

STILLMAN GOTT

the farm to seek a home of their own, until finally there was only one child left in each family, Elinor Day and Edward Locke. And they had begun as their brothers and sisters had, walking hand in hand to school, carrying their little baskets of luncheon; but whereas the others had grown apart as they became older and their youthful affection had stood still, except so far as it had been strengthened by years of friendship, these two scions of the old ancestral trees continued side by side as the years came and departed.

The bashful youth had walked with the sweet, sunny-haired girl day after day, hardly daring to cast even an eye of admiration, much less one of affection toward her, while she had accepted his companionship because it pleased her rather than because she desired his presence near her, or because she even dreamed of love.

As they grew older they attended church with their parents, and in time arrived at the age when they could be trusted to go to prayer-meeting without any danger of their going to sleep during the exercises, and at last they graduated into the monthly church sociables and thus made