**which had been altogether neglected in his absence,**—and referred with great regret to his absence from the Brake country, **in which Phineas was reported to have been doing great things under the auspices of Lord Chiltern. "He and I once" ...father and Lady Mabel.**

We are reminded here that, like Silverbridge, Phineas was a callow youth who slowly, and at times painfully, matured. Phineas' troubles, however, were more severe, and perhaps he has never fully recovered, whereas Silverbridge will end the novel in complete health, with no deep scars. In addition, it is a witty touch on Trollope's part to show how Silverbridge is not terribly interested in the romantic doings of the previous generation; "all his ears" are devoted to listening to a conversation that affects his own marital quest.

- 2) **"Nobody can live there and it looks as though it were devoted to ghosts."**

and

**“But I must go to Stoggingum,—say on the first of January, if it were only to pick up Miss Cassewary. You don’t know what Miss Cassewary has been to me.”**

**“I have the greatest possible respect for Miss Cassewary,” said the Duke.**

There is an echo here with the previous chapter, when Silverbridge accused Frank of visiting Grex when “nobody” was there. The fact that “nobody can live there,” yet Mabel and Miss Cassewary do, reminds us yet again of how one woman is becoming, and the other already is, in some sense a “nobody.” That Mabel herself uses the word “nobody” makes us wonder too if, after all, she has a low opinion of herself; at the least, she is feeling a great amount of self-pity. And the Duke’s words have a hidden edge. He may have “the greatest possible respect for Miss Cassewary,” but how much is possible?

- 3) **There were so many girls about, said the Duke to himself, from an alliance with whom he himself would recoil.** In so thinking it did not occur to him that the granddaughter of an American labourer might be offered to him. **The girls who were present to his mind were perhaps a little too fast, too fond of admiration, perhaps...still not sufficiently ennobled.**

If, later, the Duke momentarily does “recoil” when he learns about the match with Isabel, he also comes to accept and love Isabel relatively quickly. This passage helps us see why; other than the matter of her birth, she is exactly what the Duke wants in a daughter-in-law.

- 4) **“What did he say?”**

**“All manner of things. You wouldn’t care to hear.”**

**“It is just what I should care to do. If I were a man and could go to places of that sort myself, then perhaps I shouldn’t care. But”**

In Trollope’s rich portrayal of Silverbridge, this is a moment when the young man is not at his best. After all, Mabel has already made it clear, just above, with six short questions in a row, that she wanted all kinds of details about what happened in Parliament. Yet Silverbridge is still insistent that she “wouldn’t care to hear.”

- 5) **“As for being true, when you say a thing like that who is to know the difference? Nobody contradicts you.”**

Without this passage, we might think that Silverbridge is speaking only about Frank's claim that the Tories are solely responsible for good legislation. Instead, he refers to Frank's recitation of the historical record, implying a harsher critique: that Frank could be making up facts about what has happened since “Pitt's time.” The passage, then, reflects Silverbridge's growing disillusionment with his friend.

- 6) **Tregear was always a little hard with him about Tifto. Mr. Lupton had been extremely useful; but he had...about that correspondence. But**

It is interesting that Silverbridge does not even think about his brother here, for unlike Lupton, Frank, and the Duke, Gerald certainly would give “sympathy” to him. But coming from a young man even more prone to “trouble” than his brother—as we see in the title of Chapter 60, “Lord Gerald in Further Trouble”—such sympathy would not provide much satisfaction.

- 7) **In this way there came up between the two something like a renewal of confidence, and this was done altogether...“and the unfortunate Major's.” “Poor Tifto!”**

As Silverbridge and Mabel make no “reference to the subject which was nearest to the hearts of both of them,” there is an echo with the beginning of the novel, where we learn that the Duke and the Duchess do not speak about how much they miss the political fray (Notes, Chapter 1.2). It is also valuable to get Silverbridge's perspective about the encounter, and not just Mabel's; he is happy enough to be with her when she does not pester him about Isabel.

- 8) **As Christmas fell on a Saturday, there were two church-going days together, to the disgust of Lord...service without some trouble.**

It is amusing to read about Silverbridge's “disgust” at having to attend two services. Trollope's fiction is filled with likable characters who are unenthusiastic about church.



- 9) **She had coyed it with him a little when he had first come to her, meaning that he should not think that his suit was...story all too plainly.**

Trollope excels at showing how characters rationalise or even lie to themselves. Mabel had been much worse than coy with Silverbridge when she rebuffed him. A “privilege of perversity” does not exist—at least not when the perversity includes condescension and harshness toward the suitor.

- 10) **“You can’t think how many political secrets he has taught me. I am beginning to tremble in my shoes lest he make me a”...went to the seat.**

On the next page, we see that Mabel is prepared to become a “renegade” and join the Liberals if she needs to do so to marry Silverbridge. But there wouldn’t be any genuine conviction involved; indeed, when earlier in the chapter Silverbridge talked about how Frank said that “all the good things that had ever been done in Parliament had been carried by the Tories,” Mabel said that this was “quite true.” Thus here when Mabel jokes that the Duke is so persuasive that he could cause her to change her mind about politics, we are reminded of her falseness; only her pretend love for Silverbridge, not any actual ideas, will make her change allegiances. We may also be reminded here of the Duchess, who was not a natural Liberal; as we learn in Chapter 3, “she sympathised” with Frank’s political ideas, “though they were antagonistic to the politics of her life.”

- 11) **It was known to be a favourite spot with the Duke himself,—but not in such weather as this. For**

We are reminded here that even the Duke—all work and no play—is capable of having “a favourite spot.” Perhaps in his later years he will be able to enjoy himself a bit more; the end of the novel offers some hope for him in this regard, as he is closer to his son, has a daughter-in-law he can truly love, and has a deep friendship with Mrs. Finn.

- 12) It was a sweet and jocund air, such as would make young people prone to run and skip, **and old people prone to think themselves young. “Now you are here,” said Silverbridge,**

This is very much not a novel about young people only. In Chapter 1, we are told that the Duke looks much older than he really is (“he who was not yet fifty might have been taken to be over sixty”). Does he feel younger by the end? In the same paragraph as the mention of his “favourite spot” (see #11 above), this passage helps us think about the Duke’s potential rejuvenation.

- 13) **She was very clever, and by the time they had reached the spot had certainly made him think that she now, at least...him like a boy.**

Mabel treating Silverbridge “like a boy” was indeed a major “ground of complaint” for him. It is too late now—though someone reading the book for the first time might still wonder about Silverbridge’s steadiness—but we can see that if Mabel had only been “clever” in this regard earlier, she would have become his wife.

- 14) **Her feelings at the moment were tender to him, and he certainly made no effort to reject them, as they stood there together looking down upon the views.**

Trollope successfully builds some tension here. First-time readers would not expect Silverbridge to abandon Isabel and embrace Mabel; still, he makes no attempt to discourage Mabel’s “tender” advances. As it turns out, he is acting consistently: he genuinely wants to be friends with Mabel, and is glad to see that she has friendly feelings toward him.

- 15) **“You do not know?” said she, leaning heavily on his arm.**

Moments later Mabel “stood apart looking him full in the face”—in contrast to her “leaning heavily on his arm.” That contrast is lost with the cut, diminishing the drama of the moment.

- 16) **In this prayer that she was making, she was asking for all that she valued in the world, and at this moment she did believe that she loved him.**

Trollope clarifies why the tears are not counterfeit, as “at this moment” Mabel has convinced herself that she is speaking truly. Also, the word “prayer” is evocative; as she prays to Silverbridge to grant her wish, we remember how only a few months earlier she had treated him condescendingly. Now, in a certain sense, he is a god.

- 17) **After that they entered the house without another word, and**

We can imagine the tension between Mabel and Silverbridge as they walk silently together.

## CHAPTER 60

- 1) **He remembered well that he had gone away from that interview with a feeling that she had laughed at him...communication to his father.** Now, when the word was recalled to his memory by the girl to whom it had been spoken, he could not quite acquit himself. **And in truth he was too fond of Mabel to be able to see her sorrow without grieving himself. He was very, very...himself from Isabel Boncassen.**

It is valuable to be reminded of why Silverbridge's feelings are so mixed. He has magnified his sense of being rejected; whereas in the previous chapter he focused on her having laughed at him, now he thinks how she also “rebuffed” and “almost scorned” him. Yet he cannot feel harshly toward her; instead, he is genuinely “fond” of her and “very, very sorry” about what has happened.

- 2) While he was thinking of all this in his own room, **postponing the disagreeable moment in which he would begin to dress for dinner**, a servant brought him two letters. **The day mail arrived at Matching at this hour, and the letters were generally distributed over the house while people were dressing.**

It is surprising that Trollope, with his love for all things post office, would take out this vivid sentence about people receiving their mail as they dress for dinner. Or perhaps not so surprising; once Trollope decided on a strategy for cutting, he was unsentimental, and ruthless, about carrying it out.

Nowhere is this more apparent than in the cut he made in the very last paragraphs at the end of the novel; the fact that he was compromising the likely ending of the entire Palliser series did not hinder him.

3) **That sure fount of love and assistance would certainly pour forth the needed waters at once.**

It is amusing to think of the Duke “pour[ing] forth the needed waters.” Yet though his father is a “sure fount of love and assistance” in regard to money matters, Silverbridge is still uncertain about how he will react when told about Isabel.

4) How could he have told that story to the Duke, while there was that other infinitely more important story of his own, which must be told at once,—**which not improbably must be told that very night, which perhaps at that very moment was being told by Mabel Grex?**

and

In the midst of all these troubles he went down to dinner, **and soon perceived that nothing had been told as yet.**

The drama of the moment is heightened when we see how worried Silverbridge becomes that Mabel is spilling the beans. When, a few moments later, Silverbridge is able to joke about Sir Guy not staying in his look-out during winter, his mood is lighter by virtue of having noticed right away “that nothing had been told as yet.”

5) **“I think he has orders to pay any amount for me because I am understood to be such an utter donkey...enough for such treatment.”**

This is a welcome touch of humour that is also psychologically resonant. Silverbridge is saying that since he is an “utter donkey,” and has sinned so many times, Moreton doesn’t even need approval from the Duke to dig him out of any financial hole. Silverbridge of course is thinking a great deal about his next “sin”—Isabel—and wondering what his father’s “treatment” will be. At the same time he is resolute, having declared to himself several times in the chapter that he will not abandon Isabel.

- 6) **"He is a beast,—and I am very sorry for it on Lady Mab's account."**

Silverbridge is sensitive here toward Mabel. He knows that Gerald's problems with Percival are fleeting; Mabel, on the other hand, will continue to suffer because of her brother's savagery.

- 7) On the next day, **the Friday**, he managed **to be out among the coverts, or in the stables, or about the park the entire day**, so that there should be no walk with Mabel.

These details make it very clear just how badly Silverbridge wants to avoid Mabel, as he hides in a number of different places. We are reminded of the earlier passage when Silverbridge attempts on three occasions to propose to Mabel but never gets to see her alone (Notes, Chapter 31.1).

## CHAPTER 61

- 1) **He had hardly doubted but that the event would be as he wished.**

The omission of this sentence creates a slight logical gap. If the Duke has "never dropped it out of his mind for a moment," it would seem likely that he had already been "restless and inquisitive" long before Mabel leaves. The restored sentence helps us see why he had been able to remain relatively placid, as he truly did not doubt—or at least "hardly" did not doubt—that Silverbridge and Mabel would settle the matter.

- 2) **The Duke also hesitated for a few moments before he went on with his cross-examination.**

The replacement words, "almost hesitating," suggest that the Duke has an impulse to hesitate but speaks right away regardless. It makes more sense for him to indeed stay silent "for a few moments." As much as he does want to continue "his cross-examination," he assumes that Silverbridge will tell him what has happened. Only when Silverbridge's pause starts to become uncomfortably long does the Duke break the silence.

3) **"There may be secrets."**

In a restored passage earlier, Mabel mentions the "political secrets" that the Duke has told her (Notes, Chapter 59.10). Though she is being arch, it may well be that the Duke has in fact told her some things that he may not wish to be broadcast to others. More weightily, as the widowed Duke has mourned, he has thought much about his relationship with the Duchess—thoughts that he will never share with his children. Given his sensitivity about his own secrets, the Duke is sensitive about Silverbridge's—even at a moment when he is intent on learning what happened.

4) **"Yes, sir," said Silverbridge, with a little access of decision, feeling that the moment was coming in which he would have to adhere to his own purpose in opposition to anything his father would say to him.**

It is valuable for us to see, at this stage of the conversation, how Silverbridge is already conscious of his willingness to stand firm against his father, no matter what the Duke might say. He might speak only "with a little access of decision," but inside he is steeling himself for a full-fledged battle if necessary.

5) The Duke was **standing with his hands behind his back, looking very black and unpropitious.**

The Duke certainly would never get violent, but the image of his hands locked behind his back makes us think how he has to restrain himself; after all that has happened, part of him may just want to strangle Silverbridge. Trollope's replacement sentence, "The Duke was now looking very black," is less evocative.

6) **He agreed with his father on his premises,—so as to repent himself of having unfortunately pleaded that the law would...girl he loved. And**

This passage fits well with the following sentences about the development of Silverbridge's "logical studies." As he matures, his native intelligence serves

him well; here, he is able to have similar “premises” as his father yet still come to a very different “deduction.”

