



# The Novels of Maria Edgeworth

## Volume 5-6

United States Congressional House, United States Congress House, Maria Edgeworth



This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1893 edition. Excerpt: ...down to play with Lord Colambre: Lady Clonbrony withdrew, again recommending Miss Broadhurst to Grace Nugents care. After some commonplace conversation, Lady Anne H, looking at the company in the adjoining apartment, asked her sister how old Miss somebody was who passed by. This led to reflection upon the comparative age and youthful appearance of several of their acquaintance, and upon the care with which mothers concealed the age of their daughters. Glances passed between Lady Catharine and Lady Anne. For my part, said Miss Broadhurst, my mother would labour that point of secrecy in vain for me for I am willing to tell my age, even if my face did not tell it for me, to all whom it may concern I am passed three-and-twenty--shall be four-and-twenty the 5th of next July. Three-and-twenty!--Bless me!--I thought you were not twenty! cried Lady Anne. Four-and-twenty next July!--impossible! cried Lady Catharine. Very possible, said Miss Broadhurst, quite unconcerned. Now, Lord Colambre, would you believe it? Can you believe it? asked Lady Catharine. Yes, he can, said Miss Broadhurst. Dont you see that he believes it as firmly as you and I do? Why should you force his lordship to pay a compliment contrary to his better judgment, or extort a smile from him under false pretences? I am sure he sees that you, and I trust he perceives that I, do not think the worse of him for this. Lord Colambre smiled now without any false pretence and, relieved at once from all apprehension of her joining in his mothers views, or of her expecting peculiar attention from him, he became at ease with Miss Broadhurst, showed a desire to converse with her, and listened eagerly to what she said. He recollected that Miss Nugent had told him, that...

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