shrunk from the idea of being a bridesmaid, but Helen so much wished to have both her and Clara, that she yielded; and she did not find it so formidable, after all, especially as the groomsmen were Mr Russell's two younger brothers. The Elliotts and Mrs Duncan were almost the only guests; but the occasion seemed to be pervaded with the quiet, hopeful happiness which they have most reason to expect who desire, above all things, the approving presence of the Heavenly Guest, who alone can turn life's water into wine.

Katie thought, as she watched Mr and Mrs Russell drive away, how much preferable was the quiet, peaceful, domestic life, to be filled with noble work for God and man, that lay before them, to the career of frivolous excitement and fashionable dissipation to which Caroline Ainslie was looking forward.

It had, of course, been rather a trial for Helen to leave the church in which she had been brought up, and to which her early associations so tenderly clung, for that which she must now join, as the church of her husband. But she had always loved and admired the Church of England service; and she felt too strongly of how little importance, comparatively, is the mere outward form of our connexion with Christ's kingdom, provided he is the chief object of our attachment, to indulge in any repining over so very small an alloy as this in a cup so full of blessing.