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MOUNT ROYAL BY M. E. BRADDON.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

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MOUNT ROYAL

A NOVEL

BY

M. E. BRADDON,

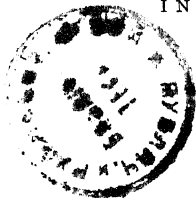
AUTHOR OF "LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET,"

ETC. ETC.

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IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.



LEIPZIG

BERNHARD TAUCHNITZ

1882.

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MOUNT ROYAL.

CHAPTER I.

“AND PALE FROM THE PAST WE DRAW NIGH THEE.”

It was October, and the chestnut leaves were falling slowly and heavily in the park at Mount Royal, the oaks upon the hill side were faintly tinged with bronze and gold, while the purple bloom of the heather and the yellow flower of the gorse were seen in rarer patches amidst the sober tints of autumn. It was the time at which to some eyes this Cornish coast was most lovely, with a subdued poetic loveliness—a dreamy beauty touched with tender melancholy.

Mount Royal was delightful at this season. Liberal fires in all the rooms filled the old oak panelled house with a glow of colour, and a sense of ever-present warmth that was very comfortable after the sharpness of October breezes. Those greenhouses and hothouses, which had been for so many years Mrs. Tregonell's perpetual care, now disgorged their choicest contents. Fragile white and yellow asters, fairy-like ferns, Dijon roses, lilies of the valley, stephanotis, mignonette, and Cape jasmine filled the rooms with perfume. Modern