- 7) **“When I questioned you, did you not assure me that you knew your own mind? Was it not so?”**

These two sentences make the same point as the first one does—showing more fully how the Duke is badgering Silverbridge.

- 8) **That argument as to the law seemed again to have considerable strength in it. If he chose to marry Isabel, no one could have a right to hinder him,—and he certainly did choose to do so.**

Even though the Duke has made a convincing argument about why the law has nothing to do with Silverbridge’s choices, his relentlessness has made Silverbridge feel “that he was being subjected to tyranny.” Maybe, then, it is not so bad to call upon the rule of law after all, if a tyrant can be defeated by it.

- 9) **Silverbridge was in the habit of announcing his goings and comings in this sudden way and, as it seemed to his father...except as a visitor.**

If Silverbridge has such a “habit,” it is in part because he doesn’t necessarily like to spend a lot of time with his father. The Duke at this point in the story is deeply irritated with his son, but on a certain level he also recognises his own failings as a father.

- 10) **And now his son was going away to live at an inn in order that another large portion of the year might be devoted to hunting!**

“More time,” the replacement, is more accurate, but “another large portion of the year” better conveys the Duke’s state of mind: in his agitation, he thinks in hyperbolic terms.

- 11) **“What is the use of going, when Lord Chiltern himself says that there are no foxes?”**

Here again the Duke is petulant and immoderate, as he twists the words of Lord Chiltern, which were never meant to be taken literally; there are still some foxes to be hunted at Trumpeton Wood.

- 12) **He was sure at any rate of this,—that he would alter it.**

Silverbridge is being especially decisive here. Even if he happens to be wrong about what society considers proper and improper, he will do what he must to marry Isabel—and to “alter” society’s views if need be.

- 13) **He was to leave home that afternoon about three, but before he went he managed to see his sister alone. After leaving...to the Brake country.**

It is fascinating that Silverbridge sees the value of becoming “more strongly riveted” by having this conversation with Mary. Not that he is inclined to back away; still, a part of him wants to guard against any possible weakness as to his resolution. At the end of the conversation, his boyishness is paramount. Like a child, he can’t see much beyond the present moment, and imagines an unrealistic escape. It is one thing to consider going to America with Isabel, but quite another to think that he could set up shop as a politician. He knows hardly anything about politics in his own country, let alone somewhere else.

- 14) In thinking of all this he had by no means regarded his own mode of living **as a proper example for a nobleman to follow**. He knew **now very well** how jejune his life had been,—how devoid of other interests than that public service to which he had **in his early youth** devoted himself.

The restored passage is more fine-tuned, as even in his self-criticism the Duke hedges somewhat. If he looks with disfavour at “his own mode of living,” it is not because of anything inherent about the behaviour itself, but because that behaviour failed to set a “proper example.” The Duke indeed might wish that young men were more prone to behave the way that he had



done “in his early youth,” but since they are unfortunately not built that way he recognises that his influence has been limited.

- 15) **He would have been happy to have talked politics by the hour to the young man, but he would content himself...better things were coming.**

The restored passage is considerably more poignant. Instead of only focusing on Silverbridge “having it all” by living in a manner so different from himself, the Duke tries to console himself by thinking of how “better times were coming” when they could discuss politics. Yet even this, he knows, would entail some pain, as Silverbridge would be in the opposing party. Or perhaps not: he may already have genuine hope, at least unconsciously, that Silverbridge’s joining the Liberals is imminent.

- 16) With her, however, **he had felt that** his word, though it might be resisted, **and even disobeyed**, had never **altogether** lost its authority.

The qualifications here are accurate. The Duchess did more than resist her husband; she at times “disobeyed” him, and he had lost some authority, just not “altogether.”

- 17) And was it not as much his duty to fortify and maintain that higher, smaller, more precious pinnacle of rank on which Fortune had placed him and his children, **that lofty summit of ancestral nobility, by the maintenance of which alone could that democratic progress be safely made...his life to expedite?**

The restored passage reminds us of the Duke’s—and Trollope’s— political creed (referred to in *An Autobiography* as that of an “advanced conservative Liberal”). “Democratic progress” is crucial, and should be “expedite[d],” but it has to be done “safely”—and it can only be done safely by the “maintenance” of his order.

- 18) **He liked to see around him, at his own table, such men as Mr. Monk and Phineas Finn.**

It is not only that the Duke wants “to remember”—at a distance—what “the son of any tradesman” might accomplish; he wants to see such men “at his own table.” And so at the end of this chapter titled “Bone of My Bone,” we have cause to think about the difference between that bone and that table.

## CHAPTER 62

1) **“Then the Duchess interfered and we were nearly right for a year or two.”**

Though there remain references to the Duchess in the shortened novel, there are still a number of them that were cut. In this case, we are reminded how she would often “interfere”—and often without knowing much about the matter. In this case, as it turns out, she was able to mollify Lord Chiltern—a worthwhile achievement.

2) **“The truth is,” pleaded Silverbridge, “my governor knows as much about hunting as I do of financial arrangements.”**

**“You knew something about them, I fancy,” said...to his own room.**

Rather than make fun of his father for his ignorance, Silverbridge is able to “plead” the Duke’s case by saying, in effect, that there are certain subjects a man might know well and others that he will be ignorant about. Lord Chiltern is seemingly not persuaded, and suggests that men may know more than they pretend. Mission accomplished, though, for Silverbridge: he is allowed to go to his room without further discussion. With the cut of this exchange the chapter begins on a less humorous note.

3) **“He came into his property last year, and now they have quite a string of horses. I think that is all we shall have. I hope you will get on with them;—but I am afraid you will find that it is hunting, hunting, hunting from morning till night.”**

The elder Mr. Maule was not generous; and financial troubles almost scuttled the marriage between his son and Adelaide Palliser in *The Prime Minister*. Now we learn that the father’s death has left his heir quite well off.

- 4) **"You must hunt to-morrow or you will be held to have disgraced yourself."**

This echoes an earlier chapter when Frank refuses any obligation to hunt and so does break the social code (Notes, Chapter 38.9). It is not quite true that "there is nothing else to do," as the next sentence tells us. For, as we recall, Frank stayed indoors to read and write. Silverbridge is less inclined than Frank to spend his time doing such things, even when home alone—but he is also less arrogant and less willing to offend needlessly. Even if he preferred to read and write, Silverbridge would hunt on an occasion like this.

- 5) **"If you do, your nerves won't be worth so much brown paper to-morrow."**

Mrs. Spooner is a colourful character—even more colourful with lines like these.

- 6) **Mr. Spooner declared that in all his memory he had never known anything like it before;—and as he did so..."here," but "there." Phineas**

Mrs. Spooner may be a good wife, but it is amusing to see how pleased Mr. Spooner is to get away from her loving tyranny—even if, later, he will suffer from having consumed too much of the port-wine.

- 7) **The constitution has been undermined. The throne totters. The Pope of Rome seems to be the only institution which understands how far self-assertion goes towards self-preservation.**

"An itinerant Master with a carpet-bag never can carry on a country," said Mr. Spooner, **speaking with great authority.**

It is interesting to look at this passage in relation to Trollope's *An Autobiography*, which he had finished in 1876 before beginning *The Duke's Children*. In that book Trollope does attempt to speak "with great authority" on certain matters—for instance, as he argues forcefully that it is nonsense to pretend that writers do not care about money. Yet we may wonder to what extent he worried about what the book might do to his own "self-preservation"—his reputation. Would he have been better off with more "self-assertion," rather than insisting that he was no genius? This restored passage raises the possibility that Trollope was conscious of the problem.

Yet he also would have been conscious that it was not in his nature to act like “[t]he Pope of Rome” in the way he presented himself.

**8) The Brake was in the Shires, and men who hunt in the Shires despise those who are outside this Elysium, as the...dinner in a chop-house.**

Some readers of Trollope might wish that he had not devoted so much space to hunting scenes—as he himself acknowledges in *An Autobiography* (Chapter 4). Still, given that these scenes exist, they are made more interesting in spots by added details, such as this one showing the great scorn hunting men from one area have for another.

**9) Then Lord Chiltern whistled. “At that time he was Master of the Runnymede Hounds. I think they have got rid of him now.”**

Silverbridge indeed speaks “boldly” when he states forthrightly his connection to Major Tifto. These restored sentences show him being even more bold: despite Chiltern’s sound effects, Silverbridge continues his explanation.

**10) He would not pretend to be what he is not, and therefore would be better than Tifto.**

The restored sentence builds on the one before. In that sentence, Lord Chiltern presumably refers more narrowly to honesty—whether or not, say, a man will try to cheat you in a deal. Yet for Chiltern—or for Trollope—an honest man does “not pretend to be what he is not.”

**11) “I was thinking what I could best do in honour of you,” said the Master to Silverbridge;—“whether I would pay you the” ...so away they went.**

Lord Chiltern would not speak so bluntly if he didn’t already know that Silverbridge “would prefer the run to the compliment.” Though he was at first a bit antagonistic, Chiltern has come to respect Silverbridge as an honest man. We may be reminded of his friendship with another honest (after much struggle) man: Phineas Finn in previous Palliser novels.

- 12) He was not in the least hurt, but it became his duty to run after his horse; **and perhaps of the many troubles which occur to hunting men there is nothing worse than the necessity of running across a ploughed field in top boots.**

Here too (see #8 above) is a lively—and comic—detail about hunting and its occasional indignities; the absence of moments like this make the chapter as a whole flatter.

#### CHAPTER 63

- 1) **If Miss Boncassen had cause to be jealous of any other woman, that woman, after the occurrences recorded in the..."in the ploughed field."**

Given how often Silverbridge has referred to his own father as a "brick," it is noteworthy that he uses the word for someone else—and that this someone is a woman. But, as much as he admires Mrs. Spooner, he is not entirely comfortable with her masculinised behaviour—which is why he is perhaps barely joking when he says he would rather have been left alone in the field.

- 2) **"I've got five of them," he said when Tregear found him, "and we'll see if we can't stretch a point and make four days a...from the fellow here."**

This restored dialogue makes it clearer what it is that needed to be "settled," and thus improves the flow of the paragraph. We also get another welcome glimpse here of Silverbridge figuring out a problem, and may be reminded of another time when he wanted to "stretch a point": "he had thought that ten weeks might be allowed to stand for three months" as he awaited a response to his marriage proposal (Notes, Chapter 44.6).

- 3) **"Now that I am a member of Parliament I am bound to preserve my life for the sake of my constituents."**

Though this is an attempt at humour on Frank's part, it is also possible to wonder if, at least on some level, Frank demonstrates how he takes himself all too seriously.

- 4) **"I am not quite so sure of him at those wicked places which require an animal to have three or four legs to" ...credit for the accomplishment.**

Mostly what we read here speaks well of Frank, including his ability to succeed at almost anything he tries to do. Yet at the same time we may be reminded of his central failing: the fact that "whatever he did" never included a plan to earn a living.

- 5) **"I get the rough side of his tongue sometimes myself."**

This colourful bit of dialogue might help to remind us that, though Chiltern has a "rough...tongue," he is thoroughly good-natured. Others who never show their "wrath"—say, Frank Tregear—may not be nearly as kindly.

- 6) He at any rate was unhurt, and the two horses were up before Mrs. Spooner was out of her saddle, **and were standing perfectly quiet on the scene of this disaster.**

The quietness of the two standing, and healthy, horses contrasts with the quietness of the severely injured Frank lying on the ground.

- 7) **Nor was it lessened when Tregear, almost in his first conscious moment, gently pressed the fingers of his friend's...wrong has been sustained.**

At this poignant moment, we see a gentle side of a man who is not usually so gentle.

- 8) **Then he gave a long account of the whole affair to Lady Mabel, confessing entirely his own fault. And after...accident to his sister.**

The cut may leave the reader with the incorrect assumption that while Silverbridge "did write to his sister," he does not write to Mabel, even though he had "noddled assent" to Frank's request. We may ponder too why it is that Silverbridge does not tell Frank about the third letter. Does he believe that the mention of the Duke will cause Frank more pain at this time?

## CHAPTER 64

- 1) Lady Mary and Mrs. Finn were alone **together at Matching** when the tidings came from Silverbridge **as to Tregear's accident**. The Duke had been absent **for two or three days**, having gone to spend an unpleasant week in Barsetshire. **Gatherum Castle on this Christmas had not been opened, and the Duke had excused to himself this breach of his accustomed...Mary till his return.**

It is possible to forget, without passages like this one, just how recently—only nine months—it is that the Duchess has died. The neighbours at Gatherum, however, may think that the Duke has mourned long enough; they are not as quick to excuse “this breach of his accustomed hospitality.”

- 2) **“Everything is blank to me now.”**

Mary in the previous sentence mentions the lack of sweetness in her life, and now her thoughts turn even bleaker, as she suggests an inability to take the slightest pleasure in anything. We may be reminded of the earlier restored words regarding Mabel, how “all the world was a blank to her” (Notes, Chapter 54.2). Mary’s blankness is only temporary, as she will soon enough marry Frank; Mabel’s emptiness, on the other hand, could be a permanent condition.

