

The Count de Lindenberg, fearful of being attacked in his own castle by the hostile army, determined to abandon the province, and with his family seek refuge in Vienna. Leonora for whom the news of this departure was like a thunderbolt announced it with tears in her eyes to Theresa, and entreated her to fly with her; but the latter declared this to be impossible, because she could not think of abandoning her father, especially since the death of the old servant, as he now had no person to attend to his wants. Leonora tried her best to persuade her, but without success. Theresa remained firm to her resolution.

The Countess aware of the attachment of her family for Theresa, would also have been glad to take her along; she said to her: "Come with us Theresa, and be the companion of Leonora; you are now of an age when it is important for you to think of the future. At Vienna you will have more opportunities for settling yourself well than in the country. Therefore make up your mind, you will find that you will never have any cause for repentance; I will regard you as my own daughter, and you will be happy."

Theresa once more protested that she would not abandon her father, preferring to run the risk of every danger, rather than fail in her duties to him from whom she derived existence. "I cannot blame you," replied the Countess, "your sentiments are generous and affect me deeply. God will reward your filial piety. Therefore remain with your father and take care of him; if you have the misfortune to be deprived of him, write to me immediately, and I will forward money for your journey hence to Vienna."

At length the day of departure came. The two young friends were inconsolable as they embraced each other for the last time. Theresa wept bitterly, and as she saw the carriage leave the court she felt sick at heart. She continued to gaze as long as she could get even a glimpse of the carriage, but when at last it disappeared altogether, she turned with a heavy heart, and weeping sought her own home.

The war was very long. In the mean time, Theresa lived contentedly with her father, and was occupied in the duties of her little household. As she loved work she always found plenty to do, and was never disturbed with ennui. A year had thus passed; when the intendant received news of the death of the Count de Lindenberg. This misfortune caused much affliction to Theresa and her father, for the Castle of this Lord was sold, and bought by a speculator in wheat, who had made his fortune by supplying provisions for the army. The new owner dismissed the old intendant. Theresa and her father, therefore, left the castle and having rented two modest apartments in the village, went

there to lodge. They lived upon a retired pension which was not always paid with exactness, and consequently had to endure many privations. Theresa exerted herself to make up deficiencies by means of her labor; as she was very skilful, she always made something and thus was pleased to contribute to the comforts of her aged father.

In the meantime, a new misfortune overtook her. Chagrin and years had undermined the health of her beloved parent, who soon found himself reduced to the necessity of keeping his bed. His daughter watched by his side, and lavished upon him all the attention and kindness in her power. Much affected by such a display of filial piety, the father often shed tears of emotion, and said one day to Theresa that God would reward her for her devoted affection. After having earnestly requested and piously received the last sacraments of the Church, the good old man died, carrying with him the esteem and regrets of all who had been acquainted with him.

Theresa now found herself an orphan, and without resources. She called to mind the offers of Madame de Lindenberg, whom she was willing to join in Vienna; she wrote to her. Fifteen days after, she received an answer from Leonora, who informed her that her mother had died, and that she herself, because of the war, had been robbed of a great part of her expectations, leaving her in a very painful situation, since she had lived in Bohemia with an aunt who cared nothing for her, and who treated her more like a servant than a niece. Theresa was made very sad by this news. Having now no further inducement to remain in the village she went to the city, to the house of her uncle Hilmer, who received her with a cordial welcome.

As she always conducted herself with great prudence and propriety, her hand was soon demanded in marriage, by several young men; but she did not permit herself to be flattered by the many dazzling propositions which were made to her, and gave her hand to the teacher Hermann, although he was far poorer than the rest of her suitors. She thus acted, because she set more value upon virtue than upon money, and because she esteemed the profession of teacher, so frequently contemned by persons who are prejudiced against the modest functions which it imposes.

Her uncle, a sensible man, approved her choice; "you have done well my niece in giving preference to the poor Hermann; this young man is pious, well-informed, and of irreproachable reputation.— Devoted to his profession, just and economical, he will know how to manage his affairs better than a richer man with greater pretensions. I therefore