

CONTENTS

- CHAPTER I. We settle down in our new home, and I resolve to keep a diary. Tradesmen trouble us a bit, so does the scraper. The curate calls and pays me a great compliment. 19
- CHAPTER II. Tradesmen and the scraper still troublesome. Gowing rather tiresome with his complaints of the paint. I make one of the best jokes of my life. Delights of gardening. Mr Stillbrook, Gowing, Cummings, and I have a little misunderstanding. Sarah makes me look a fool before Cummings. 27
- CHAPTER III. A conversation with Mr Merton on society. Mr and Mrs James, of Sutton, come up. A miserable evening at the Tank Theatre. Experiments with enamel paint. I make another good joke; but Gowing and Cummings are unnecessarily offended. I paint the bath red, with unexpected result. 39
- CHAPTER IV. The ball at the Mansion House. 49
- CHAPTER V. After the Mansion House Ball. Carrie offended. Gowing also offended. A pleasant party at the Cummings'. Mr Franching, of Peckham, visits us. 59
- CHAPTER VI. The unexpected arrival home of our son, Willie Lupin Pooter. 73
- CHAPTER VII. Home again. Mrs James's influence on Carrie. Can get nothing for Lupin. Next-door neighbours are a little troublesome. Someone tampers with my diary. Got a place for Lupin. Lupin startles us with an announcement. 83

- CHAPTER VIII.** Daisy Mutlar sole topic of conversation. Lupin's new berth. Fireworks at the Cummings'. The 'Holloway Comedians'. Sarah quarrels with the char-woman. Lupin's uncalled-for interference. Am introduced to Daisy Mutlar. We decide to give a party in her honour. 93
- CHAPTER IX.** Our first important party. Old friends and new friends. Gowing is a little annoying; but his friend, Mr Stillbrook, turns out to be quite amusing. Inopportune arrival of Mr Perkupp, but he is most kind and complimentary. Party a great success. 103
- CHAPTER X.** Reflections. I make another good joke. Am annoyed at the constant serving-up of the *blanc-mange*. Lupin expresses his opinion of weddings. Lupin falls out with Daisy Mutlar. 109
- CHAPTER XI.** We have a dose of Irving's imitations. Make the acquaintance of a Mr Padge. Don't care for him. Mr Burwin-Fossilton becomes a nuisance. 115
- CHAPTER XII.** A serious discussion concerning the use and value of my diary. Lupin's opinion of 'Xmas. Lupin's unfortunate engagement is on again. 127
- CHAPTER XIII.** I receive an insulting Christmas card. We spend a pleasant Christmas at Carrie's mother's. A Mr Moss is rather too free. A boisterous evening, during which I am struck in the dark. I receive an extraordinary letter from Mr Multar, senior, respecting Lupin. We miss drinking out the old year. 135
- CHAPTER XIV.** Begin the year with an unexpected promotion at the office. I make two good jokes. I get an enormous rise in my salary. Lupin speculates successfully and starts a pony-trap. Have to speak to Sarah. Extraordinary conduct of Gowing's. 145
- CHAPTER XV.** Gowing explains his conduct. Lupin takes us for a drive, which we don't enjoy. Lupin introduces us to Mr Murray Posh. 155

- CHAPTER XVI.** We lose money over Lupin's advice as to investment, so does Cummings. Murray Posh engaged to Daisy Mutlar. 163
- CHAPTER XVII.** Marriage of Daisy Mutlar and Murray Posh. The dream of my life realized. Mr Perkupp takes Lupin into the office. 169
- CHAPTER XVIII.** Trouble with a stylographic pen. We go to a Volunteer Ball, where I am let in for an expensive supper. Grossly insulted by a cabman. An odd invitation to Southend. 175
- CHAPTER XIX.** Meet Teddy Finsworth, an old school-fellow. We have a pleasant and quiet dinner at his uncle's, marred only by a few awkward mistakes on my part respecting Mr Finsworth's pictures. A discussion on dreams. 187
- CHAPTER XX.** Dinner at Franching's to meet Mr Hardfur Huttle. 195
- CHAPTER XXI.** Lupin is discharged. We are in great trouble. Lupin gets engaged elsewhere at a handsome salary. 203
- CHAPTER XXII.** Master Percy Edgar Smith James. Mrs James (of Sutton) visits us again and introduces 'spiritual séances'. 211
- CHAPTER XXIII.** Lupin leaves us. We dine at his new apartments, and hear some extraordinary information respecting the wealth of Mr Murray Posh. Meet Miss Lillian Posh. Am sent for by Mr Hardfur Huttle. Important. 223
- CHAPTER THE LAST.** One of the happiest days of my life. 233