

bring the Easter holidays, and she should be going home : when one day, Madame Giatto called her out of the class-room, taking her into her own room. She put a telegram-message into her hand, which contained only a few words, but which was enough to make Grace's heart stand almost still. The words were to Madame Giatto ; "Send Miss Morton home at once ; her father is dangerously ill."

"Oh, my God ! my dear darling father," sobbed Grace, in the veriest agony. She did not remember him ever having been ill, and now to hear that he was in danger ; she knew only too well that when strong men like her father are taken suddenly, that it often proves fatal.

Madame Giatto did all in her power to comfort her young friend, for whom she felt most deeply ; her own hands helped to prepare her for the journey, for which she left in an hour after receiving the message, accompanied by Madame Giatto and several of her companions, who did all they could to testify their sorrow for their beloved Grace.

She was soon ensconced in a far corner of the railway carriage, almost heart broken, and swift as the train went on, it passed too slowly for her, and