

that their ship *Pharaoh* has for some reason not arrived at the port and that therefore they cannot give me back my money. This money was my daughter's dowry!' the man cried out. 'And now there will be no wedding. This is a disgrace for my daughter and my family.'

'I will give it to you,' the banker said, 'I will buy Morrel's debt in exchange for any papers you have in the registry concerning a prisoner called Edmond Dantes.'

Monsieur de Boville could not believe what he was hearing. In return, he let Dantes look at the prison records; now Dantes had proof of the great injustice Villefort had committed against him and of the endless efforts Morrel had made to help him.

Still disguised as an English banker, Dantes appeared at the offices of Morrel & Son. There were only two employees still working there: a young man called Emmanuel and Morrel's faithful accountant, Cocles. Dantes asked to see Morrel.

'He's in the back,' Emmanuel said, fearing it was one more creditor coming to ask for his money.

As Dantes entered, Morrel stood up, showing respect to the stranger. Morrel looked so much older than his age. 'If you have come for money, I have nothing,' he said. 'I have nothing left but my wonderful daughter and son.'

'Your debt has been taken care of,' said the stranger. 'As for the *Pharaoh*, the ship will return, trust me.'

After that was settled, Dantes left Marseilles and put his plan of revenge into full action.