- 3) The doctor had declared him to be out of immediate danger, and had set the broken bones, **but had not given a cheerful view of his patient's condition. Perhaps, he added,**

We need these deleted words to account for “a by no means good account” just above.

- 4) **At Matching the letters in the morning were always laid upon the breakfast-table, and on this occasion...room before her hostess.**

Given his passion for the workings of the post office—a passion, he tells us in *An Autobiography*, that he did not possess at first, but that grew on him during his many years there—it is always enjoyable to see him slip in details about letter delivery. (See also Notes, Chapter 60.2.)

- 5) **“What will you have? I ought to offer you everything, only I know you will take nothing. Though I am a...have some cold pheasant.”**

Mary is not nearly the kind of rich character Trollope led us to believe she might be at the beginning of the novel, when his narrator told us that she was a superior version of her mother (Notes, Chapter 2.3.). It is especially unfortunate, then, to lose those moments where she does exhibit more of a unique personality. Here, she makes it seem as if it is almost a surprise that as a “disconsolate female,” she might want something as mundane as “some cold pheasant.”

- 6) Mrs. Finn did read the letter, which was very short,—**hardly perhaps quite considerate, as dealing with such a subject and written to such a purpose**, but still giving **on the whole** by no means an unfavourable account of the patient.

The narrator does not say outright that Silverbridge is inconsiderate, only that he was “hardly perhaps quite considerate.” We might make a connection to the Duke’s letter of apology to Mrs. Finn earlier in the novel. That letter became increasingly inconsiderate only in light of later events—when the Duke did not follow up with another letter or, more crucially, a visit to Mrs. Finn at home.

- 7) **“He has broken two of his ribs and his arm. Of course that is very bad; but I do not think that such accidents are often fatal.”**

These restored sentences provide considerably more comfort to Mary, as Mrs. Finn is able to be specific about the injury that Frank has sustained and why he will recover.

- 8) It was of course not difficult to make her understand that she could not go to Harrington, **and that no one would so thoroughly disapprove of such a step as Frank Tregear himself;**

Without these deleted words the reader might stumble a bit, wondering how Mary was so easily convinced that she could not go to Harrington.



- 9) This was debated for a long time between her and Mrs. Finn, till at last Lady Mary insisted that she was not subject to Mrs. Finn's authority, **and that if she were driven to do so, she would have taken herself to the post-office at Bridstock and would herself send the telegram from there.**

and

**Matching was seven miles from the nearest telegraph-office, and Harrington was nine; but nevertheless**

Here again are details about the postal system (see #4 above). We can almost feel Trollope's pride when he tells us that Mary got an answer that same afternoon, despite how many miles that had to be travelled.

- 10) Gerald, **who felt that he ought to have been home much before this time, had stayed away the longer because he knew that...be angry. Then he**

The restored passage gives us a better sense of why Gerald confesses to his father. He had already wanted to be home long before, but was afraid. We can imagine his frustration, and anger at his own timidity, building—until all of a sudden he just decides to come clean.

- 11) **"I don't mean to be like that. And I don't see what business you have to find fault with me."**

No doubt Silverbridge reacts poorly when Mary criticises him so directly. And so we understand better why the brother and sister are on poor terms for the rest of the day.

- 12) **Tregear perfectly understood that he must serve an apprenticeship before he could make himself...apprenticeship must be delayed!**

Frank in many ways may be arrogant, but we see here that he does understand how one cannot immediately become a star in Parliament, that he must learn the ropes first. On the other hand, he probably does not expect his "apprenticeship" to last long; the sooner he starts, the sooner he can begin his ascent.

**13) She took his hand and, pressing it, looked up into his face.**

It may well be that the Duke had intended to say nothing more than that he was “distressed.” When Mary presses his hand and looks up at him, however, he is impelled to say more; it is a major concession on his part when he says, “I believe him to be a worthy young man.”

CHAPTER 65

**1) “You were anxious to win?”**

As in an earlier chapter (Notes, Chapter 61.7), where he makes the same point three times, the Duke’s repetitiveness displays his hectoring side.

**2) “All cheating is terrible,—very terrible. But the man who sits down to play cards with the distinct” ...understood this last denunciation.**

Of course more explanation is needed if Gerald is to understand why someone playing fairly by the rules can be less of a gentleman than a cheater. The Duke speaks as if his son should indeed understand him, but this goes to show how out of touch, in some ways, the Duke is, even when he gives good advice.

**3) “As a man should use his horse, and not spend his voice in praising him, or his time in fostering him, or his mind in...be with his money.”**

This part of the Duke’s advice is not necessarily apt—but it does reflect his character. He can’t quite comprehend why anyone would want a horse to begin with, so it makes sense for him to say that too much use of “voice” or “time” or “mind” is unworthy. We may also recall another of the Duke’s (restored) analogies that goes a bit awry: when he mentions Lazarus (Notes, Chapter 41.9).

**4) The poor lad was too crushed to write the words then, in his father’s presence. Whether he had understood all...address was given there.**

Here is an echo with a very early chapter, when Mary had to write Frank at the Beargarden because she did not know of any London address (Notes, Chapter 2.13). Ironically, Percival has turned out to be more like the man the Duke thought Frank was. This passage also helps us to see that the Duke's words do not quite wash right over Gerald. Whether or not he is mature enough to abide by his pledge to give up gambling, there is a sense that Gerald has in fact at least begun to learn something important.

- 5) **This happened late on Saturday evening; and the Duke, when he had enclosed the cheque, remained late in his...his political merits. But**

Trollope in the edited version retained how the Duke had “almost sickened of politics,” but the mention of politics is somewhat out of place after the previous cut. The Duke has made tremendous progress, getting to the point where “he had almost made up his mind to assent unconditionally” to Mr. Monk's requests. That he temporarily does not want to think about politics shows how disgusted he is by his children's behaviour.

- 6) From their young boyhood nothing had seemed so desirable to him as that they should be accustomed by early training to devote themselves to the service of their country **and to fit themselves for such work by thoughtful study.**

and

**Hitherto the careers of his boys had been—almost disgraceful. And, though utter disgrace had been warded off...second chance at Oxford,**

On one hand, the Duke is even harsher in his private thoughts than he is when he speaks out loud, believing their “careers” to be “almost disgraceful.” On the other hand, he blames their lack of “thoughtful study,” not their actual ability. Later, in Chapter 67, Silverbridge is surprised, and gratified, when his father emphatically states that he has no doubts about that ability. This restored passage helps prepare us for that moment.

- 7) Anxious as he was that both his sons,—**that his girl as well as his sons,—**

and

And then his girl,—of whose beauty he was so proud, from whose manners, and tastes, and modes of life he had expected to reap...fitted to give him,—**his girl who could read books and be happy without the excitement of some riotous pleasure, from whose marriage he...the house of Palliser.**

We are reminded here that Frank's politics do make a difference to the Duke. Even if now he recognises that Frank is "a worthy young man" (Chapter 64), he knows that Mary's marrying him will cause a permanent break politically, as she will consider herself an adherent of the Conservatives. At the end of the restored novel, the Duke may praise Frank as someone who may turn out to "be a much greater man than his father-in-law" (Notes, Chapter 80.9). Yet even as he says this, he likely acknowledges ruefully how Frank "could lend no aid in supporting the glories of the house of Palliser."

- 8) And now both Silverbridge and his girl were bent upon marriages by which they would depart out of their own order,—**almost as far as it was possible that they should depart.**

and

And now, having at first made a choice that was good,—**having proposed to ally himself with a name as noble and as old as any in the kingdom,—**

The first cut in particular shows that the Duke is still prone to hyperbole—for surely there is a lot further that the two could go to "depart out of their own order." The second cut may reflect a truth about the Grex name, but it's fascinating that in a chapter where Lord Percival's sins are featured, the Duke does not at all here even think about any negatives involved in marrying into such a family.

- 9) **He was not an adventurer, as the Duke had at first thought.**

and

**He was a younger son, without any fortune, who, if he married, must take his very means of living from his wife!**

As the Duke comes to a fairer assessment of Frank, he is still not able to get past the fact that this "younger son, without any fortune," is dependent on marrying a rich woman. And it is possible that he will never get past it, no matter how successful Frank becomes. In contrast, we can believe that the

Duke truly will love Isabel, and will respect his son for having made such a choice for a wife.

- 10) And yet as the Duke walked about his room he **almost acknowledged to himself** Without these restored words, the Duke appears to have fully given in to reality. Instead, he can only “almost acknowledge” that truth. Given how gradual the Duke’s acquiescence has become, this last bit of tiny resistance is fitting.

- 11) Of course they would marry according to their wills,—**unless indeed Silverbridge should again change his purpose, as was not impossible. But when all these troubles...troubles he had endured.**

Ironically, what the Duke does not yet consider is how indeed Silverbridge is getting ready to “change his purpose”—in politics, to join the Liberal party. It is poignant, too, to see how, even when the Duke knows that it is time for him to return to politics, he cannot do so, as “the steel had been taken out of his heart by the troubles he had endured.” By the end of the novel, we can believe that enough of “the steel” has returned to make it likely that the Duke will truly enjoy his return to the political fray.

## CHAPTER 66

- 1) There were no further direct **communications** between Tregear and Lady Mary, but she heard daily of his progress, **and did at last succeed in inducing Gerald to send him one word of a message through his brother.**

After her initial telegram in Chapter 64, Mary does not communicate more with Frank. However, these restored words show that she still pursues indirect means—which would seem to be more in keeping with her character. She accepts the wisdom of not making repeated trips to the post office, but she still wants some sort of message to get through.

- 2) **At last he had consented to obey Mr. Monk. To do something would at any rate be better than idleness. The session...fortnight with Lady Mary.**

Here we get another step in the Duke's very gradual decision-making process, for while "he had consented to obey Mr. Monk," he is still tentative about his return to politics, and does so now only because action is "better than idleness." Trollope's replacement words merely tell us of the Duke's "making some attempt at parliamentary activity."

- 3) **"I think I may say that she certainly will not do that." Mrs. Finn in saying this did not consider herself bound to tell...to take this step.**

Because there is no chance that Mary will actually run away, Mrs. Finn knows that she is not "bound to tell the Duke" of the idle threat. Surely Mrs. Finn thanks her lucky stars that she can remain quiet; had the threat been a real one, she would have been placed in a supremely difficult position.

- 4) **"Could any word of yours make Mr. Warburton subject to another, as he is subject to you? Besides I fear—" ...to him without displeasure.**

By pausing, Mrs. Finn shows that she really does "fear" something—the Duke's severe "displeasure." As it turns out, her detailed knowledge of what his smile means reassures her. She is determined to speak regardless; but the cut makes her seem more confident than she really is at this point in the conversation.

- 5) **"Shall I leave you now?" she said, hardly daring to trust her own voice.**

Mrs. Finn has indeed spoken boldly and is ready to withstand the Duke's wrath. But she very much wants him to be swayed by her words—and to retain his respect. It is understandable that she would end the conversation with a certain degree of tentativeness. The replacement words, "in a low voice," do not convey that tentativeness to the same degree.

- 6) **"Nor will you expect it."**

Mrs. Finn's "Oh no" does not quite fit without this short restored sentence. She would not be sorry to hear the Duke speak more fully, but she certainly does not "expect it."

- 7) **"Where is papa?" Mary asked when she and Mrs. Finn went into lunch together. Mrs. Finn replied that she believed...last night at Matching!**

Here is another poignant passage emphasising the Duke's isolation, as even on his last day at Matching he eats alone and hides away.

- 8) **When writing it the Duke had not been as yet at all shaken in his opposition. Tregear had taken it much to...had received his reply.**

The emphasis here on the need to take "steps," on how Frank "felt that he was bound to do something," echoes a cut passage in the following chapter (Notes, Chapter 67.2) when Frank tells Silverbridge that a man must always be "taking steps upwards." Yet Frank never has an answer to the Duke's central objection: that he is dependent on marrying a rich woman.

- 9) **"I shall go back to the other side. It's the only thing I can do for him."**

Silverbridge is not yet confident enough to engage Frank in a full-fledged political discussion. It is easiest for him to portray his switch in parties solely as a favour to his father.

- 10) **"I suppose they'll send my things in the cart. Joseph will be on the box. When shall we see you in town, Mrs. Finn?" ...was made as follows.**

It is especially amusing to read that Phineas "is thinking a great deal more of Sir Timothy Beeswax than of his wife." Phineas and Silverbridge will surely be great allies; they are already united in their hatred of Sir Timothy.

- 11) **He allowed her now to lie for a minute on his shoulder while he pressed her to his heart.**

The drama of the scene is heightened when we know that father and daughter remain silent for a minute while she is "pressed...to his heart."

- 12) **He could not tell her**,—he could not as yet bring himself to tell her,—that it should **all** be as she desired. **He had not told himself so.**

As far as the Duke has come, as close as he is to saying the words that Mary wishes to hear, it is remarkable—yet entirely believable—that he still “had not told himself” that he has yielded.

- 13) **“Make the most one can of Mrs. Finn, because she has been very good to you.”**  
**“You may be sure of that, Papa. I” ...that unfortunate Lord Popplecourt!**

We are reminded here that, just as Mary has displaced her anger on to Lady Cantrip, when it is her father who initiated the Popplecourt scheme, so too did the Duke displace his anger on to Mrs. Finn when he really should have been angry at his late wife.

