

any more ; but, dear, I won't interfere with your work ; you have trained me so that I will make a pretty obedient and not very exacting wife. A few kind words now and then will make me happy."

The ~~sweet~~ humility and patience in face and voice gave him a very unusual and unexpected moisture about the eyes.

She looked at him presently a little sorrowfully.

"I had forgotten ; we have been permitting ourselves these happy fancies, and yet we do not know if they can be fulfilled."

"They shall be fulfilled, unless death interposes." He spoke with something of the old sternness in voice and face that she remembered so well.

"I can only leave my children and the work here in your father's care. Unless he and your mother consent to come here and live, I cannot leave the Pines."

"Do not speak that way, Angela ; I shall doubt if you ever have loved me."

"Duty must come before everything, Donald ; you have lived without me all these years ; have missed me far less than my children would have done — will miss me in the coming years less than they. Could you respect me if I left all and followed you ?"