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FAIR TO SEE

A NOVEL

BY

LAURENCE W. M. LOCKHART

AUTHOR OF 'DOUBLES AND QUILTS'

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CHAPTER XVI.

“I REMARKED this morning,” said Pigott, when they were seated by their own fireside,—“I remarked this morning, when we were outward bound, that everybody seemed to be in love with everybody, and nobody seemed to like it. To-night I remark of the homeward voyage, that everybody seemed to be out of love with everybody, without any happier results. What does it all mean? What has happened? What is it, Bertrand? Has every one gone mad but old M’Killop and I? You’re one of the *dramatis personæ*; unriddle me the mystery, if you please.”

“Well, Pigott,” said Bertrand, staring dreamily into the fire, “a good many things have happened to-day, I suspect.”

“A shrewd suspicion, and I share it; but I am self-supporting in that line. I want something else,—experiences—facts, at least. Give me some.”

“I’m awfully happy, Pigott,” murmured Bertrand.

“You must be own brother to Mark Tapley, then. A day like this would have tried even his philosophy beyond endurance, I should say.”

“Ah! you don’t know,” replied Bertrand, absently; and then, in an undertone to himself, “Oh! terque, quarterque beatus!”