## CHAPTER 67

- 1) Lord Silverbridge remained hunting in the Brake country till a few days before the meeting of Parliament, **staying chiefly at Harrington, but also paying a short visit to Spoon Hall. Thither he went at the special request of both...**so makes one fretful.”

### **Had Silverbridge**

The contrast between Frank and Silverbridge comes through sharply here. No doubt, Frank has reason to be in bad spirits; still, he comes across as at least somewhat petulant, whereas Silverbridge is becoming ever more popular, and deservedly so.

- 2) “Take the goods the gods provide you, **whencesoever they may come.** Of course all these things which our ambition covets are easier to dukes’ sons than to others. But not on that account should a duke’s son refuse them. A man **should be continuously taking steps upwards, and**”

Frank’s lack of self-awareness here is noteworthy. For someone who believes that “a man should be continuously taking steps upwards,” he went a long time without taking such steps—except that of getting himself engaged to a very rich woman.



- 3) He had written to her soon after reaching Harrington, telling her **in his own phraseology** that he had had it all out with the governor, **and that though he could not say that his father had at once assented to his views, he did not anticipate any prolonged opposition.**

Silverbridge continues to grow up. Earlier he had others write letters for him; now he uses “his own phraseology.” And he is quite perceptive about how to read his father’s reaction.

- 4) **This was put in the form of a question and certainly required an answer; but Silverbridge had no answer ready.**

Silverbridge’s politics are changing, but he is not yet ready to declare outright that he disagrees with the “general policy” of the Conservative party leader. He can’t say that he agrees, either, and so is unable to speak. His father too has changed very gradually throughout the novel, and he too is almost, but not quite, ready to say so. In the Duke’s case, of course, it is not his political views that have changed, but those toward his daughter’s engagement.

- 5) **“Now that you have explained yourself I think that you are right,” he said, “and I am confirmed in my opinion that” ...to that worthy colleague.**

We know that Sir Timothy is wrong about “the Duke’s hand” being “in every word” of the letter that Silverbridge has sent. He still thinks of Silverbridge as little more than a child. Yet even if the Duke has not written the letter, his influence is palpable; the son is becoming much more like his father.

## CHAPTER 68

- 1) **He almost fancied that the man was predetermined not to give him any information.** He turned away in disgust, and **getting into his own private hansom** had himself driven to the Beargarden. **It was then past two, and he proceeded to eat his lunch. After having told Isabel that he would call in Brook Street at two, he had of course expected to lunch there.**

In the cut version, Silverbridge seems as if he has barely sat down before Nidderdale comes. The original version keeps the echo more intact: Silverbridge, sadly, is eating alone, just as his father has been eating alone (see Notes, Chapter 66.7).

- 2) **He felt himself at the moment to be, as folks say, all in a quiver. The blood was tingling at his fingers' ends, and he...for that special occasion.** He had not thought of a word to say, or a thing to do;—but he felt as he looked at her that the only thing in the world worth...he was half abashed, **conscious of a certain longing, but unconscious how he might best gratify it.**

Though it would be an exaggeration to say that the cuts render the passage bloodless, it does help here to have the blood restored—and the sense of Silverbridge's overwhelming attraction to Isabel.

- 3) **"It will not suit me even though the choice be between that and not marrying at all. There can be no other marriage...will not have that."**

This is one of many moments in the book that subtly mark the passing of time. Earlier Isabel said that she would return to New York if she and Silverbridge did not marry, with the implication that she would marry someone else; now she claims that there can be nobody else. As time goes on she becomes more firmly bound to her lover.

- 4) **No; he would not want it again that evening. He would send word to the stables in the morning. He could think nothing now either of cabs or carriages.**

and

**And as he walked he hardly knew what he was doing in the fury of his love.**

These sentences give a fuller sense of just how lost in love Silverbridge is.

- 5) **Set the pearl as you might, it would show itself to be superior to all other pearls that had ever yet been found. All this the Duke must be made to see.**

The cut passage flows decently enough—but not as much as the restored paragraph does. We understand more clearly why Silverbridge thinks about a “setting” for the pearl. “All this” refers to everything that Silverbridge has been thinking in the paragraph, rather than, more hazily, either the pearl or the setting.

6) **He knew nothing of that early passion which had made his friend Tregear so dear to her, but, without knowing it, he had felt its effects.**

Readers have been aware for a long time that Mabel’s love for Frank is undiminished. It can be useful, from time to time, to be reminded when characters do not share our knowledge, as is the case here. If Silverbridge knows “nothing” at all, in part that means both Frank and Mabel have done a superlative job of hiding the truth. We are reminded too of how, in his youth, Silverbridge has taken little stock of his own value as the fabulously wealthy future Duke of Omnium. It has not occurred to him that someone like Mabel could want to marry him and still love someone else.

7) **He certainly would never have thought of marrying Mabel Grex, if he had, at that time, seen Isabel Boncassen.**

Just as, earlier in the chapter, we saw how Isabel becomes more firmly attached to Silverbridge (#3), we now see evidence of his ever-growing attachment to her. It has nothing to do with Mabel’s near-mocking reaction to his first protestations of love; even if she had been enthusiastic, Silverbridge still would have chosen Isabel had he met her at the time.

CHAPTER 69

- 1) He was inclined to think that he could not abdicate, but he was quite sure that no one could prevent him from going to America and calling himself Mr. Palliser **if he chose it. Or might it not be well that he should simply threaten to do this, with a conviction that...brought round to reason?**

and

**Isabel required a distinct acceptance from the Duke in person. The hardship was that the Duke, knowing all...very account remain firm.**

Silverbridge demonstrates—as he has done various times throughout the novel—that he is more of a thinker than he appeared to be at first. Here he reflects on strategy: whether a threat alone will get him what he wants, and whether Isabel's declaration might not backfire, pushing the father toward a resistance that he would otherwise not maintain.

- 2) He was turning all this in his head and ever and anon trying to relieve his mind by *Clarissa*, which he was reading in conformity with his father's advice,—**since Macaulay's enthusiasm in India all Liberal statesmen have recommended the reading of *Clarissa*,—**

If the cut had to be made, Trollope probably should have gone further, and merely referred to Silverbridge reading a book. It is slightly mystifying to learn that the Duke has recommended *Clarissa* to his son; the restored words make it clear that the Duke is not doing anything unusual and is instead following the conventional wisdom of “all Liberal statesmen.”

- 3) **“Don't go and say that, or it will do me a mischief.”**

Perhaps Dolly is worried that Silverbridge will say something to Isabel; or Dolly might even be concerned about his reputation in his social circle. Either way, we get a deeper sense of how Dolly wishes to consider himself a new man now that he believes he is besotted by love; it is unfair, he thinks, for his old habits to haunt him.

- 4) **“I suppose a man may light a cigar here, Silverbridge?” The permission was given and the cigar was lighted. “I have a sort of idea that you wouldn't tell.”**

It is possible that a man in Dolly's situation might want to smoke because he's so nervous; more likely in this case Dolly shows that for all his declarations of being hopelessly in love, he is not going to forget, even momentarily, any of his simple pleasures.

- 5) **“I've been horribly cheated. I suppose you've heard that. But still,—“**

Dolly is referring to family matters that are covered in *The Way We Live Now*. (See Notes, Chapter 46.14, for Dolly's joking—or mostly joking—complaint about the uselessness of fathers.)

- 6) But, regarding Dolly as a middle-aged sort of fellow, one of those men who marry because it is convenient to have a house kept for them **when they have become tired of bachelor looseness**, he simply nodded his head. **He could not become enthusiastic about the lady of Dolly's heart,—at any rate not till he had heard her name.**

Silverbridge himself is far too young to have “tired of bachelor looseness”—or even to have experienced much of it, given that he is barely out of school. Perhaps, if he had married Mabel, he would have come to feel that he had missed out. We recall that he began looking for a wife in part because of his desire to escape Tifto. Silverbridge's love for Isabel, however, is the real thing; he would have been struck even if he had no previous thoughts of marrying. On the other hand, though Dolly fully believes that he is in love, we do not doubt that he will recover from his disappointment quite quickly.

- 7) **But in such a crisis he must be careful not to make a fool of himself. Before he ventured to speak he warned...moment he said nothing.**

and

This was almost too much for Silverbridge; but still he contained himself, **and in order that he might do so he got up and poked the fire, and altered the position of half-a-dozen things on the chimney-piece.**

Again we see how, as Silverbridge matures, he becomes more of a thinker, a strategist, and less boyishly impulsive.

- 8) “Miss Boncassen is going to be my wife,” he said, **drawing himself into some unintended assumption of dignity.**

Silverbridge's maturation is a gradual process. Here, the declaration that he is going to have a wife makes him feel like a grown-up, and so he unconsciously pulls himself into what is perhaps an exaggerated dignified pose. We see something similar, often, in productions of *Henry V*, when the

young king wants to prove that he is ready for the job. It is not outlandish to think that Trollope had Prince Hal/Henry V in mind; his writing is suffused with Shakespearean echoes and connections.

- 9) **"I am sure I am very much obliged to you for telling me;—because you know it puts an end to it all, and settles a fellow. I shall see her once more,—once more before I go."**

As we find out in the next chapter, the "once more" is at a lunch that Dolly has been invited to. Surely he could have told this to Silverbridge had he wanted to, but it suits him to portray himself as a hopeless romantic, not able to resist one last look at the woman of his dreams.

- 10) **He had of course cautioned Dolly Longstaffe to hold his peace, but he was, he told himself, very sure that such a caution...hold fast by it.**

That Dolly will keep the secret is a surprise to readers as well—but not a contrived one; we can see why he might wish to be "a man and a martyr." And so while Dolly remains a comic figure, he is given more humanity in a moment like this one.

- 11) **The interview had taken an hour and he was engaged to lunch in Brook Street at two. Unfortunately...become already intimately acquainted.**

Silverbridge's quick recovery in this passage might make us think of Dolly earlier in the chapter and his (expected) quick recovery. It is also a slight surprise to see Silverbridge fussing over his appearance—but fitting under the circumstances. He is more in love with Isabel than ever, and wants to make sure he looks his best when he sees her. Trollope consistently keeps his characters fresh; he puts in tiny surprises which further develop those characters coherently.

## CHAPTER 70

- 1) **Then he understood that mysterious announcement that the loved one was sure to be seen once more.**

Though, as we just saw in the previous chapter (Notes, Chapter 69.9), Dolly might have chosen to make himself purposely “mysterious,” he did at least say something. To show up without any warning to Silverbridge, as he does in the edited version, seems more of a hostile act.

- 2) **There never had been such a “sell” as this since lovers were lovers, since Brook Street had been built, since America had become a country.** He almost thought that Dolly winked at him in triumph,—that very Dolly who an hour ago had promised to take himself off upon his Asiatic travels! **He wished that the man were already there, but had no wishes as to the man’s safe return.**

The first restored sentence shows Silverbridge’s growing agitation, even hysteria—so that we are more likely to believe that Dolly’s triumphant wink is in his imagination. The second sentence shows him to be momentarily ill-natured. It is not Silverbridge at his best, but he is being entirely human.

- 3) The poet seemed always to be biding his time **for saying something pungent, but, though he even made preparation with his thumb, the pungent thing did not come.**

and later in the chapter

But the Beeswaxes and the Gotobeds would not go, and the poet sat staring immovably, **as though that immortality for which his sort sighed was to be found in the permanence of his present abode.**

Trollope’s humour in regard to the poet is largely lost with the cuts. The poet, consumed here with “immortality,” is quite the opposite of the writer Trollope portrays himself to be in *An Autobiography*—someone too busy writing, and living, to worry much about posterity.

- 4) “I don’t mean to go near the place,” he said, not at all conveying any purpose to which he had really come, but driven by the...his general hatred of **everything around him. “You are not going to accept the Chilterns?” asked Lady B. with intense interest. “I have been” ...altogether out of his hands.**

Silverbridge certainly knows that Lady Beeswax means another kind of “Chilterns” than his friends, but he chooses to perplex her. No wonder she

proclaims him “incoherent.” Perhaps this is another example of Silverbridge’s occasional irritability—but we are likely to cheer him on in this case, as Lady Beeswax in her cameo appearance shows signs of being every bit as repulsive as her husband.

- 5) **His heart was so full of her, his thoughts had been so intent upon her, that he was unable to carry himself with that...man even in love.**

This focus on how Silverbridge carries himself—his inability to feign “indifference”—fits well with other recent (often deleted) moments, such as, in the previous chapter, his assumption of dignity and his attention to his coat and gloves (Chapter 69.8 and 69.11).

- 6) **There can, I think, be no doubt that, as an opportunity for social gatherings, lunches are a mistake. It may be that nature...worst of it all**

This is one of the narrator’s great extended digressions, especially noteworthy because its subject—the difference between lunch parties and dinner parties—is not one that many readers would likely have thought much about previously. It is worth repeating once more how many moments of gentle humour are lost in the shortened novel.

- 7) **But still it was not easy to talk to her for an hour.**

It is not only the fools (the Beeswaxes, the poet, Mr. Gotobed) who are difficult to speak to in this chapter. Silverbridge has his hands full with Mrs. Boncassen too, as he somehow has to keep conversation alive with his future mother-in-law. Perhaps she’s a fool as well, but we are likely to be more compassionate toward her now, as she struggles with the prospect of losing her daughter to a world in which she can never be comfortable.

