

light somebody is inside - find Moynan there ~~with~~ on his bed with a glass of brandy & water in his hand, & Capt Grant on a box similarly provided. Of course I did not think of apologizing for interrupting a tête à tête in my own cabin, nor did I guess there was a secret. But to my astonishment Moynan immediately gushed it all out, & invited on reading me the whole correspondence, as he had just done to Grant. To my astonishment the object of his affections was Miss Parsons, the lady with the eyes; and though they sat together at table, and I opposite, I cannot say that Mr. M. had ever, so far as I saw, indulged in attention or conversation other than unmeaning or mild; and when on deck had hardly ever addressed a word to her, affecting rather ~~towards~~ solitary promenades the while ~~she~~ gazed

over the side at the sea in an ~~despairing~~ way. The letters ^{or} rather his letter, for the reply was simply short & indignant, was the richest effusion of the kind I could have imagined, full of appropriate bits of poetry of the Byronic school, & all through insinuating the writer's conviction that the passion was reciprocal, which no doubt had caused the lady's indignation, & had prompted the exceeding curtness of the answer. Grant was evidently relieved by my presence, as he could, under cover of my entrance on the scene, indulge his laughter without the same danger of being found out. But ^{it} was very hard work for both of us with the over-tension of our visible faculties to do our best to condole with the wounded feelings of our absurd Incamorato. As soon as I could get away, I bolted off to have