

*A WORD IN SEASON.*

schools, and among gay and thoughtless relations. Her beauty and accomplishments, added to a very charming manner, have made her a favourite at Madam R——'s; and Jessie was very much grieved when their pleasant intercourse seemed likely to be discontinued.

Miss Bleecker's boarding-house is but a short distance from Mr Burns's residence, and she generally calls for Jessie on her way to school. For the last few days, however, she has seemed to avoid meeting her, and Jessie has had no opportunity for asking an explanation of what is giving her so much pain.

She is very glad, therefore, to find Nellie waiting for her again as she is starting to school this morning, about a week after the conversation which we have read in the letter to Miss Mills.

They greet one another affectionately, and Jessie says, gently, "Then you forgive me, Nellie, for unintentionally offending you, the other day?"

"*Forgive* you! Oh, Jessie! I cannot forgive myself for the sinful waste of time your words showed me my eighteen years of life has been. I want you to teach me more; show me how to make amends for the past!"

Tears are falling fast from Jessie's eyes, and Nellie's mind is too disturbed and anxious to become interested in the lessons that await her at school, so she proposes that they get excused from the morning's recitations, and go back to her room, where they can talk undisturbed.