- 8) Then too Mrs. Boncassen had left the room **as though but for a moment, going to the door as though she had meant to return, and then escaping.**

and

**Silverbridge stood bolt upright, and then sat down again.**



Silverbridge's first instinct, when he "stood bolt upright," is to "escap[e]," just as Mrs. Boncassen has done seconds earlier. His previous meeting with Mr. Boncassen had not gone as he had hoped, and perhaps at first he fears even worse results from a new conversation. The sentence that remains after the cut—"Of course there was nothing for him but to submit"—does not fully make sense unless at first Silverbridge has the notion not to submit.

9) **"Can you name such a man to whom I may trust for an opinion?"**

and

**Here Silverbridge put up his hand and passed it uneasily backwards and forwards across his head. He did not feel so...part of his father.**

Mr. Boncassen certainly repeats himself; he has already made it clear, in the two previous sentences, that he trusts the Duke to offer an honest opinion. Yet the repetition is dramatically effective: Silverbridge, to some extent, feels bullied. He does not believe that his father is quite as just as Mr. Boncassen claims, yet he is given no choice but to agree. In addition, it is a fine comic touch for Silverbridge to move his hand "backwards and forwards across his head." He does this because he cannot yet figure out what to say, and so Mr. Boncassen continues speaking.

10) **In this case there was that additional difficulty about Lady Mabel! He could not tell the story to Mr. Boncassen. He...very bad reason. But**

Again we get a reminder that Silverbridge thinks strategically. He may have a strong desire to tell the full truth to Mr. Boncassen, but decides that there is no way to explain the situation that would be to his benefit.

11) Silverbridge **asked piteously** that he might be allowed to see Isabel

The words "asked piteously" are more evocative than the shorter "begged," perhaps making us think of Silverbridge as a little boy who asks a grown-up for a treat that he has no chance of getting. Given how forlorn he is, it is noteworthy that he quickly resolves, at the beginning of Chapter 71, to go to his father and use "all the powers of supplication which were at his

command.” It has been a difficult day for him, but it is still only afternoon and he is determined to change things around.

## CHAPTER 71

- 1) He would be urgent, piteous, submissive, and eloquent. In any other matter he would promise to make whatever arrangements his father might desire,—**or if sacrifices were necessary, whatever sacrifices;—by which latter assurance to himself he intended to signify that he...to vacate the seat.**

If in fact switching over to the Liberals counts as a “sacrifice,” it is not because Silverbridge prefers to be a Conservative at this point. Rather, he will have to withstand the embarrassment of having declared himself as his own man to his constituents and now going back and telling them that he had erred. It will indeed be a sacrifice if he has to “vacate the seat,” but Silverbridge is still too inexperienced to realise that his constituents will demand no such thing.

- 2) **How this was to be done in the teeth of what Mr. Boncassen had said to him he had not as yet made up his mind; but...await his father's return.**

This passage gives the narrator an opportunity to muse on the complicated power relations between fathers and sons. Even without being “malicious” as many other eldest sons are, Silverbridge can still resort to making threats should he need to—threats that would most likely get him what he wants. In the second restored paragraph, we see more of Silverbridge the strategist, someone willing to change his mind based on the unfolding circumstances.

- 3) **“I suppose you have, all of you, been arranging something.”**

**“No, indeed. We have been discussing matters which do not as yet seem to admit of any arrangement. So your friend Lord...conceit of that kind.”**

Before they get to the big topic of the Silverbridge-Isabel marriage, father and son have a small bonding moment about what is being planned by the Liberals and about Nidderdale's speech. It is another important step in their strengthening relationship.

- 4) The subject had come up so easily, so readily,—**this question as to which he had thought that it must be introduced by him with the greatest care**,—that he was almost aghast when he found himself in the middle of it **before it had been introduced at all**. And yet he must speak on the matter, and that at once. **He paused, expecting that his father would probably tell him what reply had been made to Mr. Boncassen; but the...to make some remark.**

In the edited version, Silverbridge really does speak “at once.” Instead, the pause is more dramatic—and realistic. As much as Silverbridge realises that it is his turn to speak, he is also joyously stunned, and not quite ready to do it.

- 5) “The room for choice might be wide enough for you without going across the Atlantic to look for her who is to **preside over your home, and** be the mother of your children.”

**“It was she that came. I did not go.”**

**“It is the same.** To this Mr. Boncassen replied that he was **bound** to look solely to his daughter’s happiness,—**and to yours, of course, as bound up with hers.**”

**“Of course it will be, sir.”**

Silverbridge is, humourously, being a bit too literal-minded when he objects to his father’s claim that he crossed the Atlantic to find a wife. He wishes not to be scolded; and in his mind there’s a difference between actively seeking an American wife and falling in love with someone who has by chance come into his orbit. Interestingly, his sister at one point basically agrees that Frank should not have been allowed into her own orbit (see in Chapter 30, “Why did he let him come? Why did you bring him? But it is of no use. The thing is settled”)—the clear difference being that no one would ever suggest that Silverbridge be kept away from Isabel in the first place.

- 6) **“What would you think of it yourself? Is it not impossible?”**

Not only is it “impossible” for Silverbridge to change his mind because he loves Isabel and there are no longer any obstacles; a reversal would cause the Duke to respect him less. After all, “What would [he] think of” someone so fickle?

- 7) **In all that he had done he had been tender-hearted, honest, and forbearing. In what had he ever consulted pleasures or even tastes of his own?**

As the Duke indulges in a few moments of self-pity, we may be reminded that he also never really “consulted” any of his children as they were growing up—that is, he never got to know them. His failures as a father, and to some extent as a husband too, loom over the entire novel.

- 8) **“But there is one thing, Silverbridge,” said the Duke very gravely, “which I cannot understand. I hope you will give me” ...did not press it.**

Given that Silverbridge has never provided much of an explanation, it makes sense for his father to try one last time to learn what happened. After all, the Duke recognises that his own behaviour toward Mabel in recent weeks has likely raised her hopes. He is thus implicated in her heartbreak, and wants to understand more about what led to it.

- 9) This the young Scotch Lord did so well, and received so much praise for the doing of it, and looked so well in his uniform, **and was altogether so great a man on the occasion**, that Silverbridge almost regretted the opportunity he had lost. **And then, when Mr. Monk got up to give his reasons for not opposing the address at the present moment, following...at half-past five.**

This is a valuable passage showing how Silverbridge is increasingly interested in Parliament and politics. As eager as he is to see Isabel, he also wants to stay and hear the speeches.

- 10) Then Silverbridge, **who had by this time called at the house often enough to be very well known to all the servants**,

Without these restored words the reader could mistakenly believe that Silverbridge barges right past the servant, rudely. Nearly the opposite is true: he is so “very well known” that they have no interest in impeding him.

- 11) **“I like all that I have seen of you, sir, and I think that she is a lucky girl.”**

Without this sentence, Mr. Boncassen's emphasis is on Silverbridge being "a grand young Briton." Instead, the basis of Mr. Boncassen's affection is that he really does like whatever he has seen of the young man; it is significant, but still secondary, that Silverbridge is "grand."

**12) Lord Silverbridge as he went away to dine at his club was not quite contented with the results of the evening.**

It has been a long, consequential day for Silverbridge, with ups and downs. If the ending is a happy one, it is still a bit anti-climactic, since he does not see Isabel. We may suspect that one main reason he "was not quite contented" is that he does not get what he has been pining after: a luscious kiss from his beloved.

**CHAPTER 72**

**1) Some matter-of-fact critic will say that the first word of assurance from the man who is to give her the home must be...please or to displease.**

Here is another entertaining and informative long digression from the narrator—effective, as was the previous long digression about convivial lunches (Notes, Chapter 70.6), in the way it makes us think about something that we might have previously given little attention to. We are also reminded here of how the stakes in marriage are so much higher for a woman than a man. Yes, the man cares about his home, just as he certainly cares about his wife. But if domestic life does not go as he had hoped, he still has a wide world to engage in. Not so for a woman, whose house is "the scene of her joys, her labours, and her troubles."

**2) "I cannot lose you now," she had said to him, leaning on his arm;—this had occurred since that evening on which she had so wickedly taken herself off to the theatre with Mrs. Montacute Jones**

In mentioning Isabel's "wicked" behaviour, Trollope is able to insert a welcome moment of humour in what is otherwise a long serious paragraph. We suspect, too, that Silverbridge and Isabel have been teasing one another

about that night, as once again Trollope subtly points to what occurs beyond the pages of the novel.

- 3) “Do you think that mother will not want to have seen the house that I am to live in, **and to feel that she knows something of my whereabouts?**”

We might feel later in the chapter that Mrs. Boncassen wants to see the house mainly because of the “cooking apparatus and the wash-houses.” Instead, Isabel credits her mother with a loftier goal as well: to be able to picture what her daughter’s life is like when she herself will not be able to visit. Mrs. Boncassen is a somewhat less ridiculous, more sympathetic, character in the restored novel. (See, for instance, Notes, Chapter 31.5 and Chapter 70.7)

- 4) When they arrived Silverbridge was there **to help them out of the carriage,**

This is a tiny detail, but still a welcome one, as it puts greater emphasis on Silverbridge’s graciousness. He is not just sitting in the house, greeting them as they walk in; he has gone out to receive and “help them.”

- 5) “I know that you have always been **very, very** good to me.”

Trollope took out many of the “very”s, either when cutting the manuscript or later in proof. Often the word is not missed—at least not “very” much—but here the double “very” does alter the tone of the sentence, as Isabel comes across as more effusive and awestruck than she does in the cut version.

- 6) “**Why not? Or is it only because you are younger?**”

**“There is something in that I suppose.”**

Isabel worships Silverbridge and believes in his capacity for greatness. Silverbridge himself does not yet have such a belief, but grants that he may be undervaluing himself; perhaps his youth does account for his previous struggles.

- 1) "I have learned to feel that certain things which the world regards as too awful to be talked of,—except in the way of scandal,—**such as the unfortunate aspirations of unfortunate maidens**"

Mabel makes fun of herself as one of those "unfortunate maidens" who will talk about herself despite the lack of "scandal." As we see over and over, Trollope knows just when to insert a slight dose of humour, a lighter touch, in what is otherwise a serious passage.

- 2) It is the everlasting effort which the horror makes to peep out of his cupboard **in which we so vainly try to hide him** that robs us of our ease. **When all who know me know all my little troubles, then I think I shall be, not happy, but comfortable."**

Mabel promises to tell her "little troubles" not only to Silverbridge but to "all who know me." One wonders what will happen beyond the pages of the novel. Will she be making snide remarks about Silverbridge (and Isabel) to many others? Or will she attempt to make good on her hope (in a restored passage) at the end of the chapter, that she and Isabel may someday become friends?

- 3) **Asserting to himself in his own fashion that "secrets are beastly bothers,"**

In this chapter where Mabel reveals her own secrets—most significantly, that "I have never loved you"—Silverbridge considers the kind of "secrets [that] are beastly bothers." And what a huge difference there is between something that is merely bothersome and something that, as in Mabel's case, weighs so heavily.

- 4) **He would be very gentle, very courteous, very kind, so long as no word was said imputing fault to Isabel.**

Without this sentence, we may get the sense that Silverbridge will be so wary when he visits Mabel as to almost give off an air of hostility. Instead, we can trust that he will indeed "be very gentle, very courteous, very kind."

5) **"It is not in my nature to think like that."**

This is something that Silverbridge probably would not have said early in the novel. He has done much reflection in recent months, and has a much greater sense of what his "nature" in fact is.

6) **"You have never said to yourself that it was because you had invited me to love you that I found myself driven to...was to be—abandoned."**

The word "abandoned" ratchets up the tone of Mabel's condemnation. She goes all out in order to have what she later terms her "little triumph."

7) **"And I did it the second time, even after I had heard of this infatuation." Then he scowled at her because by that latter word...her by a reproach.**

The scowl is enough; had Silverbridge been less sure that "Isabel was assuredly his own," he likely would have done more to prove that this was no "infatuation." It is no treat for him to be attacked, and as we see in this scene he does become sensitive about whether he has treated Mabel unfairly. But about his love for Isabel—and Isabel's love for him—there is no question.

8) **"Are you not man enough to answer that for me?"**

Mabel knows that she is more likely to get an answer if she challenges Silverbridge's manhood. If he had been "man enough," and less of a boy, when he first tried to propose to her, she might have responded differently. No doubt he is man enough now to be an acceptable mate, but of course it is too late for her.

9) **"Now you also have told me,—so that all doubt is at an end."**

It is a bit surprising to hear that Mabel had any "doubt" whatsoever on this matter; surely she knew that the Duke had received her as his likely future daughter-in-law. Perhaps she has considered the slight possibility that he was acting based on hints from his son rather than an explicit declaration. To know definitively, though, that Silverbridge had discussed his intentions with the Duke is not likely to offer her much comfort. If anything, she is likely to



indulge in more self-flagellation; the prize had once been so easily within her reach.

