Persuasion  
  
Chapter 1  
  
ket —  
  
Sir Walter Elliot, of Kellynch Hall, in Som-  
ersetshire, was a man who, for his own amuse-  
ment, never took up any book but the  
Baronetage; there he found occupation for an  
idle hour, and consolation in a distressed one;  
there his faculties were roused into admiration  
and respect, by contemplating the limited rem-  
nant of the earliest patents; there any unwel-  
come sensations, arising from domestic affairs  
changed naturally into pity and contempt as  
he turned over the almost endless creations of  
the last century; and there, if every other leaf  
were powerless, he could read his own history  
with an interest which never failed. This was  
the page at which the favourite volume always  
opened:  
  
“Elliot of Kellynch Hall.  
  
“Walter Elliot, born March 1, 1760, married,  
July 15, 1784, Elizabeth, daughter of James  
Stevenson, Esq. of South Park, in the county of  
Gloucester, by which lady (who died 1800) he  
has issue Elizabeth, born June 1, 1785; Anne,  
born August 9, 1787; a\_ still-born son,  
November 5, 1789; Mary, born November 20,  
1791.”  
  
Precisely such had the paragraph origi-  
nally stood from the printer’s hands; but Sir  
Walter had improved it by adding, for the infor-  
  
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