

# MAD DUMARESQ

A NOVEL.

BY

FLORENCE MARRYAT

[MRS. ROSS-CHURCH],

AUTHOR OF "LOVE'S CONFLICT," "VÉRONIQUE," ETC.

*COPYRIGHT EDITION.*

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

LEIPZIG

BERNHARD TAUCHNITZ

1873.

*The Right of Translation is reserved.*



# CONTENTS

## OF VOLUME I.

	Page
CHAPTER I. The Dumaresqs at Home . . . . .	7
— II. An Interruption to the Dinner-party . . . . .	26
— III. The Outcast . . . . .	45
— IV. Bell . . . . .	58
— V. Aurelia . . . . .	82
— VI. Debtor and Creditor . . . . .	101
— VII. Blanche . . . . .	120
— VIII. Mizpah . . . . .	135
— IX. Between two Stools . . . . .	156
— X. His Evil Genius . . . . .	175
— XI. His Good Angel . . . . .	199
— XII. A Slight Dilemma . . . . .	221
— XIII. He is Married . . . . .	240
— XIV. Bell's Second Attempt . . . . .	262
— XV. Victorious . . . . .	282



# MAD DUMARESQ.

---

## CHAPTER I.

The Dumaresqs at Home.

A WILD, bitter night in March: the wind howling round the houses in the squares, and the rain pelting as it only can pelt in the British Isles and the Burmese Empire, where they get up an excellent imitation of an English shower for nine months in the year. Down it comes, hitting the wet and shining pavements so mercilessly that it sounds like hail, and each drop as it touches earth springs up again, and forms a tiny waterspout. The gutters run continuously with a red greasy compound of liquid clay, and from end to end of Brook Street there is not an umbrella or a cab to be seen.

It is not an evening to tempt even the poor to venture forth to gain their daily bread, and yet the rich have braved it in order to obtain what they get every day—a dinner.

Every one, that is, every one who is any one, knows Lady Olivia and Colonel Dumaresq's dinner parties, and Colonel Dumaresq intends that they shall be so known—and appreciated.