10) **"You will see perhaps now, my friend, that I was not altogether indifferent to your position as an eldest son. But you have escaped."**

Unlike Silverbridge, Frank is not "an eldest son." Would it have made a difference to Mabel if he were? Perhaps Mabel has been wondering herself. Once again here, and in the example just above about her "doubt" (#9), as well as the example earlier in the chapter about Silverbridge's "nature" (#5), we see how Trollope subtly nods to what his characters are thinking outside the pages of the novel.

11) **"There will be something between us which will not be common to her."**

Is Mabel, at least unconsciously, making a snide reference to Isabel's background by suggesting that most things are "common to her"? We may think back to Chapter 35, when Mabel swore to Silverbridge that she intended no harm by mentioning his having been to Oxford. No doubt we can believe her in that case—at least as far as her conscious intentions are concerned.

12) **"Sometime, I dare say she and I may become friends." Then he took his leave, almost without a word, and walked home, pondering what he had heard.**

As Mabel says her goodbyes, first to Silverbridge in this chapter, and then to Frank in Chapter 77, there is a clear difference: she urges Silverbridge to come see her after he is married, whereas she tells Frank to stay away. The restored words suggest a further comparison: she can imagine becoming friends with Isabel but not with Mary. As much as she may feel that she erred by not ensnaring Silverbridge when she had the chance, she does not expect to have any profound emotional turbulence about her missed opportunity. Since she never loved him, her regrets can only go so far; it may not, ultimately, be too painful to be around him or his wife. And with the closing sentence, Trollope invites us to ponder what Silverbridge will make of all this. We get some information at the beginning of the next chapter, and

then later in the chapter, in a restored passage (Notes, Chapter 74.7), but much is left out. It is easy enough to understand his compassion toward Mabel. But will he feel any lingering resentment toward Frank now that he knows the whole story—and knows that Frank was lying when he said that he and Mabel were always like brother and sister? Will Silverbridge's switch to the Liberal party cause any sort of lingering tension between the two men? Will Silverbridge come around to his father's way of thinking, and grow convinced that Frank should never have looked to woo someone like Mary? By the end of the novel, we can be fairly confident that Frank will go far in the Conservative party; what is much more up for grabs is how both Silverbridge and his father-in-law will feel about him.

#### CHAPTER 74

- 1) Silverbridge pondered it all much as he went home,—**so much that for the moment he forgot other things. It was Monday and he had intended to go down to the House...column to Carlton Terrace.**

It is understandable that Silverbridge would head home after his difficult encounter with Mabel. Still, the fact that “he had intended to go down to the House,” and surely would have gone under ordinary circumstances, reminds us again that he is growing ever more serious about the work he has chosen.

- 2) The horror to him was chiefly in this,—that she should yet be driven to marry some man without even fancying that she could love him;—**that she should have tried her hand upon him and that she had confessed that she must now seek some other victim...given to Frank Tregear!**

Trollope offers Silverbridge's thoughts without commenting on the young man's interpretations. In the part of the sentence that remains in the edited text, Silverbridge reels at the “horror” of Mabel being willing to marry him “without even fancying that she could love him”—even though Mabel claims that she would have learned to love him. In the deleted section, he focuses on how “she had confessed that she must now seek some other victim”—though she has not explicitly said any such thing. Silverbridge may be astute in both cases. He may reckon that Mabel's talk about loving him in the future was merely talk, and not a deep-seated belief; and given her financial

predicament, it may seem obvious to him that she will look to marry whenever she can.

3) **"The Duke has yielded,—not with the very best grace."**

We are immediately reminded of how the Duke has received Isabel—with indeed "the very best grace," though as we learn afterward he has still not totally embraced the idea of that marriage. That the Duke is so gruff to Frank shows that he has a long way to go before he accepts his new son-in-law.

4) "He made me understand by most unanswerable arguments that I had no business to think of such a thing,—**that I have not a leg to stand upon.** I did not fight the point with him,—but simply stood there, as conclusive evidence **that I had a leg.**"

Earlier in the novel (Notes, Chapter 5.8), Frank consciously held his tongue when he was tempted to express his anger toward the Duke. Here too he doesn't speak, though perhaps his body language made it clear exactly what he was thinking.

5) **"I could only shrug my shoulders."**

Though the Duke has just said that he will provide an income, Frank's shrugging of the shoulders suggests that it doesn't matter much either way to him. Of course, Frank is reliant on that money—as both he and the Duke well know.

6) "While I was with Mary there came a message to me, telling me to come to dinner **to-day. Somebody will have to cut my food for me, but I shall come.**"

Because of his injuries, Frank does literally need help at the dinner table. Yet we may also have an amused thought about Frank needing protection from something dastardly, the food cutter also being a food taster.

7) **So that was settled. There were two men to be made happy,—himself, and Frank Tregear; and two girls, also, were happy...loveliest of her sex!**

"In the midst of his own joy," Silverbridge is remarkably sensitive toward Mabel as he contemplates her "wretched" situation—more sensitive than Frank is, several chapters later, during his own farewell encounter with Mabel. Both men have hurt Mabel, but arguably Frank has been more callous all along.

- 8) "I was going there, but I **just** met Tregear **by chance** at the door. **I thought he was still down at Lord Chiltern's.**"

**"I wish he were."**

**"Oh, sir!"**

**"Well;—what would you have me say?"**

"He tells me you have accepted him for Mary. **If that be true, is he not better here?"**

"I wish that he had never **been here**. Do you think that a man can be thwarted in everything and not feel it? **I had set my mind to judge as best I could for the welfare of my children, and they have crossed me in everything.**"

The Duke comes across as considerably more ornery with these words restored. It is almost childish for him to say that he wishes Frank were back (lying in bed) at the Chilterns; and rather than just express his pain at being "thwarted," which one might feel even when knowing that one has been wrong, he seems to double down on his previous conviction that he is the best "judge" of "the welfare of my children."

- 9) **"You will find him to be** in all respects a high-minded gentleman."

**"I hope so. I do believe it."**

When the Duke responds "I hope so," he is not only saying that he hopes Silverbridge is right, but that he hopes he "will find" this out—a subtle distinction but still a valuable one. And when he says "I do believe it," we sense that he is trying hard to convince himself of that belief—trying, but not necessarily succeeding.

- 10) **"Isabel is certainly no kitchen-maid."**

When the Duke pauses immediately after saying this rather than after saying “I beg your pardon,” we can more easily imagine him thinking about why Isabel is no kitchen-maid—and why he knows that he can indeed truly love her.

- 11) **“So he has told me. Of course I shall come as soon as I can get away,” said Silverbridge, looking as though he...Isabel Boncassen at dinner.**

Just a few chapters back, Silverbridge chafed at having to talk politics with Sir Timothy Beeswax when instead he wanted to be with Isabel. His ardour for Isabel hasn’t cooled; the fact that he here pretends to prefer his “legislative duties” shows how much he wishes to impress his father. Not that the pretense is meaningless (see #1 above); we have every reason to believe that, after he is married, Silverbridge will work hard in Parliament—though he will have a much more balanced life than his “all work, no play” father ever did.

- 12) **“I don’t suppose they can be married as soon as we are,” he added.**

**“I know nothing about that,” said the Duke, “but I should think not.”**

The Duke is a bit disingenuous; as it turns out, there is a long delay before Frank and Mary get married, partially because the Duke is eager not to hurry things along.

- 13) **“But he looks at me as though I had done something wicked;—as though I were to be forgiven.”**

Mary’s frustration is more understandable with the restored “wicked.” It’s not only that the Duke considers her marriage to be “unfortunate” (the word he uses with Silverbridge when giving his consent to him); he is acting in a way that makes her think she has done something truly bad.

- 14) **“I’ve got what I want, and you are to have what you want. Surely that ought to be enough.”**

Mary is being somewhat obnoxious, suggesting that she is less blameworthy than her brother because of her constancy and his fickleness. Silverbridge does not get offended, however, and stays on message: they are both marrying as they wish, and that “ought to be enough.” Is it possible, though, that Mary senses trouble ahead? Whereas Silverbridge is confident that eventually the Duke will love Isabel wholly, Mary may well sense that her father will never quite warm up to Frank.

- 15) **“Of course** he has not had his own way with either of us, and of course he feels it. **They say that a conqueror always ought to be good-humoured. You are the conqueror here. If you are gentle with him...you,—and with Tregear.”**

Mary has felt aggrieved throughout the novel, and perhaps she simply needs more time to recover. Still, based on what we have seen of them, it is more in Silverbridge’s nature than in Mary’s to be “good-humoured.”

- 16) Mr. Boncassen bore himself perhaps with more ease than anyone in the company, having at his command a certain gift of manliness which enabled him to regard this marriage exactly as he would have done any other **with which, in regard to his daughter, he might have felt himself satisfied. Partly because rank was not much to him...success of his girl.**

If it is true that rank is “not much to” Mr. Boncassen, we know that he is not wholly blind to it, particularly if we go back to an earlier chapter when he overdoes the use of “my Lord” (Notes, Chapter 53.3). He may have convinced himself that this marriage was no different from any other in which the man would have been amiable and wealthy, but if so he is probably fooling himself.

- 17) **She had known that a struggle would be necessary to enable her not to seem oppressed, to save her from an appearance of...but, as it was**

This restored passage helps us see why Isabel will do just fine as a countess and duchess. Even now, before she has learned anything much about how she is to behave, and even when she is full of worry about her mother, “No

one would have known by her manner that she was not the daughter of some other English magnate."

**18) And now had not Frank Tregear been at table, had he not felt himself compelled to acknowledge by the man's...with poor Mrs. Boncassen.**

We might believe that "poor Mrs. Boncassen" will always feel totally out of sorts in such company, but the passage offers hope for her in the future. It will eventually be possible for someone like the Duke to talk more "easily" with her—which presumably means that she will talk more easily in return.

**19) "I take it," said Mr. Boncassen, "that we are doing our best to copy you in most things." The Duke remarked that the...and not at ease!**

There is much in this exchange that is amusing and colourful. In particular, we may notice that Isabel calls Paris "a Paradise upon earth" immediately after Silverbridge says that "I hate it" and "I never know what to do there." We can be fairly confident that Isabel will teach him how to enjoy Paris, even if right now she responds frivolously about wearing bonnets on the Champs-Élysées. She'll have plenty to learn from him, and he from her.

**20) It was not till afterwards that he could comfort himself by the reflection that though he had been perhaps almost...true to his purpose.**

This is a deeply poignant moment. As we saw earlier in the chapter, after the Duke makes his "kitchen-maid" remark, he has become willing to criticise himself, to question whether his prejudices are justified. He goes further now in wondering whether his gestures at reconciliation are "almost ridiculous." But it is indeed a real "comfort" that "he had been honest and true to his purpose." It is not until after the dinner that he has this realisation, meaning he has had to suffer awhile with self-reproach. Still, this ability to forgive himself bodes well for him in the future as he continues to adjust to changing times.

21) **"I hope,—I hope there has been nothing wrong,—that he has not been—anything that he ought not to have been."**

**"I have known nothing.** It has never been more than a suspicion."

**"I don't think he has quite told me all. Perhaps he ought not to do so. At any rate I never ask him."**

In Chapter 72, Isabel had joked with the Duke about how Silverbridge never "likes to be kept waiting for anything." We know how ardent he has been in his attempts to kiss Isabel—and how she has kept him at bay. Here, her difficulty in phrasing the question hints at her possible suspicions—or at least possible concerns—about whether he has had some sort of sexual relationship with Mabel. Notably, she grants that he may be right not to tell her everything, and she will "never ask him." In their married life, Isabel is likely to be outspoken, but also quite tactful; and she will certainly not be a hectoring sort of wife.

22) **Upon the whole the evening's entertainment had been useful. There had no doubt been periods in which some...results had been achieved.**

Though Trollope hurts the novel with his frequent cuts of chapter endings, this is one place where such a cut might help, as the chapter ends more punchily with Mary's remarks about "poor Lady Mabel" and the narrator's swift comment that "Silverbridge had not told all." On the other hand, it is useful to know that everyone, ultimately and "[u]pon the whole," felt the evening was a success. Moreover, in this serious chapter, perhaps the tone of the deleted final paragraph is fitting. It's a close call.

## CHAPTER 75

1) By the end of March **there was certainly no one in all the world who did not know both that Lord Silverbridge was going to be married to...way, was fast coming.**

It is intriguing to consider why Isabel feels that Silverbridge will benefit from "a short separation." Does she think he is getting too overheated in her presence as he waits for their wedding night? The convincing portrayal of sexual attraction between Silverbridge and Isabel is one of Trollope's



achievements in this novel. While we have seen that Isabel is able to control herself, Silverbridge has had more of a struggle.

- 2) **He declared to one or two of his friends, to Tregear, to Lady Mabel Grex, and to Mrs. Finn that the Beargarden was the...take place too soon.**

and

Perhaps dinner was more comfortable,—**what he would have called less stupid,—**

Though after the cuts we still get to hear about how everything is “stupid” for Silverbridge, his frustrations are even more palpable, and comic, with these restored references. We don’t have to feel bad for him as he waits around, unable to concentrate on anything; he is about to become a very happily married man.

- 3) **“There was quite enough for them all to live in what they would think luxury.”**

“He is not with them,” said Silverbridge, as though he were in some degree mourning over the fate of his unfortunate friend. **“However it all was done, the poor devil didn’t get his share of the plunder.”**

Given that the “plunder” already has taken place, Silverbridge would wish Tifto to “get his share of” it. It is a remarkably generous stance.

