

DEALINGS WITH THE FIRM OF DOMBEY AND SON • VOLUME 2

WHOLESALE, RETAIL, AND FOR EXPORTATION
CHARLES DICKENS AND JOHN WILLIAM ORR



Resumo de Dealings with the Firm of Dombey and Son (Volume 2); Wholesale, Retail, and for Exportation

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Excerpt: ... CHAPTER LV. Rob the Grinder loses his Place. The porter at the iron gate which shut the court-yard from the street, had left the little wicket of his house open, and was gone away; no doubt to mingle in the distant noise at the door on the great staircase.

Lifting the latch softly, Carker crept out, and shutting the jangling gate after him with as little noise as possible, hurried off. In the fever of his mortification and unavailing rage, the panic that had seized upon him mastered him completely.

It rose to such a height that he would have blindly encountered almost any risk, rather than meet the man of whom, two hours ago, he had been utterly regardless.

His fierce arrival, which he had never expected; the sound of his voice; their having been so near a meeting, face to face; he would have braved out this, after the first momentary shock of alarm, and would have put as bold a front upon his guilt as any villain.

But the springing of his mine upon himself, seemed to have rent and shivered all his hardihood and self-reliance. Spurned like any reptile; entrapped and mocked; turned upon, and trodden down by the proud woman whose mind he had slowly poisoned, as he thought, until she had sunk into the mere creature of his pleasure; undeceived in his deceit, and with his fox's hide stripped off, he sneaked away, abashed, degraded, and afraid.

Some other terror came upon him quite removed from this of being

pursued, suddenly, like an electric shock, as he was creeping through the streets. Some visionary terror, unintelligible and inexplicable, associated with a trembling of the ground, --a rush and sweep of something through the air, like Death upon the wing.

He shrank, as if to let the thing go by. It was not gone, it never had been there, yet what a startli..

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