

scarlet runners growing up its sides. I turned to my wife, who was also looking at the stately figure in the garden beyond, and said, "There is a history back of this. She hasn't always lived here. That grace and dignity were acquired in other scenes than these."

It was our privilege to spend the following three years as the next-door neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont of the "Rotunda." In these years we made many pleasing and surprising discoveries regarding them. We found out that Mr. B., a courtly old gentleman of good education and exquisite bearing, who had been an invalid for years, had been at one time President Jefferson Davis' private secretary, and entrusted by him with an important mission to England, to raise money for the Confederacy on the eve of its fall. Before Mr. B. returned the crash came and the Southern Confederacy was no more. His family ran the blockade and went to him in the Bermudas, where they found a safe refuge under the British flag until an amnesty was proclaimed. Some time after this he went to Halifax and engaged in mercantile business. So successful was he in this that in time he had almost recovered his lost fortune. In an evil hour, by the earnest solicitations of a political friend, he was induced to enter politics as a campaign speaker. It was largely through Mr. B.'s logical and convincing utterances and his well-known integrity of character that his political friend carried the day, and entered the Parliament of Nova Scotia. Mr. B.'s political campaigning took him away from his business for weeks at a time, and it was while he was thus absent that his