- 4) **“I would not let him go down to Silverbridge with me one day, and then I was angry with him when he asked to be introduced to the governor in the other room there.”**

Silverbridge now recognises that he should have been kinder to Tifto during that meeting at the club—more evidence of the young man’s sensitivity, and growing maturity.

- 5) **He had told himself that a man should never run away.**

We may be reminded of Frank’s earlier advice (Notes, Chapter 67.2): “A man should be continuously taking steps upwards, and when he sees a rung vacant on the ladder should always put his foot there.” (See also Notes,

Chapter 23.12.) In this case, Dolly isn't stepping anywhere, just staying in place. It is likely that he will stay in place forever, and never again bother himself about getting married.

6) **"Who do you think I've just seen, Silverbridge?"**

**"I have not the least idea."**

**"I'll give you three guesses;—and I'll give Lupton three."**

**"You are very kind," said Lupton, "but I won't take advantage of your good nature."**

**"I'll be shot if I didn't meet Tifto at the corner of the street **just now**."**

Dolly would enjoy more dramatic buildup to his revelation, but neither Lupton nor Silverbridge is inclined to play along. He is keen for some mild mischief-making, as he well knows what Silverbridge's reaction will be. Dolly has seen Tifto "just now"; he must be especially delighted to be able to spread the news so quickly.

7) **"I caught him just under the lamp-post."**

Dolly continues to have fun, telling the story as if he himself has "caught" Tifto by shining a light on him. Economically, and with the help of the restored words in this brief scene, Trollope gives us a picture of just how well Dolly has recovered from his recent travails.

8) **He repented himself that he had done so as soon as he was alone, and for a time had almost made up his mind that he would...But he did not.**

and

**He did not think that there was anything to fear, and at last he resolved to see the Major alone.**

Silverbridge continues to grow. Though it would be easier to call in Mr. Lupton to help handle the meeting, he resists. Silverbridge might have even tried to justify Lupton's presence by saying that a vengeful Tifto could be dangerous—but he is unwilling to trick himself into such a belief. Perhaps he was influenced by his younger brother? In Chapter 65, Gerald tells his father

about his debt to Percival, rather than relying on Silverbridge as originally planned.

9) **"It was I lamed the horse,—out of sheer villainy."**

With these few words added, Tifto beats himself up considerably more than in the edited version. When at the end of the restored chapter we learn that he ultimately tells Silverbridge to stop sending the hundred pounds a year (#14 below), we can well imagine why: he is able to say he has transformed himself from "sheer villainy" to respectability.

10) **Lord Silverbridge shrugged his shoulders, not liking to say out loud that thieves can never make a good use of their plunder.**

Tifto may have been hoping for some sympathetic words from Silverbridge after confessing that he gained relatively little, financially, from the escapade. Instead, Silverbridge shrugs, causing Tifto to raise the level of drama by lowering his voice to a whisper. This is another moment in the novel where a restored pause makes a tiny difference.

11) **"If I can forgive you, you can forgive the other man, and so let it go round."**

Silverbridge has evidently done a lot of thinking about the value of forgiveness. We believe him: he is not merely indifferent to Tifto, but has indeed forgiven him. And though he could, if he wishes, be angry at Mabel for trying to deceive him, he forgives her instantly.

12) **"I have that feeling that if they'd put me in prison it would be a relief. It's the only thing that wasn't square that ever I did in all my life." Silverbridge could not help thinking that if this statement was true the delinquent had commenced his anti-squareness by a very strong measure of iniquity.**

We know, and probably Silverbridge does too, that Tifto was far from "square"—for instance, in the way he has sold horses (Chapter 7). Yet Tifto really does believe that he had been honest up to the time he maimed the horse. It's an example of one major theme that Trollope treated most fully in

*The Way We Live Now*: how small dishonest acts condition people to commit larger ones.

- 13) **“Think what I must think of myself, Lord Silverbridge! If I could get round any way again I wouldn’t mind blacking shoes!”**

“Think what I must think of myself”: these words in particular must have a strong effect on Silverbridge, who has struggled through his own self-recriminations and despair, especially after he lost the seventy thousand pounds.

- 14) **Till a year or two had passed by Silverbridge told no one of the interview and its results except his brother...was no longer needed.**

Trollope gives Tifto the happy ending that is lacking in the edited version. Instead of slinking away and being dependent on Silverbridge’s largesse for the rest of his life, Tifto is able to proudly say that he earns enough money to forgo the pension. “Henry Walker” no doubt is an invented name, and we can imagine Tifto indulging in other inventions—or lies—in his new life running a pub. But his transformation doesn’t have to be complete to be real; he becomes a substantially better man.

## CHAPTER 76

- 1) **Frank Tregear had come up to town at the end of February on hearing from Lady Mary that he was to be accepted into the family of the Pallisers, and had dined in Carlton Terrace...were very strong indeed.**

Frank, we may assume, takes pleasure from gaining Lady Chiltern’s support after he tells his story to her. His position in the world has improved vastly since Chapter 23, “Frank Tregear Wants a Friend,” when he sought to unburden himself to an elder woman. On that occasion, Mrs. Finn was forced to squelch him.

- 2) **But as yet no one had dared to ask the Duke a question on that subject.**

The Duke holds considerable power, and must be treated sensitively. He has made no promises yet regarding money; and though no one would expect him to punish Mary by giving her too little to live on, he might well be more generous if he is not pushed too hard. That is one likely reason “no one had dared to ask” him about the wedding. Or perhaps his manner is too severe; it is hard to approach him when he so clearly does not want to be approached.

3) **“But the more I see of it all, the less I feel it.”**

and

**“I like the other set the best.”**

“I never heard a worse political argument in my life.”

“I dare say not;—**but perhaps that may be because I am unable to explain myself.**”

Silverbridge is still fumbling toward an articulation of his new political convictions and is “unable to explain” his thinking. However, the more he continues to “see of it all,” the less he will “feel” a connection to the Conservatives. For now, we can notice a subtle shift in his argument; whereas a few weeks ago he blamed only Sir Timothy for his disillusionment with the Conservatives, here he talks (in a sentence that wasn’t cut) about the ideas of “those fellows” and how, in a restored sentence, he prefers “the other set.” As we may recall from early in the novel (Notes, Chapter 3.5), his father is a Liberal both because of the family tradition and because of principle. Silverbridge is not fully there yet on the latter, but he is in the process of observing and reflecting—and changing.

4) At this moment the Leader of the House came in from behind the Speaker’s chair and took his place between Mr. Roby and Sir Orlando Drought, **those two gentlemen forcing themselves into smaller spaces in order that room might be made for the great man.**

and

There are men who look as though they were born to wear blue ribbons, **and who can sit in raised chairs so easily as to make the spectator feel that chairs not raised would be out of place for them.**

Trollope retained the “blue ribbons,” but the scene is even more vivid with the restored “raised chairs” and with Sir Timothy’s two adherents clearing space “for the great man.” As much as Sir Timothy tries to project an air of greatness, he doesn’t quite succeed.

5) **Isabel professed herself to be very fond of him, and had already desired him to call her by her Christian name...exclusive use and benefit.**

As awestruck as she is by the momentous change in her life, Isabel is willing to, charmingly, push her new family in new directions. The fact that she is not intimidated, but also not foolish or coarse or strident, bodes well for her as she makes her place among the English aristocracy.

6) **“And that one event, which is so managed by wire-pullers that it hardly shows the real feeling of the country at that moment, binds us all for four years.”**

A modern-day reader is reminded that “wire-pullers” are not a modern invention, as Mr. Boncassen (and Trollope) makes a trenchant critique of the American political system. Not only do presidential elections come only once in four years; the candidates themselves often do not reflect “the real feeling of the country.” Alas, Mr. Boncassen (and Trollope) is less astute in other regards. He seems to believe that only the presidency matters, leaving out the legislative and judicial branches.

7) **“I cannot make your politics out at all,” said Silverbridge.**

**“If you behave yourself well you shall be taught before long,” said Isabel.**

Here is one more glimpse of the young couple’s affectionate, teasing relationship. Silverbridge “shall be taught” plenty by his wife—and shall enjoy it thoroughly (see also Notes, Chapter 74.19). He and his elders have much to teach her as well; given her aptitude, we need have no fear about her success.

- 1) **Had he been in fair health, with his leisure at his own command, Tregear would have gone at once to Brighton himself...any rate to her.**

Would such an “intrusion” on Frank’s part have comforted Mabel, or would it have given her more anguish as her father was dying? Frank still intends to be her very close friend; it is only later in the chapter that he learns they are to be separated.

- 2) **“But as certainly I could not have married her or anyone else who was not rich. I do not know whether you will understand me. My conscience is not quite clear,—and yet when I argue...her a good husband.”**

It is perhaps progress for Frank to admit that his “conscience is not quite clear,” as it suggests he has not shut his mind to the Duke’s arguments against him—and that he can be more genuinely understanding, and not bitter and resentful, about how he was treated.

- 3) **At that time he had just gone to Eton; but before he left Eton they had sworn to love each other, still as cousins. At that time she had been brought out to the world and should perhaps have known better than...to have known better.**

Is this the narrator’s view, or the narrator’s presentation of Frank’s perspective? If the latter, it depicts Frank apportioning equal blame to them both for letting their love grow—which is not quite fair of him. At the time that Frank finished Eton, Mabel might still have hoped that he would earn an adequate living. Only when a few more years passed and there was no prospect of such an income did their love become truly impossible. Yes, we learn in the next paragraph that Frank “offered to go to the bar,” but this occurs only when she breaks off with him, when she has had ample opportunity to observe him not taking any steps in pursuit of a career.

- 4) **He offered to go to the bar;—but she asked him whether he really believed that he would succeed at the bar, and also whether he**

The restored words make it clearer how skeptical Mabel was. Had she believed that he would really work energetically, she would likely have made a different decision.

- 5) She released him,—**said that they would both be released and free; declared with apparent gaiety**

and

**Then she had, laughing, bade him to look for a rich wife, and had declared her purpose of finding for...she had “down to the ground.”**

The laughter and “apparent gaiety” were no doubt especially convincing; Mabel must take responsibility for playing her part too well when she “released” Frank.

- 6) **He soon saw his mistake,—or rather that he had been mistaken as to her. As to himself, what he had said was true...her, but Lady Mary.**

Interestingly, while Mabel complains several times about Silverbridge’s harsh truthfulness (including later in this chapter), she never makes the same accusation against Frank, even though his truth-telling is far more hurtful to her. Mabel is too consumed bemoaning the fact of Frank’s altered affections to care about his manner of conveying that truth.

- 7) There was nothing in which she was concerned that she did not tell him,—**not altogether with his approval. He did not wish to divide himself from her, but he did think that if the intercourse...she told him everything.**

The rejected proposals, the insistence on telling him everything: should Frank have realised that Mabel was still in love with him? Or was her play-acting so good that no ordinary man would have noticed? Trollope lets us make the decision.

- 8) **Tregear would have been well pleased that it should have been so, but he had never quite trusted that it would be so.**

Trollope here invites more speculation. Was Frank doubtful about such a match solely because he sensed that Mabel would not be able to love *any* man? Did he take Silverbridge’s romantic susceptibility for granted (to go along with his political susceptibility in having been persuaded to join the



Conservatives), and assume that he would fall for Mabel if she gave him any encouragement? Or did Frank believe there might be some resistance on Silverbridge's part as well?

9) **It would be difficult indeed to console her, and unreasonable to expect true congratulation.**

This last sentence of the paragraph makes it clearer why, as we learned in the first sentence, Frank "dreaded the coming interview." It is not only that Mabel will be so miserable; it is that he will be feckless in offering consolation, and he will not get the "true congratulation" that he would like.

10) **"And he liked to have Miss Cass there. But of course he scolded us always."**

Mabel at the moment believes that she and Miss Cass are of equal status: two poor old maids. Thus she talks here about how her father "liked" them and "scolded" them equally.

11) **"Both my aunts have asked me to go to them, but as I greatly dislike them both that does not sound comfortable....with either of them?"**

Without these sentences, we do not know what Mabel's immediate options are as the novel ends. Perhaps out of desperation she will choose one aunt or the other. Or might she rouse herself in the next few months and turn her attention to finding a wealthy husband? If so, she will not fail; she is still young and beautiful.

12) **"The man who can do that will live to be great at last. All men are willing enough,—as far as any feeling of mercy is...their escape at all."**

Mabel may well now believe that Silverbridge himself "will live to be great at last." Certainly she severely underestimated him at first. There is an echo too with the Duke's restored words at the end of the novel, how perhaps Frank "will live yet to be a much greater man than his father-in-law" (Notes, Chapter 80.9).

13) **"I cannot quite talk even to Cass about all this."**

We may recall what Miss Cassewary said in Chapter 54, in a sentence that remained in the edited novel: "I hate to hear you talk of yourself in that way." Mabel knows that she will get a more sympathetic hearing from Frank on this matter, and so talks to him instead of Miss Cassewary.

14) **"There were moments in which I was almost drunk with the idea that Lady Mabel Grex was all my own."**

**"What was that to Lady Mary Palliser? But you are hardened now to your own successes."**

Perhaps, when she reflects on their conversation, Mabel will take comfort from this: that Frank was never "drunk with the idea" of Mary in the way that he was with Mabel. It is not that Frank has "hardened," and we have no reason to doubt his love for Mary, but the thrill of his first love cannot be replicated.

CHAPTER 78

1) Tregear as he walked out of the Square **almost felt as though he could never put his feet in those precincts again without sacrilege,—at any rate till the...Mabel had spoken. He**

Does Frank think that he would be breaking trust with Mabel if he even came near to where she lived? If so he forgets that she will be obliged to leave Belgrave Square soon. Or maybe it would be a "sacrilege" to go there even when she is long gone, as if the site of a "shipwreck" were hallowed ground.

2) He was told that it would not do; and was not so told by a hard-hearted parent,—**who after the manner of parents might probably in time cease to be hard-hearted,—but by the young lady herself, who clearly had made up her mind.**

Though it is "the young lady herself" who stifled the relationship, we also know that her father would not have been one of those parents who would "cease to be hard-hearted." As we saw in Chapter 10, Lord Grex had deep disdain for Frank.

- 3) **And when she added the assurance,—which perhaps had been womanly also, but which certainly he did not believe...not disturb him much.**

If indeed Frank did not believe her, why was he “vexed” to hear that Mabel had never loved him? Was he saddened to see her lie, even if such a lie was “womanly”? Or was his ego hurt by such words, false as they were? Perhaps he would have liked to argue with her at the time, giving evidence that she had in fact loved him, but knew that it would have been insensitive for him to do so.

- 4) **“I don’t suppose that one ought to think that what a man may feel about himself once, he will feel for ever....with that,” said Tregear.**

Frank in fact may well not “agree with that,” but what else is he to say here? It would be churlish not to mutter some sort of agreement. Silverbridge’s analogy about the headache and the cigar is certainly apt for the Duke, who was bitter when his coalition broke up, and in despair when his wife died. Yet implicitly Silverbridge talks about himself too, his youthful susceptibility the headache from which he has recovered now that he will move from Conservative to Liberal.

- 5) Tregear and Silverbridge having been early had **both succeeded in getting possession of their accustomed places high up behind the ministers.**

Frank has not been in Parliament very long, but he already has an “accustomed place.” He will be a quick study. The Duke is not being fanciful, at the end of Chapter 80, when he speculates on Frank’s possible ascent (Notes, Chapter 80.9).

- 6) **A letter had been written to him,—it is hoped that the reader may remember it,—by a very old friend, the purport of...turn in his mind.**

Trollope not only reminds us of the letter in Chapter 22 from the Duke of St. Bungay; he reminds us of something that goes on with all his major characters: their continuing to think about things beyond the pages of the

novel. We've seen this most particularly with the Duke, who gradually comes around to accepting his children's marriages and accepting a reduced role in the government, and with Silverbridge, who changes his mind about whom to marry and what political party he should belong to.

- 7) **A man, if he has been asked to take the lead in some affair, to act as Chairman at some meeting, will know when the...on for similar service.**

What Trollope says here is also applicable to the novelist's art. He tries to get the reader to "know" things without always using direct words.

- 8) **To this the young man made no direct answer, but took advantage of the allusion to turn from his own projected...no very distant date.**

The chapter ends on a more serious note; instead of the Duke "laughing," he responds irritably to Silverbridge's question about Mary and Frank's wedding. Yet there is still humour: Silverbridge knows his father well enough to realise that "I will think about it" is almost akin to "We will set a date soon."

## CHAPTER 79

- 1) **Indeed it was all holiday up to Easter, though the House did once meet in order that the new ministers might take their new places.**

It is a bit confusing to hear about Mr. Monk's and Phineas' behaviour in the House when there is no indication that the House is meeting. The restored sentence clarifies what has occurred.

- 2) **It was impossible that the Duke should as yet be genial with him. And everyone about the place, with the exception of the...less hostile to him.**

"Hostile" is a strong word; Frank, in his discomfort, gives way to a certain amount of self-pity, even though "he was the most fortunate of men."

- 3) **And yet nothing could have been kinder than the words which had been spoken to him.**

Once again Trollope likes to remind us that words alone can only tell us so much. In this case, though the Duke's manner is gracious, the close observer can sense that something is amiss.

- 4) Even that delay she had thought was hard, **though she felt that it was not unfortunate that the first interview should thus be had between her lover and her father.**

Even though she has had to wait just a little bit longer, Mary is glad that the ice has been broken between her father and Frank. Now that she has succeeded, she is not prone to self-pity in the way Frank is; still, she is not happy about the Duke's half-hearted acceptance of her marriage and wishes fervently for a change. Perhaps this brief encounter between the Duke and Frank will help lead to that change.

- 5) **"That would be bad news for me, Frank," she said laughing.**

**"Even though you would forgive me, still I might have been...not have forgiven you."**

Though we do not see Mary and Frank together enough in the novel to know why she is drawn to him, we do know that he is exceptionally handsome—and that he is arrogant. Perhaps she would not be so taken with a less commanding, more apologetic man, and hence "could not have forgiven him" if he behaved as if he'd done wrong.

- 6) **"I almost wish that she and Silverbridge could have come together."**

We may recall Mary's mixed reaction when Isabel first told her of the engagement in Chapter 47. Mary may still have some doubts, otherwise she would not "almost wish" for something different. Will there be tensions between the two in the coming years? Perhaps so, especially if the Duke cannot help himself by showing how he favours the match between Isabel and Silverbridge more than the one between Mary and Frank.

- 7) Of course he asked her,—but, as she had said, she could not quite tell him about Lord Popplecourt **and his suit. To her thinking Lady Cantrip's great sin had been in supposing that while one man had been...accepted as a husband.**

Of course, this is the Duke's "great sin" as well, but Mary would rather place all the blame on Lady Cantrip. This mirrors the Duke's behaviour early in the novel, when he displaced all his anger onto Mrs. Finn rather than accuse his late wife.

- 8) **Isabel was the first to go back to London, intent no doubt upon furbelows and flounces. The trousseau for such...that day the Duke**

Though it may be true that Silverbridge "had his own affairs to manage," he has also "followed" Isabel—because, we are reminded once more, he can hardly bear to be away from her (see Notes, Chapter 75.1).

- 9) **"Mother," she said. "It is but ten days across the Atlantic. The years in which you won't come to us we will go to you."**

Without this sentence, Mrs. Boncassen is left with the cold comfort that Isabel has married gloriously—but that she herself may be somewhat estranged. Isabel instead reassures her, making it clear that they will see one another every year. Isabel knows as well as anyone what her mother's shortcomings are, but has been insistent throughout that Mrs. Boncassen will not be cut off.

## CHAPTER 80

- 1) **Isabel,—she shall be so called in these last few pages, although the reader is well aware that even in such a...with freedom after marriage,—**

Isabel has already begun to reform customs about the use of Christian names—see Chapter 76 when, to Silverbridge's mild dismay, she calls her future brother-in-law "Frank." Here at the end of the novel, the narrator signals his approval of such reforms by doing the same with Isabel's name after marriage. The implied approval extends further. This is not a case of American money shoring up the English aristocracy, since the Palliser family

is not in need of such infusion. Instead, there is a certain degree of American modernity: Isabel's vitality versus Mabel's slight staleness.

- 2) **The father had hesitatingly whispered the name of Lady Cantrip, but Mary, though she had replied only by a look, had...and the new sister.**

It is, arguably, churlish of Mary not to invite Lady Cantrip to the wedding. We have recently seen Silverbridge act with great generosity, and forgiveness, to Major Tifto, a man who had cheated him horribly. Lady Cantrip, on the other hand, tried to do her best out of friendship to the Duke, yet she is still being punished. At the least we can conclude that Silverbridge is of a gentler nature than his sister. It is fascinating too that the Duke only "hesitatingly whispered the name of Lady Cantrip." Is he tired of fighting with Mary, and thus won't even bother to make a case on Lady Cantrip's behalf?

- 3) **But though the circumstances were so unfortunate,—certainly so very unducal,—the marriage was solemnised, and...wife of Frank Tregear.**

Of course, "the circumstances" of the ceremony are not "so unfortunate" at all—just a bit more "rustic" than might have been expected. In this gently humorous moment, we may be reminded of a more serious use of the word "unfortunate": in Chapter 71, when the Duke assented to the marriage of Isabel and Silverbridge but said that it would be unfortunate ("unwise" in the edited version). Has the Duke come around? Does he now see his son's marriage as more clearly "fortunate"? Will he ever be able to see Mary's marriage as fortunate?

- 4) Perhaps the matter most remarkable in the wedding was the hilarity, **or, at any rate, the good humour** of the Duke.

The qualification is valuable. Some may exaggerate the Duke's behaviour by calling it hilarious, but no doubt it is more accurate to say that he behaved with determined "good humour."

- 5) One who did not know him well might have said that he was a man with very few cares, and who now took special joy in the...after their own hearts **and make themselves happy in their own fashion.**

The restored words remind us of the generational change that the Duke has had to adjust to. It isn't only that young people wish to do what they want; it is that they feel more entitled to "make themselves happy in their own fashion" than in the past.

- 6) And yet, as he stood there on the altar steps giving his daughter to that new son and looking first at his girl, and then at his married...all he had suffered, **and reflecting how seldom it had happened that he to whom so many good things had been given had been allowed to...the affairs of life.**

We have seen throughout the novel how the Duke is prone to self-pity. It makes sense that some of that self-pity will emerge on his daughter's wedding day, even if on the whole he is able to be happy for her.

- 7) **"The distance between them was so great.** But after he had been with me I felt sure that he would succeed. **I could not tell him that I thought so, but there was that in his manner which convinced me."**

Mrs. Finn's memory is not entirely accurate; when Frank left her the first time (Chapter 4), she thought that "Even if he had money, he would not be fit to marry her." Yet she is accurate enough, for she came around to a positive view quickly thereafter; as we learn in Chapter 26, she soon forgave him for his brusque behaviour ("Upon the whole I thought that you bore it very well"). We are thus again reminded how much thinking and changing goes on outside the pages of the novel—how much Trollope does not spell out directly.

- 8) **Silverbridge since his marriage seemed even to his father to be much more of a man than he had been before.**

We are left to imagine what has taken place since the end of Chapter 79. Silverbridge has grown ever more mature—with fits and starts—throughout



the book; it is quite understandable that he would be “much more of a man” in the months since his wedding.

9) **“Who knows, he may live yet to be a much greater man than his father-in-law. I am certainly very glad that he has a seat in Parliament.”**

The Duke’s comment about Frank’s manliness comes right after we learn that he has marvelled at how far his son has come. Has he been comparing the two young men? We as readers surely are invited to make such a comparison: between the man who was more or less fully grown long before the novel started, and the late bloomer who transforms from a boy to a man within the novel. Trollope’s sympathies are with the latter sort of fellow. As he writes in *The Small House at Allington*:

Which is the better fruit, that which ripens early,—which is, perhaps, favoured with so little forcing apparatus, or which, at least, is backed by the warmth of a southern wall; or that fruit of slower growth, as to which nature works without assistance, on which the sun operates in its own time,—or perhaps never operates if some ungenial shade has been allowed to interpose itself? The world, no doubt, is in favour of the forcing apparatus or of the southern wall. It is spotless, speckless, and of a certain quality by no means despicable. The owner has it when he wants it, and it serves its turn. But, nevertheless, according to my thinking, the fullest flavor of the sun is given to that other fruit...

The Duke, on the other hand, would have liked both his sons to ripen as early as possible. That Silverbridge is turning out so admirably must be wondrous to him. Who knows what other wonders are in store? Will Frank “live yet to be a much greater man than his father-in-law”? Perhaps Frank will be a greater man in terms of politics—a future Prime Minister who actually succeeds. Or perhaps, even with such worldly success, he will always be tainted in the Duke’s mind because of how he got started. Might the Duke be coming around to Trollope’s view about late versus early bloomers? If so, his comment about Frank’s future might be seen as facetious. In any case, we are given much to think about with this restored passage.

10) **"It will be my turn next," said Gerald, as he was smoking with his brother that evening. "After what you and Mary...way whatever it is."**

The novel previously ended with the Duke saying about Frank, "But now I will accept that as courage which I before regarded as arrogance." The restored sentences aptly turn our attention to the Duke's children instead. Gerald is joking—more or less; we know that he too has been maturing (see Chapter 71, when he musters up the courage to speak to his father about his debts), and that he is too smart and good-hearted to do anything dastardly. Yet Gerald knows that he *could* get away with a lot, and we as readers know that there could still be heartache in store for his father. Do Gerald's words, then, leave open the possibility of another Palliser novel? My answer is mostly no; it is hard to see why Trollope would find it artistically satisfying to write a book in which Gerald gives his father grief, as such a novel would seem to repeat the same challenges Trollope already faced with *The Duke's Children*. Yet there is no grand farewell to the series the way there is in the final pages of *The Last Chronicle of Barset*; Trollope makes no promises *not* to write another Palliser novel. He might well have produced another one someday if he had lived longer. But I suspect it would have been about the Duke as an old man—perhaps falling in love?—and not about Gerald as a mischievous youngster.